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Welcome to RMIT University in Hamilton

RMIT University in Hamilton is committed to bringing degree, postgraduate, short course and research programs to the Western District of Victoria.

Staff welcome discussions about professional development needs and opportunities for partnerships to expand skills development and research in the region.

This brochure showcases the broad range of courses and research programs offered in 2009.

Dr Leone Wheeler
Program Director, Learning Community Partnerships

Enrolments

Administration and Student Information Officer
Learning Community Partnerships
Tel. +61 3 5572 0500
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Further information

Marilyn Lyons
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For the latest information subscribe to our monthly e-news by emailing rmithamilton@rmit.edu.au or go to www.rmit.edu.au/hamilton

RMIT University Hamilton acknowledges the generous support of Geoff and the late Helen Handbury.

OPEN EVENING
Come along to RMIT’s Open Evening, talk to staff, and take a tour of the facilities.

19 August 2009, 7–9pm
RMIT University
200 Ballarat Road
Hamilton
About the centre

General facilities
RMIT University in Hamilton is a learning centre located amidst bushland close to Hamilton’s central business district and local accommodation venues.

RMIT University Hamilton offers a Bachelor of Nursing, short course programs and online learning. It has an up-to-date computer room, numerous classrooms, training rooms, and a conference room, which can be hired out for external use.

The art studio is a large open area with fantastic lighting, sinks, benches and an adjoining equipment storage room. The open area is able to facilitate a number of different usages. Art studio facilities are also available for outside users.

The classrooms are superbly set out, with whiteboards and technical facilities on hand. Each room has the capacity to be interconnected to another, allowing for a large group set-up or, alternatively, smaller segregated groups in separate classrooms.

Computer facilities are available plus a larger conference area if required. Smaller board rooms are available upon request.

Groups of up to 90 people can be accommodated in one room using a lecture theatre set-up, and facilities have been used for conferences of up to 150 people.

Technical facilities
• Computer training room
• Access to TV, VCR and DVD players
• Data projectors and screens available
• Conference telephone available.

Recreational facilities
RMIT’s Hamilton centre is peacefully located on nine hectares of bushland and has barbecue facilities on site.

Attractions
RMIT University Hamilton is located in a quiet area on Ballarat Road, not far from the Hamilton CBD and accommodation outlets. The Bandicoot Motor Inn and Quality Inn Grangeburn are only metres away. We offer a rural setting, outdoors barbecue area, off-street parking and a number of conference, meeting and educational facilities to suit your needs.

A bus stop is located on-site for public transport needs to and from Hamilton CBD.

Additional services
Invigilation services
The RMIT Hamilton centre provides facilities for students of other universities and TAFEs who require examination supervision.

RMIT access for external students
Access to the RMIT University Hamilton facilities, including 24-hours-a-day seven-days-a-week computer access, is now available for students studying through other providers. A number of conditions do apply. For further information contact administration on tel. + 61 3 5572 0500 or email rmithamilton@rmit.edu.au

Services to postgraduate students
Should there be sufficient interest by local postgraduate students, RMIT University Hamilton can arrange workshops in NVIVO, End-note, ethics considerations, bibliography construction and refining the research question.

Further information
Administration
Tel. +61 3 5572 0500
Email rmithamilton@rmit.edu.au
Study nursing in Hamilton

Mission
RMIT Nursing and Midwifery is responsive, highly motivated, socially engaged and at the leading edge of innovative technology.
We create, contribute to, disseminate and apply knowledge that is relevant and responsive to the health and social care needs of the culturally diverse individuals, groups and communities which nurses and midwives serve.

Vision to 2010
In 2010 RMIT Nursing and Midwifery will be:
• Urban, regional and global in outlook
• Shaping nursing and midwifery in the twenty-first century
• The pre-eminent provider of professionally relevant learning
• Recognised for excellence in research, scholarship and consultancy.

Values
RMIT Nursing and Midwifery value the following attributes in staff, students and graduates:
• Passion
• Caring
• Wisdom
• Integrity
• Equitableness
• Resourcefulness
• Diversity
• Creativity
• Criticalness
• Knowledgeability
• Openness
• Respectfulness

Why study nursing at RMIT University in Hamilton?
RMIT has a long established and prestigious reputation as one of the leaders in nursing education in Australia. Over the past three decades, RMIT has made significant contributions to advancing the nursing profession through education, research, scholarship and clinical practice.

