

UNSW at a glance



UNSW
SYDNEY



Welcome

UNSW Sydney's reputation is among the best in the world.

Since our beginning in 1949, UNSW has grown to become one of the world's best universities.

We remain true to our founding purpose, creating educational opportunities, increasing access to higher education and equipping more people with the skills society needs for a prosperous future.

We continue to focus on the transformative potential of education, the extraordinary power of innovative research, and the great amalgam of these for positive societal impact.

UNSW is a high-calibre education and research institution, with leading experts in disciplines that are helping to address some of today's biggest issues for people and communities right across the world.

We are proud that our students are the most sought-after of any Australian university by prospective employers, both in Australia and across the globe, with UNSW named the AFR Most Employable University in 2024 for the fifth consecutive year.

Our researchers are among the most influential in the world with their work translating to innovations that advance prosperity in a myriad of fields and places.

We have deep, genuine partnerships with governments, industry and the community sector, knowing that true collaboration is key to finding progressive, real-world answers to society's complex challenges.

UNSW is a diverse, inclusive community. We embrace the great breadth of experience and insight that society has to offer. We want every person at UNSW to feel valued, respected and supported to realise their potential.

As we celebrate 75 years, I invite you to get to know UNSW as we pursue our mission of 'Progress for all'.



"For 75 years, UNSW has remained true to our founding purpose, creating educational opportunities, increasing access to higher education and equipping more people with the skills society needs for a prosperous future."

Professor Attila Brungs

Professor Attila Brungs

Vice-Chancellor and President, UNSW Sydney

Progress for all

> Established 1949

For 75 years, UNSW has nurtured the sharpest minds with the bravest ideas.



52nd

2023 Aggregate Ranking of Top Universities (ARTU)

UNSW benchmarks itself on the three main global league tables. When our results are compared with other universities globally, for these three rankings in 2023, UNSW is 52nd in the world.

19th

2025 QS World University Rankings

84th

2024 Times Higher Education Rankings

72nd

2023 Academic Ranking of World Universities



Most employable students

AFR Top 100 Future Leaders Awards 2024 – 37 winners out of 100 from UNSW.

> Seven faculties

- Arts, Design & Architecture
- Business
- Engineering
- Law & Justice
- Medicine & Health
- Science
- UNSW Canberra

We are a world-leading university, known for driving progress that benefits everyone through learning, teaching and research.

Since our foundation, our collective aim has been to have a positive global societal impact, improving and transforming lives.

UNSW is a founding member of both the Group of Eight, a coalition of Australia's leading research-intensive universities, and the prestigious Universitas 21 international network.



Fast facts



70,238

Total students



52,978

Online course enrolments

42,543

Local students



45

Schools

27,695

International students

57

UNSW centres and institutes

4246

Higher degree research candidates

387,263

UNSW alumni

4100+

Beds on campus

3452

Academic staff

38ha

Kensington campus size

4136

Professional staff

Student 2023 data submitted to TCSI.
Staff FTFFFT 2023 data submitted to TCSI (as
at 31 March 2023).

Academic excellence

We are delivering life-changing research and shaping the future of higher education.



“UNSW is recognised for the quality and impact of its research across its range of disciplines, and for nurturing and investing in outstanding researchers throughout their careers.”

Professor Bronwyn Fox

Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Research & Enterprise

\$3.7bn

research and knowledge exchange income over the last five years

16,547

research publications in 2023

4271

higher degree research candidates in 2023

801

higher degree research completions in 2023

Brightest minds

UNSW invests in strategic recruitment initiatives to attract the best and brightest minds, from PhD students and early and mid-career researchers, to established world-leading academics.

Powerhouse partnerships

Our strategic partnerships help us drive positive societal impact and our research is recognised on the global stage. Some of these partnerships include:

- The George Institute for Global Health
- PLuS Alliance with Arizona State University and King's College London
- Torch Innovation Precinct at UNSW
- UNSW Defence Research Institute
- Sydney Partnership for Health, Education, Research and Enterprise (SPHERE)
- TEDI-London
- International Universities Climate Alliance
- Sydney Quantum Academy
- The Poverty and Inequality Partnership with the Australian Council of Social Services
- Trailblazer Universities Program: Trailblazer for Recycling and Clean Energy (TRaCE) in partnership with University of Newcastle and Defence Trailblazer in partnership with University of Adelaide, supported by the Australian Government Department of Education.

