INST2003

Research Methods in International Studies

Term One // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Marilu Melo	marilu.melo@unsw.edu.au	Wednesday 12pm - 1pm	Morven Brown, room 361.	9385 2970

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *International Studies*

This course will equip you with a set of research method skills. The course focuses on teaching 'how' to undertake and analyse research methods through experiential learning and the use of contemporary and familiar case study examples of research topics relevant to international studies. We will get out of the classroom and practice what we are learning. The course will introduce both traditional methods (for example, discourse analysis, surveys and interviews) as well as innovative methods that draw on the affective turn as well as digital ethnography (for example, embodied observation, sonic movement, photo elicitation and geo-tagging). Underpinning this tuition of research methods is the rationale for generating data through research methods in the first place. All research undertaken with people in international landscapes will involve research methods to understand the interactions, mobilities, modifications, attachments and feelings to, and about those landscapes. This course will equip you with the skills to conduct research methods yourself but it will also develop your awareness of how the data you use is generated, as well as providing the contextual foundation in research ethics and researcher positionality.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Apply knowledge and skills of a broad range of social research methods in a field setting;
2. Demonstrate how research methods are discussed and utilised in relation to contemporary debates in international studies;
3. Recognise the ethical, political, cultural and social implications of conducting research
4. Synthesise knowledge from lectures and workshops to experiential knowledge gained through fieldwork
5. Analyse, use and effectively communicate primary and secondary source data in essays, presentations and research reports
6. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of different research methodologies and distinguish the most culturally, socially and politically applicable research method

Teaching Strategies

The teaching strategy comprises one 2 hour of lecture and one 2 hour method workshop, together with a varied assessment strategy.

The lectures will be presented in formal style but questions and debate will be encouraged and indeed

built into the lecture structure. The lectures will introduce the weekly method focus through the use of a case study approach such that a real-world example of a research question will be provided and the method for examining this research question will be discussed.

The two-hour workshop will be integral to the pedagogy of teaching the research methods. The workshop structure is predicated on Kolb's experiential learning cycle where 'knowledge is created through the transformation of experience' (Healy and Jenkins, 2000:185). The workshop will be designed with the explicit focus of engaging students in the practice of conducting research methods and analysing data generated from this practice.

In the first hour of each workshop, the instructor will explain the method and the practical task, and will then guide students' practice of this method. The workshops will require preparatory reading of the method in question and the context. In the second hour of the workshop the class will discuss 'what to do' with the data generated, the challenges of data collection, ethical issues, and processes of analysis. Depending on the method theme, this second hour of analysis will either be conducted using data analysis programs on the lab computers or will be discussed and hand written.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Presentation	15%	Weeks 3 and 4	1,2,3,4
Research Proposal Essay	40%	04/04/2019 04:00 PM	1,2,3,4,6
Data Analysis Essay	45%	01/05/2019 04:00 PM	1,2,3,4,5,6

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Presentation

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3 minutes

Details: Individual 3-minute research topic presentation.Peer review, written feedback, and tutor written feedback using rubric.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Research Proposal Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1500 words

Details: 1500 word essay.Written feedback based on rubric for the assessment.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Data Analysis Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2000 words

Details: 2000 word essay.Written feedback based on rubric for the assessment.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance of Lectures and Tutorials is mandatory in this course. Unexcused absence from more than 20% of lectures and tutorials will result in the award of a fail grade.

In lectures and tutorials you will actively engage with core course content, enabling you to attain CLO 2.

Course Schedule

View class timetable

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 18 February - 24 February	Lecture	**Introduction / Epistemology and Ontology / International Studies and Research Methods**
Week 2: 25 February - 3 March	Lecture	**Research Ethics**
Week 3: 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	**Research Design**
Week 4: 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	**Interviewing / Observation**
Week 5: 18 March - 24 March	Lecture	**Surveys / Mapping**
Week 6: 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	**Reading week / No Lecture**
Week 7: 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	**Coding / NVivo**
Week 8: 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	**Quantitative analysis / Statistical software**
Week 9: 15 April - 21 April	Lecture	**Big Data and International Studies** Tutorials for this week will be online, due to the Public Holiday on Friday (Good Friday).
Week 10: 22 April - 28 April	Lecture	**Conclusions / Methods in International Studies**

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Information available on Moodle

Recommended Resources

Information available on Moodle

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them.

Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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