Research Seminar

‘The Vulnerable Country: Australia and the World Economy’.

By: Dr Tom Conley, Senior Lecturer in Political Economy, Department of International Business and Asian Studies

In this seminar, Dr Conley will discuss his forthcoming book: The Vulnerable Country: Australia and the World Economy to be published by the University of New South Wales Press and the Australian Institute of International Affairs.

The book argues that Australia lost its sense of vulnerability in the 2000s. Continuous growth, one of the biggest resource booms in Australian history and a huge expansion of credit made Australians feel richer and almost invulnerable. After the poor economic outcomes of the 1970s to early 1990s, Australians once again believed that they lived in a ‘lucky country’. After seventeen years of growth, recent times have shown just how quickly boom can turn to gloom and how one of the great lessons of Australian economic history remains pertinent today – vulnerability in the world economy; and in particular vulnerability to changes in international demand and international financial sentiment.

In the twenty-first century, Australia needs to utilise its luck to lessen its vulnerabilities: to temper liberalisation with egalitarianism and comprehend the limits of both politics and markets. The book argues that Australians can enhance their prosperity by embracing socially sustainable globalisation.

→ Thursday 28 May 2009
→ N16 Room 1.22
→ Nathan campus
→ 12.30 -1.50pm

To RSVP, please contact Natasha Vary on (07) 3735 5322 or n.vary@griffith.edu.au no later than 5.00pm Tuesday 26 May 2009