Research strengths

Our strengths include:

- Health and biomedical sciences
- Water, climate, environment and sustainability
- Next generation materials and technologies
- Social policy, government and health policy
- ICT, robotics and devices
- Law, business and economics
- Fundamental and enabling sciences
- Contemporary humanities and creative arts
- Defence, security and resilience.



Professor Lisa Alexander received the prestigious 2024 Copernicus Medal for her ground-breaking work on climate extremes, observations and model evaluation.

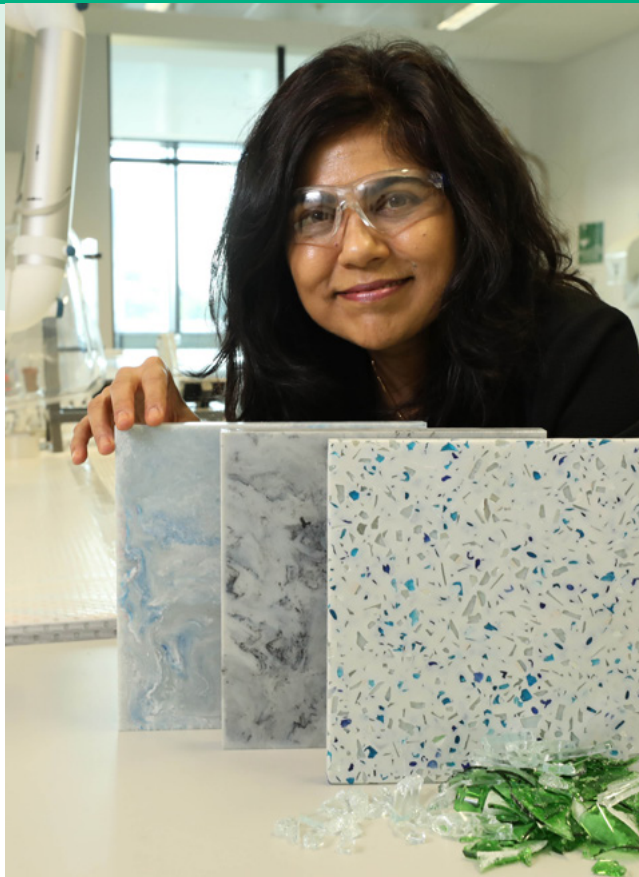
A culture of innovation

Our vision is to engage with government, industry and the community to translate our research into economic, environmental and social benefit for all.

“Environmental benefits aside, our scientifically developed microrecycling technology helps drive the emerging circular economy and achieve decarbonisation, as well as create jobs and enhance social and economic outcomes.”

Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla
Director of the UNSW Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology

Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla with examples of her 'green ceramics', which are used for kitchen benches, table tops, floor tiles, furnishings and other applications.



UNSW hosts the world's first e-waste MICROfactorie™ – a facility that extracts components from discarded electronics, such as smartphones and laptops, and reforms the materials for new uses. It's also home to a commercial-scale plastics and green ceramics MICROfactorie™ that reforms waste plastics into filament for 3D printing, and wastes such as glass and textiles into engineered ceramics and flat panel building products.

These facilities use innovative microrecycling methods scientifically developed through research at UNSW's Sustainable Materials Research and Technology (SMaRT) Centre, which is led by scientist, engineer and sustainability innovator Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla.



No. 1

Australia's most entrepreneurial university

No. 1

Australian publicly funded research organisation for new spinout companies based on technologies and intellectual property developed at UNSW

300+

Startups from the UNSW community supported by UNSW Founders every year

48%

Female co-founders of UNSW startups (as at December 2023)

16%

The Australian's Top 100 innovators list come from UNSW

A world leader in cancer research

Omico became the 15th UNSW staff startup to launch in 2023. The national, independent, not-for-profit organisation aims to unite Australia's world-class cancer researchers, clinicians, industry partners and governments, using precision medicine to unlock new potential cancer treatment. Led by UNSW Professor David Thomas (pictured), its programs merge academic and industry expertise, encouraging entrepreneurial development and impactful real-world solutions.