Benefits
• Save money by studying close to home, family and friends.
• Maintain work and family commitments whilst studying.
• Attend diverse clinical placements within the Western District region.
• Enjoy smaller class sizes with high exposure to passionate and supportive lecturers.
• Enjoy excellent IT support.
• Experience outstanding facilities with equipment and resources that optimise students’ skill development.
• Benefit from a flexible delivery mode, predominantly on-line with on-site tutorials and laboratory classes.
• Feel confident with the fact that RMIT University in Hamilton has a 100% employment rate of graduates, who work in a variety of clinical settings throughout rural and metropolitan areas of Australia and all over the world.

Generous Federal Government scholarships are available to rural and regional nursing students. Visit www.rcna.org.au
Bachelor of Nursing (BP036)
The Bachelor of Nursing (Division 1 nursing) program prepares graduates to lead nursing practice and to advance in specialist knowledge and leadership roles. The program is based on a continuum of care, which encompass acute-care nursing, continuing-care nursing, community care and mental health nursing.

Further information:
Kerry McMullan
Tel. +61 3 5572 0551
Email kerry.mcmullan@rmit.edu.au

RMIT nursing students at Hamilton practise skills in neonatal resuscitation.

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

These postgraduate programs prepare nursing graduates for specialist fields in advanced nursing. Programs are presented predominantly via distance education with video conference, IT and academic support available. This allows rural nurses to remain working locally whilst extending their knowledge and strengthening their careers.

Graduate Diploma in Midwifery
Further information:
Linda Jones
Tel. +61 3 9925 7417,
Email linda.jones@rmit.edu.au

Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing
Further information:
Phillip Maude
Tel. +61 3 9925 7447
Email phillip.maude@rmit.edu.au

Graduate Certificate in Professional Lactation Consultancy
Further information:
Jennifer James
Tel. +61 3 9925 6650
Email jennifer.james@rmit.edu.au

Advanced Clinical Nursing Practice: Stroke Management (single course)
Further information:
Heather Pisani
Tel. +61 3 9925 7448
Email heather.pisani@rmit.edu.au

www.rmit.edu.au/hamilton/nursing
Real Estate

Course in Property (Agents’ Representatives)

This 70-hour part-time program is designed to provide people with the knowledge and skill required by law to be eligible for employment in real estate as an agents’ representative. The program introduces participants to the legislation, documentation and practice of selling and leasing properties and businesses.

The program includes three units:

- Work in real estate industry
- Identify legal and ethical requirements of property sales to complete agency work
- Identify legal and ethical requirements of property management to complete agency work.

Delivery of the program will involve off-the-job training in a classroom situation. Teaching methods will vary, depending upon the learning outcome, and will include lectures and methods that encourage student participation—such as discussion, role-play and practical demonstrations.

Course commences March 2009, Monday and Wednesday evenings for 10 weeks. Minimum of 10 students required for the course to proceed.

Certificate III in Real Estate

This program provides new employees in real estate with the skills required to be a successful contributor to the development of the industry. The Certificate III is a self-paced program over one year full-time.

There are no academic requirements for entry into this program. Applicants must be employed in the appropriate industry with a Training Agreement.

Certificate IV in Property Services (Real Estate)

To become eligible for an estate agent’s licence, an applicant must have passed the Certificate IV in Property Services (Real Estate) and have worked for the equivalent of one year full-time in the industry, as an agent’s representative during the three years immediately prior to applying for the licence.

This program will commence in February 2009 and will run for 10 months. Flexible learning will be offered. Minimum of 10 students required for the course to proceed.

Further information

Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au
Grammar and Punctuation

This practical training course, delivered over two full days, is designed for people who want to refresh their understanding of grammar and punctuation and improve their writing.

This course revises the eight parts of speech and the grammar of the sentence, as well as punctuation and capitalisation. You identify and fix common problems in writing, and learn the principles of plain English. Topics covered include subject–verb agreement, when to use ‘which’ or ‘that’ and the differences between the colon and semi-colon.

At the end of this intensive course, you can:

- understand the parts of speech and parts of a sentence
- recognise the role of idiom, register, style and usage when making decisions about grammar
- identify grammatical problems in writing and fix them
- understand how the standard punctuation marks are used
- punctuate lists, dialogue, quotations and shortened forms according to contemporary Australian style
- make confident hyphenation decisions and identify the grammar and typography of em and en dashes
- write in concise plain English
- feel more confident about your use of grammar and punctuation.

