

ABOR1370: Working with Aboriginal Communities

Online

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

Online 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.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Online Dr Gail Tillman Gail.Tillman@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: By appointment
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	Wollotuka School of Aboriginal Studies Birabahn Building Callaghan wollotuka@newcastle.edu.au +61 2 4921 6863

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop an understanding of the processes of communication in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities2. Understand the cultural differences in Aboriginal communities and Torres Strait Islander communities and the role of oral traditions3. Explore the historical and political influences on community structure4. Create an insight into the decision-making processes used in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
Course materials	All online course materials can be accessed via the ABOR1370 Canvas Modules

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Introduction: Key concepts and course overview	Online lecture Read the resources on cultural terminology	n/a
2	4 Mar	Policy & Practice	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	n/a
3	11 Mar	Communication & Culture Shock	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Assessment 1: Talking Circle Oration Write Up Summary 11/03/24
4	18 Mar	Protocols & Respect	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Assessment 2: Talking Circle Orations begin <i>(Due in your nominated week)</i>
5	25 Mar	Community Roles	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
6	1 Apr	Aboriginal Organisations	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
7	8 Apr	Comparing governance models	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
Mid- Semester Break				
Mid-Semester Break				
8	29 Apr	Case Study: The Hunter Region	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
9	6 May	Creating strong visual messages	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
10	13 May	NGO's	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
11	20 May	Case Study: Being an Ally	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Talking Circle Orations continue
12	27 May	International Comparisons	Online lecture Tutorial Questions and activities	Final Talking Circle Orations Assessment 3: Essay 2/06/2024
13	3 June	No class		
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	Provide a critical summary of ONE of the list of Orations provided on Canvas. 11/3/24, 11.59pm	20%	1, 2, 3
2	Talking Circle Oration	Students will nominate a week to present between Week 4-Week 12	40%	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Essay	2 nd 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.

Weighting 20%

Due Date 11/03/2024 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 of your oral presentation.

Assessment 2 - Talking Circle Oration 40%

Assessment Type Presentation

Description The Talking Circle 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). You will submit your PowerPoint with audio into the Assignment 2 portal 40%

Weighting

Length Eight minutes

Due Date Students will nominate a week to present between Week 4-Week 12.

Submission Method Online

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.

Weighting 40%

Due Date 02/06/2024, 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:

- 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

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.

**Important Policy
Information**

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>
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.

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