

SOCA6240: Project Design and Evaluation

Callaghan and Online
Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences (HCISS) 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 course will introduce students to designing projects, social programs and their evaluation. This will include some of the research activities, techniques and applications necessary for designing, implementing and appraising social programs.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Contact Hours	Callaghan Lecture Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) On campus students participate in lecture and tutorial. Tutorial Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) Online Lecture Online 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) Online students participate in email discussion group and online lecture (Blackboard). Online Activity Online 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s)
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 and Online A/Pr Daniela Heil Daniela.Heil@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4921 6790 Consultation: Please email for an appointment, thank you. -- Meeting options are either via zoom, or face-to-face.
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	Some of the issues that may be considered are: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Key concepts in development work2. Types of development projects3. Engaging participation in projects4. Problems that projects are designed to solve5. Religion, ethics and aid work6. Market and non market solutions7. Mediating conflicts8. Government and NGO projects in action9. Planning and implementing project evaluation
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Evaluate the extent and severity of problems requiring social interventions.2. Design programs to ameliorate social problems.3. Assess the utility of new programs and initiatives.4. Critically examine the merits of existing programs in line with international standards and attempts to improve them.5. Effectively manage and administer programs.
Course Materials	Course resources will be provided on the Canvas website.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Program Design and Evaluation: Objectives	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
2	4 Mar	Market and Non-Market Approaches	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
3	11 Mar	Ethics, Good Governance, and Politics in Service Delivery	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
4	18 Mar	Project Design 1	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
5	25 Mar	Project Design 2	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
6	1 Apr	Results Tree and Developing Indicators	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
7	8 Apr	Finalising the Results Framework	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester. Report 1 (Assessment 2) due: Monday, 6 May 2024, by 11:59pm.
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	NO LECTURE THIS WEEK. --- Zoom-Session for the purpose of discussing final questions you may have regarding your completion of Report 1.	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester. Report 1 (Assessment 2) due: Monday, 6 May 2024, by 11:59pm.
9	6 May	Project Monitoring	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester. Report 1 (Assessment 2) due, today: Monday, 6 May 2024, by 11:59pm.
10	13 May	Project Evaluation 1	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester.
11	20 May	Project Evaluation 2	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester. Report 2 (Assessment 3) due: Tuesday, 4 June 2024,

				by 11:59pm.
12	27 May	Managing Evaluation and Evaluation Standards	Regular participation in face-to-face (FTF) class discussion; or in online discussion forum.	Weekly and ongoing, throughout semester. Report 2 (Assessment 3) due: Tuesday, 4 June 2024, by 11:59pm.
13	3 Jun			Report 2 (Assessment 3) due: Tuesday, 4 June 2024, by 11:59pm.
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

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	Weekly contributions to online forum or in class discussion	11.59pm the day prior to the next week's lecture.	Individual	20%	1, 3, 4, 5
2	Report 1: Understanding project design	Monday, 6 May 2024, by 11:59pm	Individual	40%	2, 3, 4, 5
3	Report 2: Design OR Evaluation of a project	Tuesday, 4 June 2024, by 11:59pm	Individual	40%	2, 3, 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 - Weekly contributions to online forum or in class discussion

Assessment Type

Online Learning Activity

Purpose

To ensure continuous engagement with the weekly lectures and the application of the previous week's lecture content, for skills building activities in class.

Description

For 10 weeks students will participate in ongoing skills building activities, either in online mode (discussion forum and zoom), or in face-to-face (FTF) mode.

- FTF course participants by preparing their independent Assessment 2-work for the following week's FTF seminar.

- Online course participants by participating in the online discussion forum by the following Tuesday; and participation in additional zoom-sessions when required and necessary.

Weighting

20%

Length

1000 words (200 words per week)

Due Date

11.59pm the day prior to next week's lecture.

Submission Method

Ongoing Assessment

Assessment Criteria

Level of face-to-face or online participation, as appropriate.

Return Method

Ongoing Assessment

Feedback Provided

Assessment 2 - Report 1: Understanding project design

Assessment Type

Report

Purpose

To assess student understandings of the process and application of project design. Course Learning Outcomes 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Description

Students will use the course materials provided in conjunction with their own thinking, planning and research to generate a list of 'deliverables' for either designing, or critically assessing, a project.

Weighting	40%
Length	3000 (-no more than 5000) words
Due Date	Monday, 6 May 2024, by 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online Through the corresponding submission-link in the Assignments folder on the course Canvas site.
Assessment Criteria	Please see and work with the corresponding Report 1 (Assessment 2) marking rubric in the Assignment folder on the SOCA6240 Canvas site.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 14 days of the set due date..

Assessment 3 - Report 2: Design OR Evaluation of a project

Assessment Type	Report
Purpose	To assess students' understandings of the process and application of project monitoring and evaluation. -- Course Learning Outcomes 2, 3 and 4.
Description	You will use the course materials provided in conjunction with your own thinking, planning and research to generate a Terms of Reference (TOR) report for a project evaluation.
Weighting	40%
Length	3000 (-no more than 5000) words
Due Date	Tuesday, 4 June 2024, by 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online Through the corresponding turnitin submission-link in the Assignments folder on the course Canvas site.
Assessment Criteria	Please check the corresponding Report 2 (Assessment 3) marking rubric in the Assessment folder on the SOCA6240 Canvas site.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 14 days of the set due date..

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: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or2. 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; or4. 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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