The presenter, Penny Johnson, is a writer, an editor and an educator. She has worked as a managing editor at Meanjin and Cultural Studies Review and lectures in RMIT’s Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing.

Further information and enrolments
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Writing for the Web

This four-hour workshop is designed for people writing web content or converting printed text to web publication.

In this workshop you consider research findings to determine the principles of successful web writing. You learn how to convert print text for web publication and how to write scannable content that serves your reader.

At the end of this intensive course, you can:

- understand how user behaviour and the medium influences good web writing
- develop target audience profiles and write purpose statements
- use structural techniques for easy scanning
- write successful line-by-line copy for the web
- write effective micro-content: headings, titles, captions, links, keywords
- identify legal and copyright issues.

The presenter, Penny Johnson, is a writer, an editor and an educator. She has worked as a managing editor at Meanjin and Cultural Studies Review and lectures in RMIT’s Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing.

Further information and enrolments
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au
Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment (TAA40104)

The Certificate IV in Training and Assessment provides practical knowledge and skills for those who are conducting training and assessment in adult learning environments. It is the qualification required for anyone seeking employment in Registered Training Organisations. The program gives participants the opportunity to apply their learning through a number of work-based projects.

The program has four fields: Learning environment; Learning design; Delivery and facilitation; Assessment, and is run over 12 days of face-to-face teaching delivered in four blocks, beginning in March.

By satisfactorily completing the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment you will be qualified to deliver and assess nationally-accredited programs in a registered training organisation. This program is designed for industry trainers and TAFE teachers who do not have a formal teaching qualification.

Further information:
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

OH&S Initial Level 5 Day Course for Health and Safety Representatives, Managers and Supervisors

This practical skills-oriented program is designed to provide health and safety representatives (and their deputies), managers and supervisors, as entitled under S.67(1) to attend a course of their choice, with the necessary skills and knowledge to complement their roles in the workplace.

The program will show participants how to deal with requirements under the new and revised amendments of the updated OHS Act 2004 as well as give them the knowledge to develop the necessary skills with which to carry out their respective functions. The program also shows participants how to communicate effectively and resolve conflict in the workplace with regard to health and safety issues. New provisions relating to authorised representatives from Registered Employee Organisations (ARREO’s) are also included. This OHS training program is approved by WorkSafe Victoria.

This 35-hour program is primarily designed for health and safety representatives, managers and supervisors. However, other people involved with health and safety in the workplace would also benefit.

On completion of this program, participants should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of occupational health and safety legislation, compliance codes and standards
- identify, assess and control hazards in the workplace or associated with occupations or tasks
- investigate illness, injuries and incidents
- communicate effectively with all parties involved in occupational health and safety.

Further information:
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au
Recruitment: Assessment and Selection Strategies

This half-day session is designed for hiring managers, those responsible for recruitment decisions, and any staff members who may be a part of interview panels and candidate assessment processes.

Those who attend this workshop will gain an understanding of the options available to assess recruits. They will be able to better analyse behaviours and motivations of recruits, and they will develop the ability to facilitate a best-practice interview, including the application of competency based questioning.

Presenter: Theresa Lyford
Manager of Business TAFE, RMIT University

Further information:
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Introduction to Massage

This practical session aims to teach the student the basics of ‘relief and relaxation’ massage in a 90-minute workshop. The session is a hands-on, entirely practical lesson including demonstration and an opportunity to try massage techniques under supervision.

The session is open to anyone who may be interested in massage as a career or who just want to have fun learning the basics of massage.

Presenter: Dr Remo Parente

Further information:
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Other

The following courses are planned to be offered in 2009:

- Caring for the Feet of the Elderly and People with a Disability in association with Mayfield Education
- Framework for Understanding Poverty with Nairn Walker from Social Solutions
- Brain Gym in Education with Claire Hocking
- Brain Gym in Aged Care with Claire Hocking
Explore The Learning Federation’s Free Digital Curriculum Materials

In this hands-on workshop with its focus on Years 5–9, teachers will understand the scope of the National Learning Federation Initiative, and explore digital curriculum materials relevant to the subjects and topics they teach. Currently there are more than 7500 items of digital curriculum content: interactive learning objects, assessment items, single film clips, photos, digitised artwork, maps, posters, sound recordings, documents freely available to build challenging and engaging learning activities for their digital age students.

In this 3-hour workshop, Olivia will demonstrate some newly released content and show how teachers are integrating the content into their classroom practice.

