



University of Newcastle, Australia

For 50 years, the University of Newcastle (UON) has delivered education to talented students from diverse backgrounds, developed professional leaders of the future and harnessed the capacity of research excellence to foster innovation and deliver impact across the world .

Consistently ranked in the top three per cent of Universities globally, UON is a partner of choice for international research collaborations and student exchanges. Central to this success is our emphasis on translational research – taking new discoveries out of the lab and studio and delivering innovation that solves the challenges of our world today.

We implicitly understand the role of the entrepreneur in making this happen, and we believe that the best innovation ecosystems are those where new industries, jobs and opportunities happen when research, business, government and community forge strong alliances.

UON's role in this ecosystem is to empower students and faculty to develop the skills and mindset to create game-changing products, services and ventures of unique value in this age of disruptive innovation. A wide variety of programs and activities speak to this mission:

- **UON Innovation Hub** – the Hub is transforming our region, providing a precinct for entrepreneurial leadership in traditional and emerging sectors and delivering a suite of additional activities and events from lean startup workshops and hackathons, to pitch competitions and speed dating with alumni and venture capitalists
- **Integrated Innovation Network** – our Integrated Innovation Network (i2N), which links UON and partner incubation and acceleration hubs across a region undergoing significant transformational change from a resources-based to a knowledge-based economy, and places UON researchers and students at the new frontiers of entrepreneurial activity across a breadth of sectors
- **Bachelor of Business (Innovation and Entrepreneurship Major)** – students gain vital skills and knowledge to think creatively and distinctively in new situations and reduce risk in professional practice. The program incorporates a practical industry placement, giving students the confidence and skills to launch exciting new business ventures.

- **STAR4000: Innovation, Startups and Entrepreneurship** A unique program which sees students, staff and community members combine in teams to complete an applied assessment exercise centred on creating and validating a new startup enterprise, and culminates in a business pitch at the end of the course. Developed in collaboration with accelerator company, Slingshot, the course combines an initial 5-day immersive bootcamp, with a fortnightly lecture program across the semester. Teams are taught by experienced entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, futurists, business strategists, and corporate leaders who have been sourced from both Australia and overseas.
- **Master of Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship** Equips post-graduate students with the theoretical knowledge, models, and concepts, and to provide the skills and know-how to be proficient in their application to real-world scenarios. Students also undertake a project-based course, in which they gain invaluable industry experience.
- **Research Advantage** This staff program futureproofs UON's researcher capacity and builds our researchers' capabilities and profile by providing a dedicated program of support with specific initiatives for each stage of the academic research career. The Research Advantage is a point of differentiation for UON as an institution, which offers a strong career development pathway for all researchers and fosters the development of an engaged and empowered research community, via commercialisation, entrepreneurship learning opportunities, as well as dedicated industry networking events.

For additional information on UON's Innovation and Entrepreneurship initiatives, please go to our web site www.newcastle.edu.au/i2n

**Collaborating to drive innovation
and global impact**