

HASS4000: BA Research

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

HASS4000 is the advanced level follow-up to the Bachelor of Arts core sequence (comprising HASS1000/2000/3000) and builds on the interdisciplinarity of this sequence by bringing together students from all majors in the Bachelor of Arts (Honours). By exploring forms of critical, analytical and creative thinking in the production of humanities research, the course provides essential scholarly grounding for students wishing to pursue academic study beyond Honours, while those headed for other employment futures will acquire a range of flexible research and communication skills adaptable to a wide variety of work. Throughout, we explore the dual benefits of disciplinary and interdisciplinary knowledge in the form of advanced humanities research and skills development. Students will co-design their learning through weekly seminars and scaffolded assessment tasks related to their larger Honours project.

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Requisites

To enrol into this course students must be active in the following programs:

- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) [10214], or
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) [40209].

Contact Hours

**Callaghan
Lectorial**

Face to Face On Campus

Semester begins with a four day intensive workshop beginning Monday 19th February then 3 hours face to face weeks one to four on Tuesday.

Unit Weighting Workload

20

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

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au

CRICOS Provider 00109J

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Callaghan Dr Kit Candlin Kit.Candlin@newcastle.edu.au (02) 0400717044 Consultation: upon email request
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced general research skills in key discipline areas of the humanities• Advanced professional skills for humanities-based careers• Reflection on research processes and design• Interdisciplinary theories and methodologies• Writing a literature review• Creating a research proposal for the honours thesis
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apply advanced research skills;2. Effectively communicate knowledge resulting from Humanities research;3. Complete a literature review relevant to their discipline;4. Design and present a research proposal.
Course Materials	Readings online in Canvas.

SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION WEEK – 19-22 February 2024 Auchmuty Library Room L319 and L320				
	10.00am – 11:00 am	11:00am – 12.30pm	1:30pm – 2.30pm	3:00pm – 4pm
Monday 19 February	Research journeys: Students meet or make contact their supervisor prior to class. Students introduce themselves, share research journeys and discuss how their supervisory meeting went.	The Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences in the 21st century – What is the state of arts, humanities and social sciences in our present day world? Exploring the values of research	Developing your research – linking questions, literature, research methods . What do mean by research methods? What are good questions to ask of our research?	Library session: In this session we will have a guest speaker from the library to discuss the nooks and crannies of the library and the tools and services that are available.
Tuesday 20 February	Annotated bibliographies, reading, note taking, bibliographic software are all aspects of our collective work. What do we mean by these terms ?	Deep dive into the literature review – What makes a good lit review and why it is super important?	Effective reading and the annotated bibliography. Just how do we read critically ? How do we critical evaluate a piece of research?	Tips for surviving the Honours year – In this session we will have a one or two former students who have completed honours to give us their take on this important year.
Wednesday 21 February	The foundations of research – What do we mean by theory, argument and evidence? In this session we will discuss these ideas with a guest speaker.	Methodology 1, An introduction to research methods – In this session we will discuss broadly methodology (including creative methods). We will focus on the link between questions and research methods. We will have a guest speaker to discuss their own methodology.	Methodology 2, How does what we learnt in the last session effect your own research? What are your methodologies?	The ethics of research – In this session we will explore ethics (including intro to the ethics process). What are ethics in academia? What are ethics in the wider community? How have they changed?
Thursday 22 February	Culturally aware research – thinking through the issues. What does it mean to be culturally aware? How does that relate to research?	Collaborating with research participants – what are the options? In this session we discuss collaboration. We will have presentations by scholars who collaborate with one another on a project to discuss what the processes are that lead to good fruitful collaborations.	Styles of academic writing: How do we go about finding a voice and finding a style? what do we mean by these ideas and processes?	Writing workshop In this session we will discuss writing with a guest speaker skilled and adept at writing

SEMESTER 1 2024 : Tuesdays 10am -1pm in V102 (note the location change)				
Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Presentation skills workshop.	In this session we will explore tactics for a good presentation.	
2	4 Mar	Creating impact as a researcher in the arts and humanities	How does one have impact? what makes an impactful project? What gauges impact and in what ways? What are the value of different outputs?	
3	11 Mar	Careers: Academia and Beyond In this session we will discuss all things CV and careers. We will have a guest speaker to discuss these ideas further.	What are your options and how do you further your career not only academia but also in the wider world? We canvass your employment options outside the university, as well as the potential for further study at the Masters and PhD level.	
4	18 Mar	Presentations This seminar will be a mini conference with presentations from all of you.	In a ten-minute piece you outline your topic and its salient features. In this session we will have various academics come to listen to your presentations and ask questions in a relaxed and comfortable environment.	Presentations in class
5	25 Mar	No seminar		
6	1 Apr	No seminar		Annotated bibliography and short proposal (due 1/4)
7	8 Apr	No seminar		
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	No seminar		Literature Review (due 29/4)
9	6 May	No seminar		
10	13 May	No seminar		Research Proposal (due 13/5)
11	20 May	No seminar		
12	27 May	No seminar		
13	3 Jun	No seminar		
Examination Period (no exam)				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 4 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Annotated bibliography and short proposal	1 April (week 6) by 11:59pm	Individual	20%	1, 2
2	Literature Review	29 April (week 8) by 11:59pm	Individual	35%	1, 2, 3
3	Research Proposal	13 May (week 10) by 11.59pm	Individual	35%	1, 2, 4
4	Presentation	In class (week 4) 18 March	Individual	10%	1, 2, 4

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 - Annotated bibliography and short proposal

Assessment Type Project
Purpose To help students situate their work within a field to demonstrate knowledge of the arguments that surround their work and the existing field of literature.
Description students write an introduction to their topic (500 words) then a short Annotated Bibliography (1,000 words)
500 words of introduction + 5 x 200 word annotations 1500 words in total.
Weighting 20%
Length 1500 words
Due Date 1 April (week 6) by 11.59pm
Submission Method Online
Assessment Criteria See Canvas course website
Return Method Online
Feedback Provided Online - two weeks from submission.

Assessment 2 - Literature Review

Assessment Type Literature Review
Purpose To help students to understand the place of their work within an existing field or fields.
Description Students must place their project within an academic field of study vis a vis existing literature and arguments thus providing a contextual review.
Weighting 35%
Length 3000 words
Due Date 29 April (week 8) by 11:59pm
Submission Method Online
Assessment Criteria See Canvas
Return Method Online
Feedback Provided Online - two weeks from submission.

Assessment 3 - Research Proposal

Assessment Type Proposal / Plan
Purpose To hone the proposed project down to an organised and justified structure. To get students practised at summarising their project.
Description Students write a proposal for their project outlining the structure, methodology and argument. Students also position their piece in relation to existing study
Weighting 35%
Length 1500 words
Due Date 13 May (week 10) by 11:59pm
Submission Method Online
Assessment Criteria See Canvas
Return Method Online
Feedback Provided Online - two weeks from submission.

Assessment 4 - Presentation

Assessment Type	Presentation
Purpose	To help students communicate their ideas clearly in a ten minute presentation in week four.
Description	Students give a ten minute presentation outlining their project and its salient features or arguments. students may use power point or other recording if needed.
Weighting	10%
Length	10 minute presentation
Due Date	In class (week 4) 18 March
Submission Method	In Class
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	In Person - any time before the end of semester upon request.

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:

- 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.

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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