Dr Olivia Clarke is a senior project manager at The Learning Federation (TLF). Her role is to support education jurisdictions and sectors as they seek to implement the TLF digital content into their educational programmes. Olivia’s doctoral studies focused on a comparative study of new multimedia environments for teaching and learning in Schools in California and Victoria. She has been curriculum coordinator at PLC, Melbourne and a teacher of History and Indonesian language.

Date: 17 March 2009, 4.30–7.30 pm

Working Deeper with Multi-Literate Texts
—Dr Julie Faulkner

Expanding students with critical literacy practices through working with multi-modal texts aimed at the middle years.

Follow-Up on Conversations with Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Secondary School Students

This training workshop—designed for teachers, youth workers, nurses, and community workers—aims to raise awareness around sexual and gender diversity issues that might impact on young people in secondary school and youth sector settings.

The presenter, Dr Michael Crowhurst, is a lecturer in teacher education, School of Education RMIT University. He currently coordinates double degrees in Education/Disability and Education/Science. His area of interest is GLBTI (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex) school experience and whole school change.

He is the author of Conversations with Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Secondary School Students: A Sexual Diversity Training Kit for School Communities.

Coaching Children in School/Community Sport

This workshop deals with the issues of coaching children in sport. It looks at children and stress, anxiety, coaches and their philosophies, motivation, focusing, communication and concepts.

Philip J Doecke (PhD), lecturer in Health and Physical Education at RMIT Bundoora; 2002–2005 Asst Prof, Chair Dept of Kinesiology, Health and Physical Education at Biola University, Los Angeles; 1994–1996 Head of Physical Education, Uni of PNG. He has extensive experience as a physical educator and generalist primary school teacher in Taiwan, NT, SA and Qld. PhD, MEd in PE Curriculum.

Further information
Marilyn Lyons
Learning Centre Coordinator
Tel. +61 3 5572 0502
Email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au
The Regional Development Policy Environment (S365019)
The course addresses the central elements of how regional and economic development policies are formulated in Australia. It provides a detailed explanation of policy processes, the key government players at each level of government, some historical background, and approaches overseas. The course is about both process and the content and purpose of regional policies.

Business Attraction, Retention and Expansion (S365027)
The course provides economic development practitioners with the knowledge and skills to be able to provide help to businesses in their regions. The course will cover attraction, retention and expansion of firms. Attracting new businesses to a region is one of the traditional tools of the economic developer. It is equally important to assist start up firms and retain them in the region, and to help firms to grow that are capable of growth. The course will encompass the notion of ‘economic gardening’, that is, growing existing firms, since existing firms provide the majority of new jobs in many regions. It will also ensure that practitioners understand the importance of linking new firm attraction strategies to existing regional strengths.

See [www.rmittraining.com.au](http://www.rmittraining.com.au) for enrolment details for these two courses.

A full postgraduate program (Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Master program) is planned to be offered from Semester 2 2009. This is being developed as an accredited program in conjunction with Economic Development Australia (EDA).

These programs are offered through the Regional Development Program based at Hamilton.

Introduction to Applied Human Rights (HUSO2286)
Online class number: 4028
This course is designed to give you a concise yet critical introduction to key aspects of the development of and international discourse on human rights, especially in the twentieth century.

The course will involve a systematic and reflective inquiry into the development of a values-based human rights discourse framed by international law and United Nations covenants. You will engage in debates about the value of Acts or Charters of Human Rights in Australia and critically reflect on the arguments involved. Finally, you will be asked to think about what an applied human rights perspective means, focussing on the concept of a culture of human rights and the role played by education, policy advocacy and organisational leadership.

Further information
The Australian Centre for Human Rights Education
Tel. +61 3 9925 2395
Email: achre@rmit.edu.au
Transforming Organisations through Human Rights 1 (HUSO2288)

Online class number: 4029

This course is a work-integrated learning-based course. It is designed to assist you to understand and engage in the task of complex organisational transformation that favours human rights approach when working with clients, co-workers and fellow citizens. It will help you to understand complex theories and practices of policy development, implementation, evaluation and organisational change.

You will be encouraged to critically evaluate various approaches to organisational change, professional development and transformative practice. It will assist you to refine your problem solving skills and to develop a deep understanding of new approaches to working with co-workers and clients. The course will involve describing and evaluating the impact of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities on your workplace. You will then undertake an organisational change project, which gives effect to some aspect of the Charter of Human Rights and can be evaluated.

