

ARTS1240

Environment and Society

Term 2, 2022



Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Matthew Kearnes	m.kearnes@unsw.edu.au	by appointment	Room 365, Morven Brown	x51010

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

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

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

Tel: 02 9348 0406

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Acknowledgement of Country

UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture Kensington and Paddington campuses are built on Aboriginal Lands. We pay our respects to the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples who are the Custodians of these lands. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and pay respect to their unique values, and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our nation and communities.



Image courtesy of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous [UNSW's Indigenous strategy](#)

Course Details

Units of Credit 6

Summary of the Course

ARTS1240 “Environment and Society” recognises the urgency surrounding the current state of Earth. This course focuses on developing critical insights into the human dimensions of environmental issues, from everyday lifestyle decisions to collective choices; including issues such as urban development, resource use rights, energy access, and food production. ARTS1240 will provide you with tools to analyse how cultural, economic, and political systems impact different ecosystems of which humans are a part. Environment and Society will engage you with examples of how the places that we share with all living creatures are influenced and modified by competing interests. This course aims to inform and encourage thinking that generates local change with ongoing global impacts.

ARTS1240 is a gateway course into the Environmental Humanities and is a mandatory course in the Geographical Studies major.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify, analyse and explain the range of environmental problems faced by contemporary society.
2. Critically interrogate the relationship between human communities and the wider environments they inhabit, drawing on the insights of multiple disciplines.
3. Initiate independent research, with demonstrated ability to assemble, synthesise and communicate findings and interpretations.
4. Apply skills of critical analysis, problem solving and interpretation, to identify and explore key environmental challenges.

Teaching Strategies

The course is taught by way of a two hour lecture, a one hour tutorial and one hour of online content. Kolb's* experiential learning cycle has been used as a programmatic template for organising the integration of lectures, tutorials and assignments in ARTS1240. In lectures, students will be introduced to key concepts in environmental humanities using grounded and real-world examples to encourage students to relate lecture content to environmental and social processes and happenings occurring in their lives. Students prepare an essay based on lecture themes and the supporting literature. Tutorial exercises encourage students to incorporate visual imagery into their understanding of complex problems, foster critical reading skills, and debate tutorial topics among their peers. A final exam is used to examine student comprehension of lecture content and readings. The assessments are used to develop students' writing and critical analysis skills and assess both their understanding of the course topics and their ability to construct logical arguments.

Assessment

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Take home exam	40%	24/06/2022 11:00 PM	1, 2, 3, 4
2. Group Presentation	20%	Weeks 7 and 8	1, 3, 4
3. Essay	40%	15/08/2022 11:00 PM	2, 3, 4

Assessment 1: Take home exam

Assessment length: 1600 words

Due date: 24/06/2022 11:00 PM

Students will need to answer 4 out of 8 presented questions related to lecture and tutorial content. Each short essay answer can be up to 400 words.

Written feedback will be provided via Turnitin with the use of a marking rubric.

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

Assessment 2: Group Presentation

Assessment length: 15 minutes

Due date: Weeks 7 and 8

In groups students will design and present a creative intervention into an environmental issue.

Written feedback will be provided in line with the assessment rubric. Oral peer feedback will also be undertaken.

Assessment 3: Essay

Assessment length: 2000 words

Due date: 15/08/2022 11:00 PM

1000 words. You are required to complete one essay from two options.

Written feedback will be provided via Turnitin with the use of a marking rubric.

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

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: 30 May - 3 June	Lecture	Environment and Society - Introduction
Week 2: 6 June - 10 June	Lecture	Environmental History
Week 3: 13 June - 17 June	Lecture	Environmental Geography <i>Public Holiday - asynchronous lecture</i>
Week 4: 20 June - 24 June	Lecture	Environmental Knowledges and Expertise
	Assessment	Take home exam
Week 5: 27 June - 1 July	Lecture	Environmental Politics and Activism
Week 6: 4 July - 8 July	Reading	<i>Flexibility Week</i>
Week 7: 11 July - 15 July	Lecture	Environmental Law and Indigenous Rights
Week 8: 18 July - 22 July	Lecture	Environmental Justice
Week 9: 25 July - 29 July	Lecture	Urban Environments
Week 10: 1 August - 5 August	Lecture	Conclusion

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Course readings available via leganto

Recommended Resources

See above.

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 that 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 includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original 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 for the purpose of them plagiarising, 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

The [UNSW Academic Skills support](#) offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. 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 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

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided.)

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.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

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