Wollotuka School of Aboriginal Studies

ABOR1370: Working with Aboriginal Communities
Callaghan
Semester 1 - 2024

OVERVIEW

Course Description

Develops an understanding of how Aboriginal communities operate in contemporary Australia. The course will provide insight for those wishing to work with Aboriginal communities. The course examines the structure and nature of Aboriginal communities. A holistic approach is used in assessing how political, social, and economic dynamics, as well as historical influences and cultural differences brought about by colonisation, have affected contemporary communities. All ABOR courses are constructed with the Wollotuka Institute's Cultural Standards Framework.

Contact Hours

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

Tutorial Activities
Face-to face activities totalling 2 hour(s) per Week for Full Term

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.

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator **Callaghan**
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Consultation: By appointment

Teaching Staff Mr. Jodan Perry
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SYLLABUS

Course Content
- Colonisation and its effects on communities
- Effect of cultural differences between Europeans and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Communicating with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Oral traditions - what roles did and do they play in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Leadership in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Decision making
- Protocols within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Respect - an integral part of working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Reciprocity

Course Learning Outcomes **On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**
1. Develop an understanding of the processes of communication in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

2. Understand the cultural differences in Aboriginal communities and Torres Strait Islander communities and the role of oral traditions

3. Explore the historical and political influences on community structure

4. Create an insight into the decision-making processes used in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Course materials All course materials can be accessed via the ABOR1370 Canvas Modules

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Module One: Introduction - Key concepts and course overview	Online lecture There is no tutorial but you should read the two resources on Terminology	n/a
2	04 Mar	Module Two: Policy & Practice	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	n/a
3	11 Mar	Module Three: Communication & Culture Shock	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Assessment 1: Talking Circle Oration Write Up Summary - 11/03/24
4	18 Mar	Module Four: Protocols & Respect	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations begin
5	25 Mar	Module Five: Community Roles	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
6	01 Apr	Module Six: Aboriginal Organisations	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
7	08 Apr	Module Seven: Comparing governance models	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
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Mid- Semester Break				
Mid-Semester Break				
8	29 Apr	Module Eight: Case Study: The Hunter Region	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
9	06 May	Module Nine: Creating strong visual messages	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
10	13 May	Module Ten: NGO's	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
11	20 May	Module Eleven: Being an Ally Case Study	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
12	27 May	Module Twelve: International Comparisons	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
13	03 June	No class		Assessment 3: Essay 03/06/2024
Examination Period				

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	Write Up Summary of Talking Circle Oration	11th March, 2024, 11.59 pm	20%	1, 2, 3
2	Talking Circle Oration	Varied. Students will nominate a week to present between Week 4-Week 12	40%	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Essay	03rd June, 2024,11.59 pm	40%	1, 2, 3

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 - Write Up summary of Talking Circle Oration 20%

Assessment Type   Written Assignment

Description   Provide a critical summary of ONE of the Orations from the list provided in the Assessment 1 tab.

750 words +/- 10%
Weighting   20%
Due Date   11/03/2024
Submission Method   Online
Assessment Criteria   Rubric and Instructions available in the Assessment tab
Return Method   Online
Feedback Provided   Online - 2 weeks after submission.

Assessment 2 - Talking Circle Oration 40%

Assessment Type   Presentation
Description   The Talking Circe oration gives students the opportunity to develop presentation skills in addition to exploring core material from the course. In your Talking Circle you will present on a topic chosen from those listed in the Talking Circle Oration Instructions (available in the Assessment 2 tab).
Weighting   40%
Length   Eight minutes
Due Date   Varied. Students will nominate a week to present between Week 4-Week 12.
Submission Method   In class
Assessment Criteria   Rubric and Instructions available in the Assessment tab
Return Method   Online
Feedback Provided   Online - 2 weeks after presentation.

Assessment 3 - Essay 40%

Assessment Type   Essay

Description   The essay allows students to synthesise course materials with their own research in a referenced, written format. You will choose a topic from those listed in the Assessment 3 tab.

1500 words +/- 10% (excluding references)
Weighting   40%
Due Date   03/06/2024, 11.59pm
Submission Method   Online
Assessment Criteria   Rubric and Instructions available in the Assessment tab
Return Method   Online
Feedback Provided   Online – 2 weeks after submission.

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:
- Tutorial (Method of recording: Attendance at tutorials will be taken.)

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.