Further information
The Australian Centre for Human Rights Education
Tel. +61 3 9925 2395
Email: achre@rmit.edu.au

Master of Education

Master of Education (MEd) by coursework (MC039)

The School of Education offers a new, cutting edge Master of Education (MEd) by coursework program, offering a wide range of courses and enabling concentration in a chosen field. Students can specialise in several areas including: educational studies; research; career education and development; workplace education; educational leadership and management. The innovative design of the new Master of Education provides a unique market advantage.

The program provides candidates with the opportunity to further develop an understanding of learning and teaching and to enhance capabilities to apply new knowledge as professionals in a diverse range of educational and workplace-based environments.

Courses are offered in flexible modes: online and on weekends as well as evenings to cater for varying student needs.

Further information
Berenice Nyland
Tel. +61 3 9925 7805
Email: berenice.nyland@rmit.edu.au
Master of Education (MEd) by Research (MR018) Master of Arts (MR019)

The Master of Education and Master of Arts by Research is normally awarded for a thesis or project based on original research that contributes to knowledge in the area investigated. A research method course is a compulsory requirement of this program.

Research degrees by project combine a traditional research methodology and skill base with a contemporary understanding of organisations and professional practice in the workplace. These degrees enable individuals and their organisations to study a workplace concern and produce a comprehensively researched outcome that feeds back into the organisation. This innovative approach provides multiple tangible outcomes, not least of which is the project itself, but also the building of a research and development capability within the organisation, the development of applied research skills for the participants as well as a qualification from a leading Australian university.

Some key characteristics of the by project mode include industry partnership, collaboration, research linked to action, positive change for the organisation and individual, and action learning/action research approaches within a project framework. The degree promotes an explicit relationship between research, learning and change. As a consequence the program is challenging for the individual as they grapple with the generation of new knowledge and how this knowledge informs action.

Any research project is contingent on the availability of appropriate supervisors being available, and are fee paying courses.

Further information
Heather Fehring
Tel. +61 3 9925 7840
Email: heather.fehring@rmit.edu.au
or
Mr. Daniel Martini AO
School of Education Research Office,
Tel. +61 3 9925 7877
Email daniel.martini@rmit.edu.au

STUDY ONLINE WITH
OPEN UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA

RMIT University in conjunction with Open Universities Australia is pleased to advise that the following programs are now available to prospective students who wish to study online or predominantly online.

For more information see www.open.edu.au/wps/portal

Business

Business Administration (MBA Executive)

Through our partnership with OUA, you have the convenience and flexibility to study the RMIT MBA (Executive) program fully online or as a combination of both online and on-campus.

All eight core MBA (Executive) courses (subjects) are offered in the online mode as well as four International Management electives.

Enrolment dates:
15 February, 28 June and 1 November.

Bachelor of Business (Financial Planning)

This course offered by OUA is RMIT University’s Bachelor of Business (Financial Planning). The success of this course has been driven by the movement for stronger, professional standards within the finance industry.

The degree has been developed with extensive input from the industry to ensure the degree is relevant to the student’s career prospects, pertinent to the issues in the industry and can provide practitioners with an understanding of the ethical, legal and professional ramifications of their decisions.

Enrolment dates:
15 February, 17 May, 16 August and 15 November.
Bachelor of Business (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)
This course offers you the opportunity to specialise in the highly professional career of logistics and supply chain management. Logistics and supply chain management is becoming increasingly specialised and sophisticated, and provides a challenging and rewarding career. Excellent opportunities exist for logistics and supply chain management graduates in Australia and overseas.

Enrolment dates:
15 February, 17 May, 16 August and 15 November.

Science
Bachelor of Science (Applied Science)
This degree is designed for those who wish to pursue careers in biological sciences, and provides a biology specialisation for intending teachers.

You will develop the necessary ecological knowledge to deal with complex systems using modern biotechnological techniques. The degree covers ecology, ecotoxicology, marine biology and aquaculture, environmental biotechnology diagnostics and molecular agriculture. Through your studies you will develop core knowledge and techniques in plant and animal identification along with molecular biology, genetics, biological chemistry and microbiology.

You can choose to specialise in either bioscience or biotechnology in the final level of this degree.

Enrolment dates:
15 February, 17 May, 16 August and 15 November.

