Editorial

HSU-MING TEO & MATT BAILEY

*History Initiates* publishes outstanding undergraduate and Masters essays produced in the Department of Modern History at Macquarie University. The essays are not edited, appearing as they were originally submitted.

A broad range of scholarship stresses the value of undergraduate research. This extends from the personal experience of students through to retention rates as well as progression to post-graduate studies. In the Department of Modern History students are encouraged, particularly at 300-level, to formulate their own research questions and to develop methodologies to answer them. The best of the subsequent essays are gathered here.

In this edition of *History Initiates*, essays range from the colonisation of Louisiana through to Indian nationalism, from nineteenth century American Jewish immigrants to Europeans’ search for meaning in the Great War. Students explore representations of women in Nazi Germany, Nikita Khrushchev’s leadership in the 1950s and 1960s and Russel Ward’s *Australian Legend*.

This diversity demonstrates the scope and depth of the scholarship produced by undergraduates in the department as well as their variety of interests.

We hope you find these essays as fascinating as we have and that you enjoy this edition of *History Initiates*. 