Curious about...

Graduate Certificate in Wiradjuri Language, Culture and Heritage

What is CSU’s Graduate Certificate in Wiradjuri Language, Culture and Heritage - Ngiyambalgarra?

Charles Sturt University’s (CSU) Graduate Certificate in Wiradjuri Language, Culture and Heritage develops your capacity to speak the Wiradjuri language and provides you with the opportunity to learn about Wiradjuri culture and heritage. The course is offered to students currently enrolled at CSU and to people who work with the Wiradjuri community. There is a focus on building Wiradjuri language resources to assist in recovering Wiradjuri language, and on building capacity in the Wiradjuri community.

What will I study?

Ngiyambalgarra (speak together, converse, reply) is CSU’s Graduate Certificate in Wiradjuri Language, Culture and Heritage. This course comprises four subjects including engagement in a professional study experience. Students will be given the opportunity to work with a community mentor and members of the Wiradjuri community to identify, negotiate, plan and implement a community project.

What will I learn?

This course creates opportunities for students to participate actively in the process of reconciliation and build community capacity in the Wiradjuri community. Students will learn:

- to begin to speak the Wiradjuri language and understand the links between language, culture and heritage
- processes to rebuild Australia’s Indigenous nations
- to work with cultural sensitivity and intelligence with the Wiradjuri community.

How will I study?

This course is offered as a combination of blended mode delivery through online distance education, field support and compulsory face-to-face residential schools held at CSU’s Wagga Wagga Campus at specified times each session.

Distance education is supported by online learning and research tools. Students can study from anywhere and have access to lectures, tutorials, library support and student support at a time that suits them.

The Graduate Certificate in Wiradjuri Language, Culture and Heritage comprises 50 hours of professional study, which is made up of about 10-15 hours each of the following:

- community orientation with a community mentor
- preparation for the community project
- community participation.

www.csu.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/wiradjuri_language
Career opportunities
This qualification is a valuable asset to anyone working with the Wiradjuri community in any capacity. Graduates who also hold a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment may teach in TAFE or non-TAFE provider settings.

Residential schools
This course has four compulsory residential schools (20 days per year) that will build on students’ previous knowledge of Wiradjuri language. The main focus will be to develop students’ capacity to hold conversations with one another in Wiradjuri and to consecutively introduce the subjects that students will be studying. Indigenous students may be eligible for Away From Base funding to support them for the period of the residential school with expenses such as accommodation and travel.

Indigenous Student Centres
Charles Sturt University’s Indigenous Student Centres (ISC) welcome, value and support all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their pursuit of higher learning.

We have many committed and professional staff available to assist and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in achieving academic success from pre-enrolment through to graduation. Our enthusiastic team is devoted to supporting students through any cultural, personal, financial, social or educational challenge they may face.

ISC provides valuable student support including:
- Darrambal program
- Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS)
- on campus computer facilities
- student support officers
- travel and accommodation support.

For more information, visit: www.csu.edu.au/for/indigenous-students

Further information
For more information about CSU’s Graduate Certificate in Wiradjuri Language, Culture and Heritage or to apply, visit: www.csu.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/wiradjuri_language

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“The best thing that I’ve learnt in the course so far is the lingo; the lingo I heard off my grandfather, because it’s been so long gone. To learn it and speak it now gives me a great thrill, great energy within myself to start understanding the Wiradjuri, who we are and what happened. We need to know.

“This course is for everybody, Indigenous and non-Indigenous. You don’t have to be a blackfella to do this course.”

Graham Traynor
CSU student

“I think the most important thing that people would get, or that I would want them to learn from this course, is something that I continually come back to, and that is ‘yindyamarra’. It’s respect for your responsibility as a person, your respect for country, your respect for people and respect for the history of our people. Learn yindyamarra. Respect.”

Letitia Harris
CSU student