Technology
Bachelor of Technology (Computer Studies)
The Bachelor of Technology (Computing Studies) is designed to give you a foundation in programming and Information Technology fundamentals, while also providing you with the opportunity to study outside the realm of IT and to gain a range of skills in other areas. This innovative degree is taught online to allow you to apply what you are learning immediately.

This course covers a range of topics in Information Technology as well as in other fields, and conforms to the Australian Computer Society accreditation standards. This degree equips graduates with the necessary skills for employment in IT fields such as frontline support and system administration, as well as other fields that require IT experience, such as marketing, advertising and accounting.

Enrolment dates:
15 February, 17 May, 16 August and 15 November.
Design

Master of Design
The Master of Design focuses on design application, theory, new technologies and global business practice as they relate to the design industry. The design aspect of the program focuses on critical, strategic and innovative problem solving, while providing you with the knowledge to become a leader in your industry.

Through your studies you will explore a blend of management, process and design issues, with the aim of empowering graduates with the design know-how and management skills to be adaptable to the rapidly developing global economy.

This program is beneficial for anyone that contributes to, or manages design projects. For instance, people in public relations, communications, publishing or advertising need to understand and manage designers to effect business results.

This program provides you with greater understanding of the design process, design theory, business practice and knowledge of topics that relate to design such as branding. This program will enhance your competitive advantage in business and provide knowledge beyond your undergraduate studies. It will relate directly to and support your professional practice.

The Master of Design consists of 12 units. Students not wishing to undertake the full Masters program may exit with the Graduate Diploma of Design (8 units) or the Graduate Certificate of Design (4 units).

This program is restricted. Students are required to apply and be approved by RMIT University before they can enrol in units through OUA.

Law

Juris Doctor (JD) Program
The RMIT JD is a versatile qualification for those seeking admission to the legal profession or for professionals who want to enhance their current career options.

RMIT’s close connection to industry, the use of innovative online teaching methods and the incorporation of practice-based face-to-face sessions all contribute to offer students a flexible way to study law.

Students can determine their own study load each semester. In addition to units taught in the program online the program also provides the rich experience of face-to-face workshops, mock tribunals, moot court activities and mock negotiation activities across four of the units of the program.

The RMIT JD is accredited with the Council of Legal Education of Victoria and recognised as being a law program which can lead to legal practice. After graduating from the JD, students are able to pursue legal practice through the completion of an Articles of Clerkship with a law firm or a Practical Training Course.

For details of income support for this program see: www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=6bohya46vjk9

For more information see www.open.edu.au/wps/portal
This free community forum series, brought to you by Learning Community Partnerships, is available to all members of the community, and aims to look into issues that are of interest to the region. The presenters are all have an academic background with many years’ experience in their fields.

Details of these forums will be advertised widely including through the RMIT University Hamilton e-news.

Regional Development in a Global Context

The Regional Development program focuses on ways in which the communities, livelihoods and environments of the Hamilton region and in Australian regional communities generally may be sustained and enriched. The program undertakes applied research, consultancy, evaluations and research training in order to facilitate a constructive, creative interchange between academic and community sources of knowledge about regional development.

The program is overseen by Professor John Fien and directed by Dr Paul Collits, and is supported by the RMIT Learning Community Partnerships Unit. The Regional Development Program works closely with a broad range of organisations, industries, and academic units on collaborative research with practical outcomes for regional communities.

Our list of research and consultancy projects is continually evolving, and many of our projects are shared with regional organisations and/or other academic units within RMIT University. We also collaborate actively with the Victorian Universities Regional Research Network (VURRN) and the Australian University Community Engagement Alliance (AUCEA).

Current research interests include the drivers of regional economic performance, local economic development practice, rural entrepreneurship, the viability of rural communities, patterns of lifestyle migration and rural youth out-migration.

Current projects include:

- The Heartland project, which involves working with North American researchers to jointly investigate opportunities for growth in rural communities;
- Patterns of, and motivations for, in-migration into Southern Grampians Shire;
- The “Gap Year” and its regional consequences: a study of the incidence of
university deferrals in the Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires;

- **10 MMM Youth Multimedia Project**—with the Western District Health Service, RMIT University, Southern Grampians Adult Education and Casterton Community Courthouse, funded by VicHealth (2006-2009);

- **The Potter Farmland Project: Past, Present and Future**, funded by the Ian Potter Foundation (2006-2008);

- **Landscapes for Youth**, in partnership with Glenelg and Southern Grampians Local Learning Employment Network and Glenelg and Southern Grampians Youth Networks, and funded by the Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development (2009-2011).