Societal impact

UNSW leads discussion on the challenges of our times, translating our discoveries into positive societal change.



Our goal is to drive progress that benefits all. Through partnerships, thought leadership, engagement with decision-makers, sustainable development, and a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, we are determined to leave our world better than we found it.

To increase our societal impact, UNSW has committed to expanding our access rate for first-year students from underrepresented schools and backgrounds.

Our Indigenous Strategy

UNSW's Indigenous strategy sits at the heart of our University. We are working towards establishing a micro-treaty with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, staff, alumni and communities to empower them with a meaningful voice in higher education, leading to real societal change and impact, both locally and globally.



"The UNSW Disability Innovation Institute develops and promotes inclusive research and education, where people with disability are involved not just as participants but as co-creators of knowledge."

Professor Jackie Leach Scully

Director, UNSW Disability Innovation Institute

Sustainable development

We tackle real-world problems through partnerships that bring together our students, staff, alumni and the community, aligning our efforts with UNSW's expertise and research strengths and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. We ranked third in Australia and joint 11th in the world in the 2024 QS World University Sustainability Rankings for our work in tackling the world's greatest environmental, social and governance challenges.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Our vision is to be recognised as an international exemplar in equity, diversity and inclusion. The diversity and cultural richness of our communities underpins our success, and we ensure our students and staff achieve their full potential regardless of their background. UNSW graduates will carry these positive values into their future lives.

Leadership in the public interest



The UNSW Centre for Ideas welcomed Nobel Laureate Jennifer Doudna to speak with Professor Merlin Crossley about her revolutionary genetic research. Photo: Maria Boyadgjis



We are leading discussions on the challenges of our time and are working to ensure our research benefits our global community.

UNSW's vision is to lead public debate based on evidence and critical thought and to promote informed discussion on the most pressing issues facing humanity.

Our academics are relied on by government and media for their expertise in explaining the complexities of everyday challenges impacting society. They are a trusted source of knowledge and advice on issues such as AI, bushfires, floods, climate change, and many more.

