

**ABOR1110: Introduction to Aboriginal Studies**

Callaghan

Semester 1 - 2024



## OVERVIEW

**Course Description**

This course will provide students with knowledge of: traditional Aboriginal society; imperialism and the effects of colonisation; contribution of Aboriginal peoples to society; government policies and practices; The Stolen Generations; Aboriginal health, housing and employment; and reconciliation.

All ABOR courses are constructed with the Wollotuka Institute's Cultural Standards Framework.

**Contact Hours**

**Lecture**

Online/Pre-recorded  
1 hour(s) per Week for Full Term

**Tutorial**

Face-to Face  
2 hour(s) per Week for 11 Weeks starting Week 2

**Unit Weighting**

10

**Workload**

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10-unit course.

# COURSE OUTLINE

---

# CONTACTS

**Course Coordinator**     **Callaghan**  
Mr. Dane Hickey  
[Dane.hickey@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Dane.hickey@newcastle.edu.au)

Consultation: By appointment

**Teaching Staff**             Teaching Staff TBA

Consultation: By appointment

**School Office**             **Wollotuka School of Aboriginal Studies**  
Birabahn Building  
Callaghan  
[wollotuka@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:wollotuka@newcastle.edu.au)  
+61 2 4921 6863

# SYLLABUS

**Course Content**             Topics include: traditional life; imperialism and colonisation; contribution of Aboriginal peoples to Australian society; government policy; education, employment and health; land rights; and reconciliation.

**Course Learning Outcomes**     **On successful completion of this course, students will have:**

1. An introductory knowledge of traditional Aboriginal society and culture prior to colonisation.
2. Awareness into the early colonial period with a particular focus on frontier conflict and dispossession.
3. Fundamental understandings of colonial policy and practice toward Aboriginal peoples.
4. Introductory understandings of contemporary issues pertaining to education, health, housing and employment.
5. An introductory knowledge of inequities experienced by Aboriginal peoples past and present.
6. An introductory level of critical thinking, debating and political awareness.
7. Written and oral communication skills.
8. Comprehension of key terms and themes.

**Course Materials**             **Lecture Materials:**

- Lecture materials provided in Canvas

**Other Resources:**

- All other course materials located in Canvas

**Required Reading:**

- Weekly Online Readings located in Canvas Modules

# SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Welcome to Aboriginal Studies	No tutorial	n/a
2	04 Mar	Cultural Practices	Tutorial reading and activities	Presentation topics for Assessment 3 will be discussed to prepare students for self-allocation into tutorial weeks via Canvas.
3	11 Mar	Contact Histories	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing) <b>Exam Part A</b>
4	18 Mar	Policy - Then and Now	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
5	25 Mar	Activism - Then and Now	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
6	01 Apr	Reconciliation, Truth Telling & Treaty	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
7	08 Apr	Health and Wellbeing	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
<b>Mid-Semester Break</b>				
<b>Mid-Semester Break</b>				
8	29 Apr	Law	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
9	06 May	Land Rights	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
10	13 May	Media	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing) <b>Essay Due</b>
11	20 May	Urban Dreaming	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
12	27 May	Education	Tutorial reading and activities	Student presentations (ongoing)
13	03 Jun	N/A	N/A	<b>Exam Part B</b>
<b>Examination Period</b>				
<b>Examination Period</b>				

# ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Online Exam	Part A opens 11/03/24 closes 17/03/24 Part B opens 03/06/24 closes 09/06/24	30%	1, 4, 7
2	Major Essay	Week 10. 19/05/24 11.59pm	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
3	Oral and Written Presentation	Presentations will occur in the corresponding week	30%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

## Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

---

## Assessment 1 - Online Exam

<b>Assessment Type</b>	In Term Test
<b>Description</b>	The examination will consist of a series of multiple-choice questions based on the course materials and will be submitted to Turnitin via Canvas. Part A Week 3. Open Book 10 questions Part B Week 13. Open Book 20 questions.
<b>Weighting</b>	30% (Part A- 10% Part B- 20%)
<b>Length</b>	Part A 10 questions Part B 20 questions
<b>Due Date</b>	Part A opens 9am 11/3/24 closes 17/3/24, 11.59pm Part B opens 9am 03/6/24 closes 09/6/24 11.59pm
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online via Canvas
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Instructions will be available on Canvas.
<b>Return Method</b>	Online

## Assessment 2 - Major Essay

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Essay
<b>Description</b>	Students are to select one of the weekly songs as the focus of their essay. Using the chosen song and relevant materials, critically discuss what the song is about, and why it is important to Indigenous peoples and cultures today.  The Weekly Song list and a document providing relevant and additional supporting materials, will be available through the Assessments tab in Canvas from Week Two.  The essay should use APA7 Referencing and must include at least eight references in addition to course readings.
<b>Weighting</b>	40%
<b>Length</b>	1500 words (not including Bibliography).
<b>Due Date</b>	Week 10. 19/5/24 11.59pm
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	A rubric for this assessment will be available in the Assessments folder in the course Canvas site.
<b>Return Method</b>	Online
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Online.

## Assessment 3 - Oral and Written Presentation

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Presentation
<b>Description</b>	Students will answer the prompt questions from ONE weekly topic in an oral response to the class with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation. There are two parts to the assessment: The oral component refers to the 5 minute verbal delivery; The written component assesses the PowerPoint which will accompany the verbal delivery.
<b>Weighting</b>	30%
<b>Length</b>	Five minutes Oral Presentation, 250 words in total on 7 PowerPoint slides (not including Bibliography).
<b>Due Date</b>	Presentations will be delivered in the corresponding week to their chosen topic.
<b>Submission Method</b>	Face to face presentation in class. PowerPoint slides uploaded to Canvas.
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	A rubric for this assessment will be available in the Assessments folder in the course Canvas site.
<b>Return Method</b>	Online
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Online - 2 weeks after the Presentation.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

\*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

## Attendance

Attendance/participation will be recorded in the following components:

- Lecture (Method of recording: Attendance is not recorded)
- Tutorial (Method of recording: Tutors will maintain a record of student attendance.)

## Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Face to Face: during in-class discussion and activity
- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.

Students must log in regularly to the Canvas course site and to regularly check their email. Other communication methods include discussion forums.

## Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

## Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

## Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>

---

**Adverse  
Circumstances**

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. The assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. The assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. You are requesting a change of placement; or
4. The course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

**Important Policy  
Information**

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

*This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.*

© 2024 The University of Newcastle, Australia