For previous research projects and publications, please see [www.rmit.edu.au/hamilton](http://www.rmit.edu.au/hamilton)

A research planning day devoted to developing areas of research relevant to the community was held in September 2008, and involved key regional participants. Research plans in the four areas of: Sustainable Natural Resource Management; Local/Regional Economic Development; Health, Ageing and Social Development; and Youth/Education are being reviewed.

Part of the University’s strong commitment to growing a research culture in the Hamilton region involves the provision of support both to community researchers and to local postgraduate students. Currently, we have three postgraduate students based at Hamilton.

‘Community of Practice’ seminars that provide postgraduate students and Handbury Fellows with essential research skills and tools will form a key part of the University’s efforts in this area in 2009.

Prospective postgraduate students contemplating further study are encouraged to contact Dr Paul Collits or Dr Kaye Scholfield.

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**Further information**

**Dr Paul Collits**

Research Fellow

Regional Development in a Global Context

Tel. +61 3 5572 0537,

Email paul.collits@rmit.edu.au

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**Landscape for Young People Project**

The project has been funded with the generous support of the Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development.

This project will identify the issues of concern to young people (aged 12 to 20 years) by enlisting their support and encouraging their involvement in the Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires; to investigate those issues; to work with communities with an interest in and responsibility for young people; collect and analyse relevant data collaboratively with participating young people and community and professional agencies to identify recommendations for future actions and where appropriate, initiate strategies; to communicate the information and make recommendations to the two Shires and other policy to assist in planning and policy; to work cross sectorally with community, agencies and organisations in a bottom up, ‘whole of community’ approach to capacity building for young people and the youth sector.

In early 2009, we will be calling for interested young people to become part of this project. Their input will be sought on several levels, including to be trained as researchers.

**Further information**

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**10MMM Your Say Research Project**

This project is a youth led participatory action research project examining technology and its impact upon rural young people. Having gathered data related to technology use and social impact throughout 2008, this data will inform the research for 2009. Concerns about ICT use will be the major topic with a focus group to be held with young people and their parents on ICT concerns early in the year.

Technology workshops and leadership activities will allow opportunities for young people to have their say, especially with a focus on the visual media and film production. Technology workshops will be conducted each school holidays providing opportunities for young people to be involved.

**Further information:**

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**Local–Global Community Sustainability Program**

In the context of the local-global challenges of the contemporary period, the Local–Global Research Project aims to explore the strengths and weaknesses of local communities, with a particular emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region. It involves a network of researchers (from the Community Sustainability research cluster in the Globalism Research Centre and Global Cities Institute within the College of Design and Social Context), international scholars and community members working together to better understand the nature of community from the local to the global, and collectively responding to key cultural political issues of the new century across all levels of community and polity.

This project recognises the vital importance of the local—the place in which we live—and then seeks to draw global lines of co-operation and reciprocal connections across RMIT University and other relevant networks with communities and researchers at local, national and international levels.

As researchers and community members, we share a collective interest in understanding what is happening to communities in the context of globalisation. How are we to understand the processes of change, both positive and negative, that affect sustainable and peaceful ways of living? What are the issues that require urgent attention, particularly as we face new, massive challenges to the environment, not to speak of widespread violence and global insecurity? How do communities in the Asia–Pacific region, especially Australia, respond to challenges of globalisation, and to what extent do they think and act independently in becoming more socially and environmentally sustainable?
The Local–Global project is a matrix of community-situated activities which are being conducted using a common methodology with an emphasis on the importance of comparative research. Our research stretches across the Asia-Pacific region, with projects in Australia (Hamilton region, Broadmeadows and St Kilda), South India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.

The research program is engaged in multiple communities within each site, ranging from the urban to the rural, and from those embedded in face-to-face community to those which are closely integrated into global flows of exchange and information. The Local –Global project work with a Critical Reference Group (CRG)—made up of members of the community and representing key areas of research within the project.

Site
www.communitysustainability.info
has information on the following:

- Hamilton Region: Negotiating the Local–Global

Research activities:
- Community Sustainability Community-Engaged Methodology
- The International Food and Thought MELA (February 2006 and June 2008)
- Handbury Community Fellowships
- Local Global International Journal—Studies in Community Sustainability
- Climate Change Project

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University web site before lodging your application. Prepared February 2009.

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