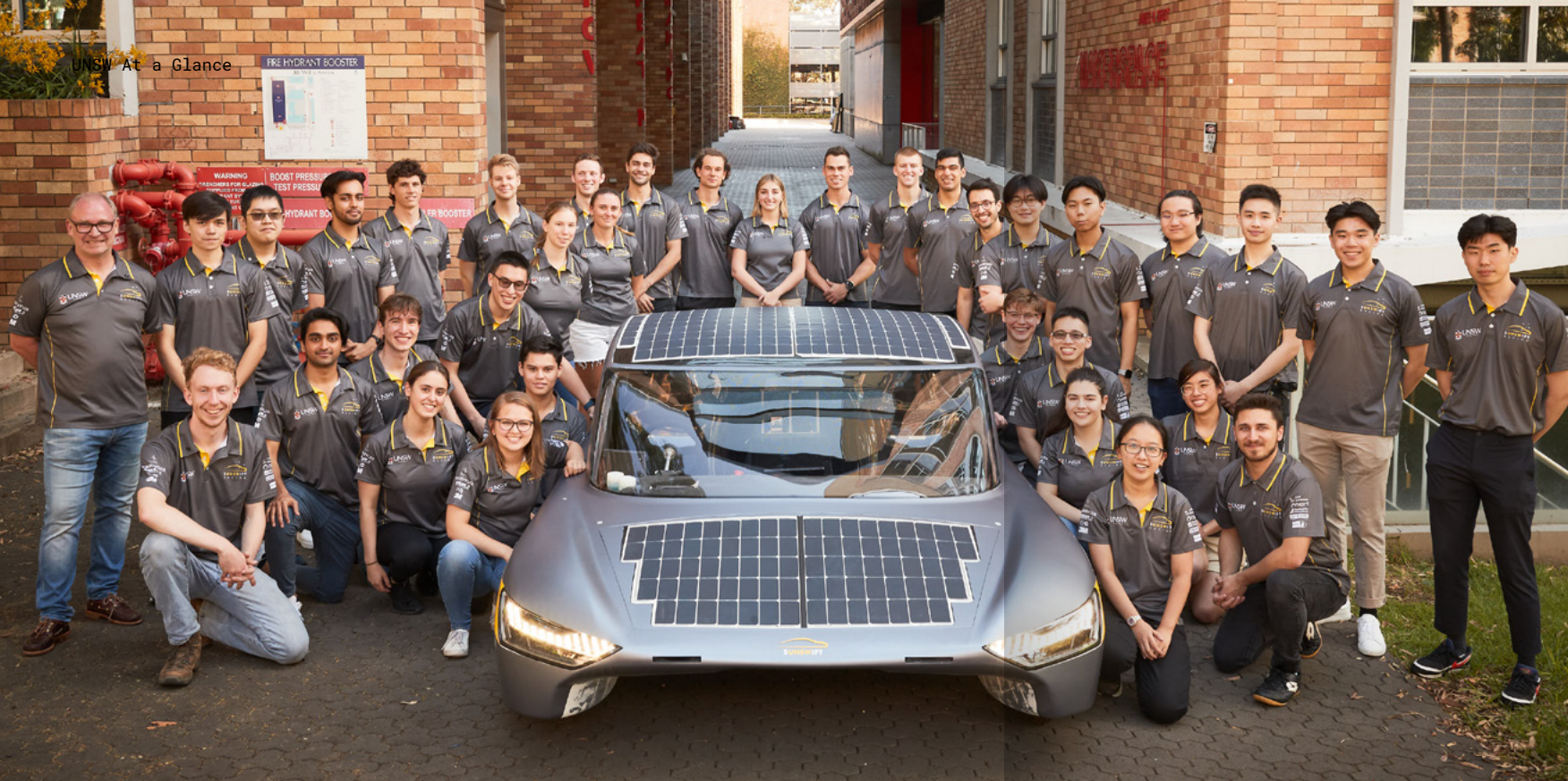
The UNSW Centre for Ideas presents a thought-provoking program of events and digital content, bringing the world's leading thinkers to UNSW and presenting UNSW academics to the world. Guests include writer Roxane Gay, playwright David Hare, historian Peter Frankopan and Nobel Prize laureate Jennifer Doudna.

In 2023 UNSW Sydney became the exclusive university sponsor and Premier Partner of the Sydney Writers' Festival. This three-year partnership brings together a shared vision of creativity, curiosity and thought leadership and creates opportunities for UNSW students and staff to foster unique collaborations with writers, and to connect with a community of like-minded people.

UNSW also runs a professional development program, UNSOMNIA, which provides an opportunity for UNSW academics, researchers and PhD students to finesse their presentation skills and showcase their ideas to UNSW and public audiences in Australia and across the globe.

"To me thought leadership is about playing a role in debating the key issues facing Australia and our region. As academics, our role in this debate is also distinct – it is to make sure that our conversations are open, reasoned and evidence-based. I have relished the opportunity to play this role as part of my work at UNSW, especially in partnership with the Centre for Ideas."

Scientia Professor Rosalind Dixon
UNSW Law & Justice



Solar superstars

UNSW's Sunswift represents more than 25 years of solar car development at UNSW. Students design and build solar electric car prototypes and they hold a Guinness World Record for the fastest 1000km achieved by an electric vehicle on a single charge.

UNSW Scientia Professor Martin Green has won numerous international awards for his work developing solar photovoltaic technology, which has underpinned exponential growth in high performance, low-cost solar electricity globally.

His research group at UNSW is the largest university-based photovoltaic research group in the world.

Scientia Professor Martin Green receiving the 2023 Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering from His Majesty King Charles III. He shared the award with three of his former PhD students. Photo: Jason Alden

Climate change pioneers

We are a world-leader in climate change research and renewable energy innovation.

UNSW is committed to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions to net zero and will divest from investments in companies whose primary business is the ownership and exploitation of fossil fuel reserves by 2025.

The landmark move furthers our commitment to action on climate change.

The Sunswift Racing team with their latest high-performance solar-powered car Sunswift 7.

“We have some of the best scientific and business minds in the world right here at UNSW, and we need to harness that capability to deliver action to reduce global carbon emissions urgently.”

