

CIND4001: Introduction to Research and Creative Practice

Newcastle City Precinct

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description

This course will assist students to conceptualise, initiate, plan and develop a research project appropriate to the Honours level. Students will cultivate advanced research and/or practical skills applicable to their individual projects under the supervision of academic staff members. The course will include the initial scoping of the project and development of specific research questions; location and review of relevant literature; pilot activities, pre-production and prototyping; identification of a suitable research design and methodological approach; project planning and consideration of ethical implications.

Student projects may include, but are not limited to: theoretical explorations and reviews; speculative design practices; professionally oriented projects; work-integrated learning and research-integrated learning opportunities; group / collaborative projects; external stakeholder based projects

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Requisites

Students cannot enrol in this course if they have previously successfully completed: CMNS4100, CMNS4120, DESN4215, MUSI4401, NHIL4001.

Students must be active in Bachelor of Music (Honours) [10809] or Bachelor of Visual Communication Design (Honours) [11254] or Bachelor of Natural History Illustration (Honours) [11532] or Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) [50004] or Bachelor of Music and Performing Arts (Honours) [40310].

Assumed Knowledge

Students should

- have completed the requirements for admission to the relevant Bachelor degree of the University, or to another cognate degree approved by the PVC;

- have completed, in that Bachelor degree, the requirements of an approved major (or double major) in the discipline area, or in a cognate discipline area approved by the PVC, to be undertaken in the Honours program.

Contact Hours

Newcastle City Precinct

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au
CRICOS Provider 00109J

Individual Supervision

Face-to-Face On Campus

1 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s)

Supervisor will arrange regular consultations with the student with the frequency agreed early in the student's candidature.

Seminar

Face-to-Face On Campus

2 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

Unit Weighting 20

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	Newcastle City Precinct Dr Chloe Killen Chloe.Killen@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: Please email to make an appointment.
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences NU Space, Level 4 409 Hunter Street Newcastle HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	Topics will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research design including literature reviews, development of research topic and questions and methodological approaches.• Advanced theoretical and practical skills, including planning, prototyping and preproduction skills and techniques.• Visual, oral and written communication skills.• Project and time management skills.• Work Integrated Learning / Research Integrated Learning.• Consideration of ethical, legal and sustainable professional practices and approaches to research.
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Plan independent research and develop skills as required to scope and plan the activities and timelines to complete a research project within the given timeframe.2. Articulate the relevance of the project to existing literature and work in the field.3. Demonstrate informed and independent decision-making in the development of their project.4. Demonstrate time management skills through written and oral assessments about the research project.5. Develop a research driven project from concept through to prototype or pre-production level.6. Develop and apply critical and analytical skills to the proposed research design,

including existing literature, methodological approach and ethical implications.

Course Materials

Other Resources:

- Please see the Course Canvas site for required and recommended readings, as well as any other pertinent materials.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Introduction to Research: Literature and what is already known Discuss research questions and identify literature and/or practice relevant to your project.	- Introductions. - What is research? - What is a research question? - Looking for literature. - Why do a lit review? - Where do I find literature? Discuss Assessments.	
2	4 Mar	Research and the Researcher: Research design and approaches to Research and Creative Practice. • Thesis • Practice-based Practice-led • Work-Integrated Learning	Discuss your relationship to your research? Does it change based on the approach you take? Library information seminar TBC	
3	11 Mar	Research design - Practice-based, Practice-led and Research Led-Practice what are the differences? Using theory.	Discuss research design. Would these research approaches help answer my research question? How is theory different to methodology? Work on Research Question Presentations	
4	18 Mar	Research Question Presentations	Research Question Presentations	Research Question Presentation - 20%
5	25 Mar	Literature Review and Annotated Bibliography.	Work on Literature Review and Annotated Bibliography. Class exercises.	
6	1 Apr	Quantitative and Qualitative research approaches.	How do these approaches help answer my research question? How have others approached related topics? Developing your own reading list. Class exercises.	
7	8 Apr	Summarising Literature and Professional and Industry Practice.	Developing your own reading list. Class exercises. Library information seminar TBC	
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Review of Literature and Practice	Developing your own reading list. Class exercises.	
9	6 May	Review of Literature and Practice	Developing your own reading list. Class exercises.	
10	13 May	Review of Literature and	Developing your own reading	Review of Literature and

		Practice	list. Class exercises.	Practice - 50%
11	20 May	Prototype, Research Design, and Project Development for presentations.	Discuss and trouble shoot.	
12	27 May	Research Presentations	Research Presentations	Research Presentations - 30%
13	3 Jun	Feedback session	Discussion of assessment events.	
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 1 assessment. The assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Prototype and Pitch		Individual	100%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
	1A Research Question	In Class Wednesday 20 March Online Submission Friday 22 March 11:59pm		(20%)	
	1B Review of Literature and Practice	Online Submission Friday 17 May 11:59pm		(50%)	
	1C Presentation Research Presentations	In Class Wednesday 29 May		(30%)	

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 - Prototype and Pitch

Assessment Type Description

Project

1A - Research Question Presentation - 20%

In this presentation students will introduce the topic of their Honours Research Project outlining motivation for undertaking honours, refining their research question, and identifying key bodies of relevant literature - 10 minutes. This will be accompanied by a written document submitted to Canvas - 1000 words.

1B - Review of Literature and Practice - 50%

In this document students will provide a comprehensive review of relevant literature and examples of practice that have contributed to their understanding of their Honours Research Project. 3500 words (+/-10%)

1C - Research Presentation - 30%

In this presentation students will present an overview of their Honours Research Project. Depending on the type of Honours Project this may include: a timeline and production budget, ethics outline, safety forms, a brief overview of their methodology and literature review, and a tentative table of contents of their exegesis/thesis. 15 minutes

Weighting

100%

Length

1A: 10mins + 1200words, 1B: 3500 words, 1C: 15mins

Due Date

1A: Presentations Wednesday 20 March in class, written document Friday 22 March 11:59pm

1B: Friday 17 May 11:59pm

1C: 29 May in class

(See Canvas for updates).

Submission Method	In Class Online
Assessment Criteria	Please see Canvas site for details and Marking Rubrics
Return Method	In Class Online
Feedback Provided	Online

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:

- Seminar (Method of recording: Attendance will be noted on a roll each week.)

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.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face-to-face meetings or supervision.

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.

As a result of student feedback, the following changes have been made to this offering of the course:

- Changes to assessment tasks.

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.

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