ARTS1241

Environmental Advocacy and Activism

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Dr Laura McLauchlan	laura.mclauchlan@unsw.edu.au	Thursday 2-3	Morven Brown room 269	contact via email please

Tutors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Taylor Coyne	taylor.coyne@unsw.edu.au			
Tom Wickert	t.wickert@unsw.edu.au			

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: *Environmental Humanities*

Environmental Advocacy and Activism offers you an opportunity to examine how environmental politics play out within society. You will examine advocacy and activism campaigns and case studies focusing on mapping the evolution of a controversy, teasing out the distinctions between advocacy and activism, analysing the role of popular culture, managing social and traditional media and identifying successful interventions that have an impact on environmental policy and decision making processes. Key questions that you will explore during the course include How do citizens make sense of and respond to initiatives that have potentially damaging consequences for society?; How do science, business and activists attempt to persuade?; How are power relations invoked, challenged and negated within environmental advocacy and activist campaigns?; and What role does popular culture play in creating and sustaining particular valuing systems and cultures?'

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Discuss environmental controversy and social change from multiple disciplinary perspectives.
2. Apply salient theories to make sense of knowledge claims, cultural practices, and fundamental questions of politics, meaning, and value as they pertain to advocacy and activism.
3. Examine how governance structures, priorities and power relations enable and constrain environmental advocacy and activism.
4. Evaluate the counter narratives deployed within activist campaigns.
5. Analyse the role of culture and media in influencing and mobilising public opinion relating to environmental issues.

Teaching Strategies

In the lectures a problem based learning approach will be adopted that enables you to discuss an environmental problem or controversy, defend your analysis, make recommendations and potentially solve problems. In tutorials the weekly readings will be discussed and case studies analysed.

Assessment

Students will be supported in developing their assignments through online activities (which will be discussed in lectures and/or tutorials).

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Blog	25%	08/10/2019 05:00 PM	1,2
Group Ethnographic Study	35%	05/11/2019 05:00 PM	1,2,3,4
Individual Case Study	40%	03/12/2019 05:00 PM	1,2,3,4,5

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Blog

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: Students will analyse an instance of environmental activism or advocacy and write one blog entry of 750 words. They will be required to identify and analyse the theory (or theories) of change being used by the activists/advocates involved. Students will use two key course readings to assist their analysis.The assignment submissions will receive written feedback in accordance with the marking rubric.

Assessment 2: Group Ethnographic Study

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: In groups, students will apply appropriate concepts and analytical techniques to write a group 2000-word analysis of a particular local instance of environmental activism.Written feedback on assignment will be provided in accordance with the assessment rubric.

Assessment 3: Individual Case Study

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: Individual 1500-word assignment. Using analytical approaches introduced throughout the course, students will individually select and analise a case study of environmental activism or advocacy. Written feedback via Turnitin.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 16 September - 20 September	Lecture	Environmental Humanities and Social Change
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Blog prep 1: Identifying norms
Week 2: 23 September - 27 September	Lecture	Theories of change: How do people make change?
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Blog prep 2: Identifying theories of change
Week 3: 30 September - 4 October	Lecture	Individual and collective resistance: Campaigning, mobilising and consumer activism
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Blog Prep 3: Analysis of Case Studies
Week 4: 7 October - 11 October	Lecture	Making cultural change: creative and cultural resistance
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Group Study Prep 1: Writing from experience
Week 5: 14 October - 18 October	Lecture	Structural change: Policy Activism and lobbying
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Group Study Prep 2: Using quotes
Week 6: 21 October - 25 October	Reading	This is a reading week, we encourage you to catch up on any readings you might need to, or to read ahead a little! :)
Week 7: 28 October - 1 November	Lecture	Unions and the Green Ban movement
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Group Study Prep 3: Putting it together
Week 8: 4 November - 8 November	Lecture	Expertise and the politicization of science
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Individual Case Study Prep 1: Evaluating change-making
Week 9: 11 November - 15 November	Lecture	Breaking the Law? Civil Resistance and Direct Action
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Individual Case Study Prep 2: Using Analytical Approaches
Week 10: 18 November - 22 November	Lecture	Burn out, sustaining activism, and finding your place
	Tutorial	

	Online Activity	Self-relfection and care: Considering your place in the ecology of change

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Students are required to read all of the prescribed readings each week as preparation for lecture and tutorial discussions. These readings are also scaffolded to help you with your assignments.

Please see Leganto via Moodle for access to your readings and the readings list

Recommended Resources

We strongly encourage all students to research widely (and to attend library tutorials if you feel like you need more support with finding resources.

While there is a huge range of potentially helpful resources, the following journals may be particularly helpful: *Social Movement Studies; Interface: A journal for and about social movements; Environmental Politics; Environmental Communication; Science, Technology and Human Values*; *Science as Culture*; *Public Understanding of Science*; *Social Studies of Science*; *Science Communication*; *Media, Culture & Society*; *New Media & Society; Philosophy Activism Nature: PAN*

Course Evaluation and Development

Formal feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. Students are encouraged to complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site. Informal feedack during the course is welcome and we will check in periodically to ensure that we are offering an optimal learning experience.

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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