

thurru Indigenous Health Unit

School of Medicine and Public Health

INDH2490: Foundations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Online

Semester 1 - 2024



OVERVIEW

Course Description

This course provides an opportunity for students to enhance their knowledge of historical and contemporary issues relevant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

This course will explore the tenets of culturally capable and safe health practice and its development by exploring the dynamics between Australia's health practice and contemporary social and healthcare policies, and the current health status for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Contact Hours

Lecture

Online
2 hour(s) per Week for full term

Online

Self-Directed Learning
20 hour(s) per term

Online

Online activity
2 hour(s) per Week for full term

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 Tameka McFadyen INDH2490@newcastle.edu.au Consultation: Student consultation is strongly encouraged and always welcomed. Please reach out via email.
Teaching Staff	There will be multiple Indigenous online academic tutors in this course. The current tutors also work full time jobs in their current professions, please allow 48-72 hours for a response.
School Office	Thurru- Indigenous Health Unit VA Building, Callaghan Campus Phone: 02 4921 7963

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's cultural identity, beliefs and values, and health indicators;• Colonisation and historical injustice;• Social and healthcare policy;• Social determinants;• Cultural capability and responsiveness;• Advocacy and allyship.
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**Course Learning
Outcomes**

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples history, cultural identity, beliefs and values with a particular focus on the burden of disease.
2. Explore the relationship between Australia's history of colonisation, relevant social and healthcare policy and the multiplicity of experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples including health status and life expectancy.
3. Identify key social determinants of health and their trends for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people including access, funding, housing, employment, infrastructure and education.
4. Identify and discuss ways of redressing health care inequities including the burden of illness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
5. Discuss strategies that hold the potential to improve the burden of illness and life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
6. Describe the principles of cultural capability and cultural safety in order to provide culturally competent health care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This must include identifying the impact of racism and effective communication strategies.
7. Examine and reflect on their personal lens and potential biases about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
8. Outline the principles of ethical research when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Course Materials

Other Resources:

Please see CANVAS for all course materials.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

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

Course Assessment Requirements:

- All assessments must be attempted to a level deemed adequate.

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Critical reflections	Module 1 reflection due Monday 25th March 11.59pm Module 2 reflection due Monday 6th May 11.59pm Module 3 reflection due Monday 3rd June 11.59pm	Individual	30%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
2	Online Quiz	opens 09:00am Friday 22nd March and closes 11:59pm Friday 29th March	Individual	10%	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Online Quiz	opens 09:00am Friday 3rd May and closes 11:59pm Friday 10th May	Individual	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
4	Online Quiz	opens 09:00am Friday 31st May and closes 11:59pm Friday 7th June	Individual	10%	5, 6, 7, 8
5	Written assessment	Monday 13th May by 11.59pm	Individual	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

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.

Reflections - 30%

Assessment Type	Critical reflections
Description	This assessment is designed to develop critical thinking and responsiveness to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health related content. Critical reflections are due at the end of each module within in course; therefore you will be required to complete three reflections in total.
Weighting	30% (10% for each reflection)
Due Date	Module 1 reflection due Monday 25th March 11.59pm Module 2 reflection due Monday 6th May 11.59pm Module 3 reflection due Monday 3rd June 11.59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Please see CANVAS for all assessment information
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online

Online Quiz's - 30%

Assessment Type	Module Quiz's
Description	Each quiz will focus on module content, questions may be drawn from lectures and other course material presented throughout the module.
Weighting	10% per quiz
Due Date	Module 1 quiz opens 09:00am Friday 22nd March and closes 11:59pm Friday 29th March Module 2 quiz opens 09:00am Friday 3rd May and closes 11:59pm Friday 10th May Module 3 quiz opens 09:00am Friday 31st May and closes 11:59pm Friday 7th June
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Please see CANVAS for all assessment information
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online

Written assessment 40%

Assessment Type	Written assessment
Description	This assessment is designed to develop critical thinking and responsiveness to decolonise

	the experience of health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Students will reflect on their knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, cultural identity and beliefs and suggest improvements of care to improve the burden of disease and life expectancy.
Weighting	40%
Due Date	Monday 13 th May by 11.59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Please see CANVAS for all assessment information
Return Method	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).

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.

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;

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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 for Students' tab in UoNline contains important information that all students should be familiar with, including various systems, policies and procedures.

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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