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Where exactly is 'Western Sydney' in Sydney - does it end at the Blue Mountains to the west? Does it include Parramatta? Which suburbs are 'in' and 'out'? What makes 'Western Sydney' the area that it is – diverse communities, distance from the Sydney CBD, the vibe?

My name is Jodie Vo, a Master student at the University of Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning. The above questions are what Associate Professor Somwrita Sarkar and myself are investigating as part of our research study called "Where in the world is 'Western Sydney'?" An examination and visualisation of urban inequality and segregation and regional identity in metropolitan Sydney in the boundaries of 'Western Sydney' (Human Research Ethics Committee approval no. 2024/HE001479).

We are seeking views from current residents of Greater Sydney as research participants between 1 Feb 2025 - 1 April 2025 as to where they think 'Western Sydney' starts and ends on a map and what makes the area different from the rest of Sydney. Research participants would be required to complete an online survey taking approximately 10 minutes (see here: [https://sydney.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_39LweZUrC246ttI](https://sydney.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_39LweZUrC246ttI)) and will have the opportunity to enter into a raffle to win 1 of 5 gift cards valued at \$200 each as an appreciation for their time.

We think study's question is a fun and thought-provoking topic and I am seeking permission to make a post advertising the study and request for research participants in the [r/Sydney](#) subreddit. I can definitely provide text of the proposed post for the mods' review if requested.

I'm more than happy to answer any questions you may have and can provide a copy of the university's Human Research Ethics Committee approval letter and the approved research proposal to provide more context via email through [jovo3537@uni.sydney.edu.au](mailto:jovo3537@uni.sydney.edu.au).

Many thanks for your time in reading this message.

Kind regards Jodie

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