

HIST3008: Global Perspectives on the First World War

Online

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

The First World War was a devastating conflict that transformed the lives of millions of people around the world and left a legacy of violence and conflict that continues to resonate today. This course takes advantage of the rich sources that have emerged since the centenary of the First World War to explore themes and concepts related to the prosecution, impact, representation and aftermath of the war from a global perspective. By examining the major events and turning points of the war alongside new research on the global dimensions of the conflict, this course will provide students with a broader and more nuanced understanding of the war.

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Assumed Knowledge

Successful completion of 20 units of History at 1000 level

Contact Hours

Online

Lecture

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

Online

Tutorial

1 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 2

Unit Weighting Workload

10

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 Elizabeth Roberts-Pedersen Elizabeth.Roberts-Pedersen@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: I am available for in-person and online consultations throughout the semester. Please email me to arrange a time.
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	<p>This course examines the diverse experiences, impacts, and legacies of the First World War for individuals, families, communities, nations, and empires. It does this by bringing together histories of the battlefield with histories of the war's social, cultural, and political effects. The course explores the conflict in four dimensions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Fighting a global war</u>: this theme focuses on the military dimensions of the conflict, including battlefronts beyond the Western Front, and the experience of soldiering, including for women, Indigenous and colonial troops.2. <u>Winning a global war</u>: this theme focuses on the mobilisation of societies and economies, and includes topics such as the idea of 'the homefront', war workers, propaganda and dissent.3. <u>Aftermaths of a global war</u>: this theme focuses on the immediate post-war years, and covers topics including demobilisation and repatriation, the Spanish flu pandemic, the place of veterans in post-war societies, and the revolutions and political unrest that followed in the war's wake.4. <u>Legacies of a global war</u>: this theme focuses on the global memory of the war, and its long-term cultural legacies. Topics include commemoration and the politics of memory, as well as representations of the war in literature, film, art, and other media.
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Demonstrate critical understanding of complex themes and topics in global First World War history;2. Identify, evaluate and synthesise issues and debates in international First World War literature;3. Analyse primary sources from a variety of repositories (including digital);4. Apply advanced communication skills appropriate to the evaluation of primary and secondary source material;5. Demonstrate familiarity with differing conceptual approaches and their methods to the study of the First World War.
Course Materials	<p>Required Reading: All required readings are available electronically via the FutureLearn platform.</p>

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	THE GLOBAL FIRST WORLD WAR. In this introductory week we discuss the rationale for studying the First World War from a global perspective.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
2	4 Mar	ON THE BATTLEFIELD. This week we look beyond the Western Front to examine the diverse battlefields of the First World War.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
3	11 Mar	SOLDIERS. Who fought in the First World War? This week we examine scholarship on the diverse experiences of enlisted personnel during the conflict.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
4	18 Mar	SOCIETIES AND ECONOMIES. This week we focus on the enormous social and economic repercussions of fighting a global war.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
5	25 Mar	TOTAL WAR? Was the First World War a 'total war'? This week we examine how taking a global perspective on the conflict might complicate this already contested question.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
6	1 Apr	REGIMES OF PERSECUTION. To what extent did belligerent nations tolerate opposition during the conflict? (Hint: not very much!). This week we examine the persecution of minorities and dissenters on the home fronts.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
7	8 Apr	MAKING PEACE. This week we examine the highly complex and highly controversial peace settlements that remade large parts of the globe.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	PRESENTATION due on FRIDAY 12 APRIL at 11.59pm.
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	COMING HOME. This week we discuss the logistical and psychological difficulties of coming home.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
9	6 May	REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-REVOLUTION. In many parts of the world, the official end of the war ushered in a new period of political violence and unrest. This week we examine the revolutionary and	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	

		counterrevolutionary aspirations of the era.		
10	13 May	COMMEMORATION AND THE POLITICS OF MEMORY. This week we analyse the (contested) commemoration and memorialisation of the war, and the way these aftereffects of the conflict might affect public perceptions of the global consequences of the First World War.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	ACADEMIC REVIEW ARTICLE due on FRIDAY 17 MAY at 11.59pm.
11	20 May	REPRESENTING THE WAR. This week we discuss the representation of the war in literature, art and film, and assess the extent to which these cultural products can help us understand the global nature of the conflict.	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
12	27 May	CONTROVERSIES AND MYTHOLOGIES. In this final week we examine the some of the war's most enduring controversies and	Complete weekly readings and FutureLearn activities.	
13	3 Jun	REVISION WEEK.	Preparation for the test.	IN-TERM TEST opens on FRIDAY 7 JUNE at 9am and closes at 5pm.
Examination Period				
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	Oral Presentation - Primary Source Analysis	Friday 12 April at 11.59pm.	Individual	30%	3, 4, 5
2	Academic Journal-style Article	Friday 17 May at 11.59pm.	Individual	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
3	In-Term Test	The test will take place on Friday 7 June and be open between 9am and 5pm.	Individual	30%	1, 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 - Oral Presentation - Primary Source Analysis

Assessment Type Purpose

Presentation

In this assignment you will demonstrate your ability to analyse digitised primary sources relating to the First World War and communicate your findings via a recorded presentation.

Description	This task requires you to select a primary source from a curated list and record a ten-minute presentation analysing the source. Full details of this assessment task will be posted to the course Canvas site.
Weighting	30%
Length	Ten minutes (roughly equivalent to 1000 words)
Due Date	Friday 12 April at 11.59pm.
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria will be posted to Canvas and discussed during semester.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online, within two weeks of submission.

Assessment 2 - Academic Journal-style Article

Assessment Type	Project
Purpose	In this assignment you will demonstrate your understanding of the historiography of the First World War by writing a consolidated review article that analyses two recent books on the conflict.
Description	This task requires you to select two academic books from a curated list and assess their contribution to First World War scholarship. Full details of this assessment task will be posted to the course Canvas site.
Weighting	40%
Length	2500 words
Due Date	Friday 17 May at 11.59pm.
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria will be posted to Canvas and discussed during semester.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online, within two weeks of submission.

Assessment 3 - In-Term Test

Assessment Type	In Term Test
Purpose	This final assessment task will test your overall knowledge of the course content.
Description	The test will take one-hour and will be conducted online. You will be required to answer a mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions. Full details will be posted to the course Canvas site.
Weighting	20%
Length	60 minutes (one hour)
Due Date	The test will take place on Friday 7 June and be open between 9am and 5pm.
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria will be posted to Canvas and discussed during semester.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	There is no formal feedback for this assessment. Numerical grades will be posted to Canvas two weeks after students complete the test.

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. © 2024 The University of Newcastle, Australia