

ENGL3045: Indigenous Australia in Literature: Listenin' Up

Callaghan

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 centres stories written, told and shared by Aboriginal Australians for the benefit of all readers. Through "listening"/reading to these stories that come from Country, the course employs Marcia Langton's notion of "intersubjectivity" so that students, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, can engage with Aboriginal ways of knowing through stories that share public knowledge about this land. This course uses both Indigenous and non-Indigenous texts to examine the ways in which "Aboriginality" and "whiteness" interact in fictional and non-fictional texts.

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Contact Hours

Callaghan

Seminar *

Face to Face On Campus

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

* This contact type has a compulsory requirement.

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 Dr Brooke Collins-Gearing Brooke.Collins-Gearing@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4921 5178 Consultation: By appointment
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences Social Sciences Building Callaghan HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	The course covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledges shared by First Nation scholars and storytellers• Representations of colonisation and post-colonial discourses• Theoretical and practical examples of Indigenous knowledges, pedagogies and communication tools• Exploration of Indigenous and non-Indigenous constructions of Australian identity• Engaging with Aboriginal knowledge about Country in the form of stories and literature
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Recognise how representations of identity are constructed and used in Australian literature.2. Identify issues related to "race" relations in Australian literature.3. Analyse the construction of "whiteness" in Indigenous and non-Indigenous representations.4. Develop responses to local, national and global ways of telling stories.5. Critique representations of Indigenous and non-Indigenous relationships in Australian literature.
Course Materials	Required Text: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Firefront: First Nations Poetry and Power Today</i> edited by Alison Whitaker- <i>Aboriginal Peoples, Colonialism and International Law: Raw Law</i> by Irene Watson- <i>The Boundary</i> by Nicole Watson- <i>Song of the Crocodile</i> by Nardi Simpson- <i>Story About Feeling</i> by Bill Neidji- <i>Storydoctors</i> by Boori Monty Pryor

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

Contact Hour Requirements:

- Seminar Attend 80% of sessions

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Participation: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 2 - Oral Presentation: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 3 - Research Poster: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 4 - Journal entries: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 5 - Final essay: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Readings	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Module 1: Connecting with Country Listening to Welcomes and Acknowledgements of Country in different ways	Dadirri: Inner deep listening & quiet still awareness http://dadirri.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Dadirri-Inner-Deep-Listening-M-R-Ungunmerr-Bauman-Ref11.pdf First Nations Bedtime Stories https://www.commonground.org.au/firstnationsbedtimestories	
2	4 Mar	Module 1: Connecting with Country Listening to the stories of human, non-human and more-than-human Uluru Statement from the Heart https://ulurustatement.org/	Milroy & Milroy. "Different ways of knowing: Trees are our families too." Heartsick for country: Stories of love, spirit and creation pp 22-42. The Imagination Declaration https://nrg.org.au/events/imagination-declaration/	
3	11 Mar	Module 1: Connecting with Country Growing up with Country through Australian Aboriginal Picture books	You must bring TWO Aboriginal Australian Picture Books of your own choice to class. "Epilogue: Returning the Gift": Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge & the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer	
4	18 Mar	Module 2: Resistance and Survival Different ways of telling stories and listening to Knowings	In class we will watch together In My Blood It Runs (2020)	Module Journal 1 due by 11.59pm Due date 22nd March 2024
5	25 Mar	Module 2: Resistance and Survival Different ways of healing	Storydoctors by Boori Pryor	