Scientia Professor Matthew England
UNSW Climate Change Research Centre



A world-class education

UNSW's vision is to be among the very best universities in the world for excellence in education, employability and the student experience more broadly. We welcome students from all over Australia and around the world, who attend UNSW for the distinctiveness of our learning and teaching in and beyond the classroom. Our graduates make a positive impact across the community, government and industry, nationally and globally.

UNSW students enjoy a vibrant campus, which has many cafes, restaurants, bars, fitness facilities, sports fields, libraries, quiet spaces, open spaces and award-winning student accommodation. The multi-million dollar Village Green Sport and Wellness precinct is a world-class sport and leisure environment where students come together to play, exercise, socialise and relax.

There are also more than 350 student clubs and societies to explore, with activities ranging from academia and culture to sports and hobbies. Seventy-eight per cent of our students belong to at least one club or society.

Global enrichment

UNSW was Australia's first international university, welcoming international scholarship students under the Colombo Plan in 1952. Since 2014, more than 2000 undergraduate students have studied across the Asia Pacific under the federal government's New Colombo Plan.

Many thousands of undergraduate and postgraduate students have studied around the world through our exchange, short programs, and global work integrated learning opportunities. We also welcome visiting international students through our exchange, study abroad coursework and research practicum programs.

All our global mobility programs deepen people-to-people relationships and strengthen institutional and industry relationships between UNSW and the world, while adding to the diversity of our student cohorts.

Lifelong learning

UNSW is committed to providing working professionals with rich and ongoing opportunities to learn, grow and enhance their skills and capabilities throughout their working lives. Through the Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM), UNSW Online and our workplace learning business, Mentem, we offer market-leading programs and courses that assist individuals and their organisations to reskill and upskill to meet ever-changing job markets.

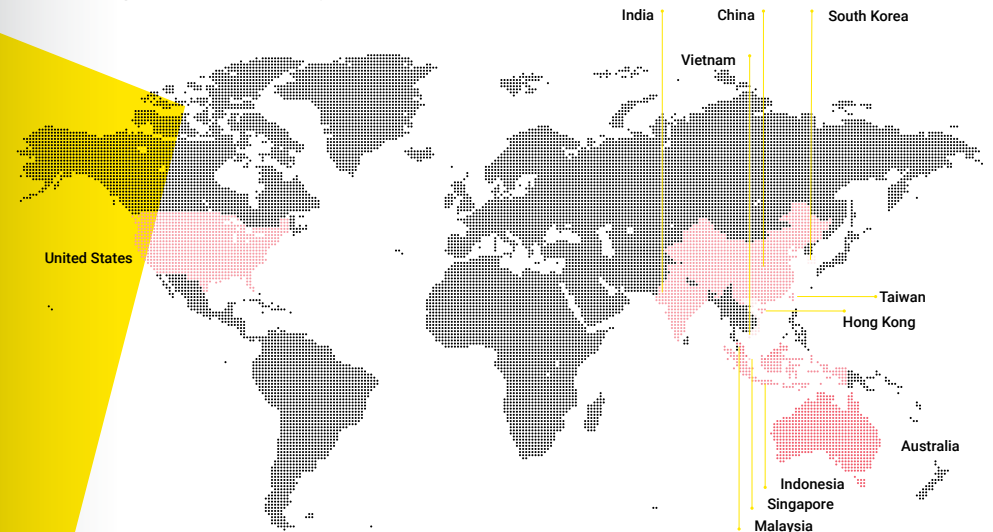
"UNSW has an important role to play in equipping managers and leaders from all industries and sectors with the skills they need to thrive in the new world of work."

"We are continuing to build and deliver academically challenging and professionally relevant learning opportunities to ensure that UNSW is the lifelong learning partner of choice throughout our students' university and professional lives."

Professor Nick Wailes
Dean of Lifelong Learning



Top markets of origin



Global engagement



UNSW has extensive intercontinental research networks focused on excellence and positive societal impact.

We are connected to more than 200 partner universities across 39 countries and our international students come from 140 countries around the world.

Partnerships for global impact

UNSW cultivates partnerships with universities, research institutes, industry, government and communities to improve and transform lives through excellence in research and outstanding education.

