

# THE PROJECT

HISTORY EXTENSION  
SEMINAR 2019

## ANNUAL EVENT FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Friday 8 November 2019, 8.30am–3.15pm

Presented by Sydney Living Museums and the State Library of New South Wales

### PROGRAM

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#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

##### JONATHON DALLIMORE

Teacher, 2016 Premier's History Scholarship winner, author,  
and University of New South Wales research candidate

##### **The History Extension Project: getting the job done**

The History Extension Project gives students an opportunity to participate in a conversation about how history is made. It is exciting, creative and challenging all at once. This session aims to give students practical advice about setting up and completing their major works. More specifically, it places the major work in the context of the broader course to help students understand its purpose and outlines a range of strategies for getting the job done.

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##### DR PAUL IRISH

Director / Historian and Archaeologist, Coast History and Heritage

##### **The past is all around us: seeing Sydney's Aboriginal history in the present**

In this talk, Paul will explore how supposedly 'hidden' histories are often all around us, if we know where to look. This is particularly true of Sydney's Aboriginal history. For many years, the Aboriginal people of coastal Sydney were said to have died out or disappeared within decades of Europeans arriving. Any survivors were dismissed as outcasts who had lost their 'authentic' Aboriginality, and were ignored by history. When you repeatedly forget to tell a part of history over generations, it is easy to become blind to what is all around you. In Sydney we often think of our stately sandstone buildings as markers of 'white' history – covering over and obscuring an earlier 'black' history. But when we take a closer look at the historical record a very different picture emerges, where historic houses and other prominent colonial landmarks have a much more entangled and fascinating past.

Visit [slm.is/theproject](http://slm.is/theproject) or [sl.nsw.gov.au/HEP2019](http://sl.nsw.gov.au/HEP2019) for the full list of 2019 presenters.

## HISTORIOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS WITH SYDNEY LIVING MUSEUMS

- Each participant will be allocated to ONE of these workshops. All workshops are skills-based, focusing on historical inquiry and critical thinking.
- Workshop numbers are strictly limited. The State Library of New South Wales will allocate places according to preferences expressed at the time of registration and order of receipt, and advise you of your workshop allocation when your booking is confirmed.
- Some school groups may need to be split between different workshops. Sydney Living Museums staff will supervise the movement of students where required.

### **The ancient world through modern eyes | *The Mint***

Dr Craig Barker | Classical archaeologist and Manager,  
Education and Public Programs, Sydney University Museums

During this hands-on workshop, students will handle and investigate genuine Mediterranean artefacts, and learn about the development of archaeological investigation from antiquarianism through to the modern scientific inquiry practised today.

### **Museums and curators as producers of history | *The Mint***

Dr Bruce Dennett | Historian, author,  
and former Supervisor of Marking for History Extension

In this workshop, students will review how museums and their curators construct and represent the past by conserving, recording, displaying and interpreting aspects of past reality. Can the resultant exhibits ever be neutral? Students will interrogate specific examples by viewing them through the lens of historical thinking.

### **Refining your research topic | *The Mint***

Beth Hise | Head of Content, Strategic Projects, Sydney Living Museums

In this workshop, Beth Hise will share 20 years of experience as a historian, curator and research manager, and provide tips for refining a research topic. Where do you start? What steps should you take and what questions can you ask to refine your topic? With the support of experienced educators, students will workshop sample topics in groups using the process that Beth has outlined.

Visit [slm.is/theproject](http://slm.is/theproject) for more information about these workshops.

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## WORKSHOPS AT THE STATE LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Students will walk away with a suite of new tools, advice, and the confidence to embark on their major project. All attendees will participate in BOTH workshops.

### **Write like a historian**

Sally Johnstone

This session will give students the opportunity to explore excerpts from major works constructed by students in the past four years. By examining these pieces of writing, we will be able to discuss the methods students use to compose well-structured texts that argue for a particular historical position. We will also examine how historians use the written word to challenge positions and evaluate issues. By participating in this activity, students will develop the skills needed to write an excellent major work in History Extension.

### **Kickstart your research**

Find the scholarly resources that you need to start your History Extension research.

In this session, students will explore the best resources, available for free with their State Library card, and learn effective search strategies to discover the most relevant academic journal articles and books.

We will also examine a high-performing past student's bibliography to identify how they researched these resources to maximise their results!

**PANEL DISCUSSION**  
WITH SYDNEY LIVING  
MUSEUMS

**Historians on the writing of history**

You've chosen your topic. You've completed your research. Now you just need to turn your ideas and data into a great essay.

Dr Jennifer Lawless will chair a panel discussion driven by questions from the student audience about what it takes to produce an effective piece of writing based on historical research. Practising historians Dr Craig Barker, Nerida Campbell, Dr Bruce Dennett and Dr Paul Irish have published widely on a variety of topics across many areas of history and will share their insights and recommendations on getting from initial plan to final proofread. Get tips on how to increase your efficiency, reduce your stress and experience the satisfaction of crafting an essay that doesn't just give good history, but is also a good read.

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**PANEL DISCUSSION**  
AT THE STATE  
LIBRARY OF NEW  
SOUTH WALES

**Panel discussion with ex-students**

This is your chance to ask all your burning questions about the project. Where do I start? How do I find the right topic? How much time do I need to spend on the essay? Where will I find the best resources? The panel will be made up of high-achieving ex-students for whom the experience is very fresh, so bring along all your ideas and test them out on ex-students who are willing to share the secrets of their success!

## REGISTRATION

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### VENUES

Each participant will spend half a day at each venue. Please refer to your booking confirmation for the location of your morning session.

**State Library of New South Wales**  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

**The Mint**  
10 Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

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### COST

Teachers and students: \$30  
*This includes admission and morning tea. Lunch is not provided.*

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### 2019 BOOKINGS

Bookings will open on 17 October and are managed by the State Library of New South Wales, via Eventbrite. The link to the Eventbrite page can be found at [sl.nsw.gov.au/HEP2019](https://sl.nsw.gov.au/HEP2019)

To avoid disappointment, we recommend that you book early. If you have any inquiries about your booking, please contact Learning Services at the State Library of New South Wales on **(02) 9273 1778** or [learning.library@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:learning.library@sl.nsw.gov.au)

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**STATE LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES**  
[sl.nsw.gov.au/HEP2019](https://sl.nsw.gov.au/HEP2019)  
T 02 9273 1778  
E [learning.library@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:learning.library@sl.nsw.gov.au)

**SYDNEY LIVING MUSEUMS**  
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