6	1 Apr	Module 2: Resistance and Survival Walking Country with the Ancestors	Fire Front: First Nations Poetry and Power Today edited by Alison Whitaker	
7	8 Apr	Module 3: Law/Lore Co-belonging, co-existing and co-creating	Watson, Irene. Aboriginal peoples, colonialism and international law: Raw law. Routledge, 2014. (ebook available on the University library website)	Module Journal 2 due 12th April 2024 by 11.59 pm via turnitin
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Module 3: Law/Lore Oral Presentations presented		Oral Presentation due 3rd May 2024
9	6 May	Module 3: Law/Lore Weaving language, law and land	The Boundary by Nicole Watson	
10	13 May	Module 4: Coming Home Stories of the everywhen	Song of the Crocodile by Nardi Simpson	Module Journal 3 due by 11.59pm on 17th May 2024
11	20 May	Module 4: Coming Home What do you hear?	Story About Feeling by Bill Neidjie and Keith Taylor Collins-Gearing et al., 'Listenin Up: Re-imagining Ourselves through Stories of and from Country', M/C Journal: A Journal of Media and Culture, 18 (2015)	
12	27 May	Module 4: Coming Home Research Poster Presentations		Research Poster Presentations due in class on 31st May 2024 Module Journal 4 due 31st May 2024
13	3 Jun			
Examination Period				Final Essay due 14th June 2024
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 5 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Participation*	Weekly in class	Individual	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	Oral Presentation*	3rd May 2024 in class	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3
3	Research Poster*	31st May 2024 in class	Individual	10%	1, 5
4	Journal entries*	1st Journal 11.59pm 22nd March 2024 2nd Journal 11.59pm 12th April 2024 3rd Journal 11.59pm 17th May 2024 4th Journal 11.59pm 31st May 2024	Individual	30% (4x7.5%)	1, 2, 4
5	Final essay*	11.59pm 14th June 2024	Individual	30%	3, 4, 5

* This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

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 - Participation

Assessment Type	Participation
Purpose	It is important for your successful completion of the course that you are participating in class talking circles.
Description	For every talking circle you participate in you will get 1% of this assessment mark
Weighting	Participation involves attendance and contribution
Compulsory Requirements	10%
Due Date	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
Submission Method	Weekly Seminar attendance
Assessment Criteria	In Class
Return Method	See Canvas
Feedback Provided	In Class
Opportunity to Reattempt	NA
	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 2 - Oral Presentation

Assessment Type	Presentation
Purpose	The purpose of this oral presentation is to articulate to yourself and your peers, your growing awareness of Indigenous relationship with Country, the significance of story and an explanation as to whether you would do an Acknowledgement of Country.
Description	This oral presentation is a storying of your reflexive approach to the act of doing an Acknowledgement of Country.
Weighting	20%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
Length	5 minutes
Due Date	Friday 3 May 2024 in class
Submission Method	In Class
Assessment Criteria	Available on Canvas
Return Method	In Class
Feedback Provided	In Class
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 3 - Research Poster

Assessment Type	Exhibition / Poster
Purpose	The poster presentation is an outline, or mapping, of your developing idea for your final formal essay. Your poster will be presented in class with your peers' posters on the day.
Description	This assessment requires you to map your thinking for the research topic you want to develop as your formal final essay. You cannot use words for this poster presentation. You can create your own icons, symbolism, map legend or key, to story your journey.
Weighting	10%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
Length	Poster size or other form if discussed with tutor
Due Date	Friday 31 May 2024
Submission Method	In Class
Assessment Criteria	Available on Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	In Class
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 4 - Journal entries

Assessment Type	Journal
Purpose	At the end of each module, you are required to write a self-reflective 500 word journal on your thinking about the content of each module.
Description	The journal is your own personal reflection about your thoughts on the stories we listened to in that module. You must respond to all required readings and texts in that module. Each module journal is worth 7.5 marks. Your journals are critical self-reflexive pieces of writing that identify issues, ideas or topics that have captured your attention from the module content. As self-reflexive pieces of writing you can insert yourself into the information and as critical pieces of writing you will refer to and cite the scholarship and texts you are engaging with.
Weighting	30% (4x7.5%)
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
Length	2000 words (500 words each)
Due Date	1st Journal DUE 22nd March 2024 2nd Journal DUE 12th April 2024 3rd Journal DUE 17th May 2024 4th Journal DUE 31st May 2024
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within two weeks.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 5 - Final essay

Assessment Type	Essay
Purpose	Your final essay topic will be devised by you in consultation with me and would have been mapped out in your poster presentation assessment (think of your poster assessment as a draft version on your thinking for the final essay). The framework for your essay topic will be about the act of listening to Indigenous stories and the ways stories can be shared.
Description	This is a formal academic essay that will include an introduction, body, conclusion and works cited list. However, within this academic framework, you can explore and develop any element or moment in Indigenous Australian storytelling of the world.
Weighting	30%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
Length	2000 words
Due Date	11.59pm 14th June 2024
Submission Method	Online

Assessment Criteria	Available on Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within two weeks.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

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).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- 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.

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

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of

Circumstances

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