We have long-standing research and innovation collaborations with international partners. For example, under the Torch Initiative with China UNSW is developing water desalination technology for use in arid areas of Australia, China and across the globe. Through the PLuS Alliance, UNSW combines with Arizona State University and King's College London to collectively solve global challenges.

UNSW seeks to drive progress that benefits everyone through innovation partnerships in India and research translation across the Indo-Pacific, such as improving animal biohealth in Indonesia and supporting the green energy transition in the Pacific.

Our expanding global network of partners

UNSW has research and education partnerships with top-ranking universities in the US, Europe, China, Southeast Asia and India and is expanding engagement with partners in Indonesia, Japan, Korea and Latin America.

We work closely with university, NGO and government partners in PNG, Fiji and Timor-Leste to improve sustainability and resilience.

Taking UNSW startups to the world

UNSW's expertise in developing and fostering entrepreneurs supports startups linked to students, staff and alumni in exploring potential new markets, including Singapore, India, China, Europe and Japan.

7th

in the world in the 2024 Times Higher Education Impact rankings for our commitment to sustainability

3056

research projects with international collaborators from 70 countries in 2023

6928

joint publications from UNSW researchers and collaborators from 180 countries in 2023

"At UNSW, excellence in education and research go hand in hand with our commitment to positive societal impact. To achieve this, we seek out like-minded partners across sectors in all regions of the world."

Professor Colin Grant

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Global

Driving impact together

The essence of UNSW is found in the unique perspectives, meaningful connections, and inspiring generosity of our students, alumni, donors and passionate advocates across the globe. Together, we are driving positive impact in educational and research excellence, challenging inequality, and developing world-class facilities for learning, teaching and discovery.



Hundreds of ground-breaking research projects are given life through generous philanthropic investments, which can often change the course of history.

Since 2015, UNSW supporters have contributed close to \$650 million in philanthropic funds enabling:

- life-changing advancements in medical research, spanning cancer, dementia, infectious disease, mental health and beyond
- solutions to environmental challenges and proactively seeking measures against the impacts of climate change
- advancing human rights in Australia and around the world, including efforts against gendered violence, support for displaced peoples and advocacy for Indigenous rights
- expanded access and success in higher education for students from underrepresented schools and backgrounds.

Our global alumni network is a powerful force for good, creating priceless opportunities and supporting the next generation through shared experiences and purpose like mentoring, volunteering and lifelong learning.

Pictured left: Addressing Medicine & Health graduates, alumnus and award-winning director Dr George Miller AO spoke about the many parallels between medicine and cinema.



“Building a culture of giving back is at the heart of all we strive to achieve at UNSW. It is what we instil into our students, and it is how we approach our research.

“That is why the impact of our success extends far beyond our University, helping to improve the communities in which we live and work. This is a small window into the enormous potential of philanthropy to change both the lives of individuals and broader society, for the better.”

David Gonski AC
Chancellor

Modern campus

We're committed to significantly investing in world-class research and teaching facilities through award-winning campus developments.

- > The emerging Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct will be the largest co-located health, innovation and education zone in NSW – helping drive better healthcare, research and outcomes for patients.
- v The Esme Timbery Creative Practice Lab supports teaching and practice-led research across a range of disciplines including theatre and performance, film, media, creative writing and music.



Perfect location

From our Kensington and Paddington campuses in the heart of Sydney, UNSW continues to expand our world-class research and teaching facilities. In addition to Canberra, we also have a presence in greater Sydney including Parramatta, Liverpool and Manly Vale, and in regional areas such as Wagga Wagga, Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour.

> You can experience UNSW's Kensington campus from anywhere in the world by taking a **360° Tour of the University**. Get a closer look at the fantastic facilities, view the inspiring study and research spaces, and hear from world-class academics.

360tour.unsw.edu.au

Sydney Centre ▼
20 minutes by light rail or bus

▼ **UNSW Art & Design**
10 minutes by bus

Bondi Junction ▼
20 minutes by bus

└└ **UNSW Canberra**
3 hours by car

└└ **Sydney Airport**
20 minutes by car



Bondi Beach >>
20 minutes by car

Coogee Beach >>
8 minutes by bus

Still curious?

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