

# ARTS2248

Disasters and Society

Term 2, 2022



## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Marilu Melo Zurita	<a href="mailto:marilu.melo@unsw.edu.au">marilu.melo@unsw.edu.au</a>		Room 361, Morven Brown	9385 2970

#### Tutors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Ellen Wong	<a href="mailto:hal@unsw.edu.au">hal@unsw.edu.au</a>			

### 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](mailto: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

Increases in disasters along with the current and future predicted impacts of climate change has meant that disaster management and disaster risk reduction have emerged as a key project and policy areas. This course provides you with critical perspectives to examine this natural disasters/society interface. The emphasis of the course is focused on natural disasters being better understood as social disasters with natural triggers. Thus, in the course you will develop an understanding of how forms of social vulnerability to hazards emerge and shape subsequent disaster impacts. You will also examine how natural disasters are disruptive events that can critically jolt and shape future social, economic and political outcomes in the context of governance and politics. In the first half of the course you will examine different theories and frameworks for understanding disasters. This will provide a critical platform for the second part of the course, where you will focus on different thematic areas of disasters governance and society, using case study disasters from around the world.

### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain how natural disasters, society, development programs, and policy are interrelated.
2. Appraise key authors and literature discussing disasters from a critical social science and humanities perspective.
3. Apply enhanced learning, analytic, and communication skills, to interpret links between society and disasters
4. Analyse disaster case studies from around the world with a range of different theoretical standpoints.

### Teaching Strategies

The course requires students to engage with contemporary sociological and humanities analytical scholarship in exploring and analysing the intersection of disasters and society. It will require reflective and self-critical learning together with a capacity to assemble and synthesise information from a range of sources and disciplinary backgrounds. The course also will require students to apply these insights in a real world disaster example and to complete a major piece of assessment that examines their capabilities to do this. These objectives will be achieved through lectures, in-depth tutorial discussions, independent research and the preparation of assessment tasks. In order for students to develop the forms of critical reflection necessary for this course, participation in tutorial discussion will be emphasised and is reflected in the assessment schedule.

The subject will use a blended learning approach; with instruction occurring in the classroom (lecture and tutorials), aided with online engagement through assignments, discussions and activities. The online environment (through moodle) is a natural extension of traditional classroom learning. All assessments will be marked online in line with the Faculty broader move towards e-marking.

## Assessment

See Moodle for more information

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Presentation	20%	20/06/2022 04:00 PM	1, 3, 4
2. Case Study Analysis	30%	18/07/2022 04:00 PM	1, 3, 4
3. Final Essay	50%	10/08/2022 04:00 PM	1, 2, 3, 4

### Assessment 1: Presentation

**Assessment length:** 5 minutes

**Due date:** 20/06/2022 04:00 PM

Five Minute Presentation

Students will be required to present their selected case study project to the class and offer feedback on other students's presentations.

Presentations are marked by the course convener, with additional feedback given by peers through a structured feedback process.

This is not a Turnitin assignment

### Assessment 2: Case Study Analysis

**Assessment length:** 1000 words.

**Due date:** 18/07/2022 04:00 PM

The student will select a case study disaster, and use some of the theories developed in the course to adopt a critical analysis of its social and political dimensions. The assessment will be 1,000 words long.

Feedback via written comments

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

### Assessment 3: Final Essay

**Assessment length:** 2000 words

**Due date:** 10/08/2022 04:00 PM

A final essay (2,000 words) in which students answer one of a select number of questions.

Feedback via written comments

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	Topic	<b>Introduction</b>
Week 2: 6 June - 10 June	Topic	<b>Political Economy of Disasters</b>
Week 3: 13 June - 17 June	Topic	<b>Social Construction of Disasters / Media</b>
Week 4: 20 June - 24 June	Topic	<b>Disasters and Development</b>
	Assessment	Presentation
Week 5: 27 June - 1 July	Topic	<b>Disasters and Socio-Political Change</b>
Week 6: 4 July - 8 July	Topic	<b>Flex Week - no class</b>
Week 7: 11 July - 15 July	Topic	<b>Disasters and Climate Change</b>
Week 8: 18 July - 22 July	Online Activity	<b>Case Study - the 2017 Mexico City Earthquake</b>
	Assessment	Case Study Analysis
Week 9: 25 July - 29 July	Topic	<b>Disaster Governance in Australia</b>
Week 10: 1 August - 5 August	Topic	<b>Conclusions</b>

## Resources

### Prescribed Resources

Readings for the course will be accessed through Leganto

### Recommended Resources

#### Books

- F Kruger, G Bankoff, T Cannon, B Orlowksi, E F Schipper (eds) (2015) *Cultures and disasters: understanding cultural framings in disaster risk reduction*, Routledge: London
- G Bankoff, G Frerks and D Hilhorst (eds) (2004) *Mapping Vulnerability: Disasters, Development and People*, Earthscan: London:
- S Boulter, J Palutikof, D J Karoly, and Guitart (eds) (2013) *Natural Disasters and Adaptation to Climate Change*, Cambridge University Press
- K Hewitt (ed) (1983) *Interpretations of Calamity: from the viewpoint of human ecology*, Allen and Unwin: London
- A Oliver-Smith and S Hoffman (eds) (1999) *The Angry Earth: Disaster in Anthropological Perspective*, Routledge: London
- G Bankoff (2003) *Cultures of Disaster: Society and Natural Hazard in the Phillipines*, Routledge:London.
- M Pelling (ed) (2003) *Natural Disasters and Development in a Globalizing World*, Routledge: London
- Christof Mauch, Christian Pfister (2009) *Natural Disasters, Cultural Responses: Case Studies Toward a Global*, Lexington Books:
- Piers Blaikie, Terry Cannon, Ian Davis, Ben Wisner (eds) (2003) *At Risk: Natural Hazards, People's Vulnerability and Disasters*, 2nd Edition, Routledge: London.

#### Journals

*Disasters*

*International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*

*Australian Journal of Emergency Management*

*Global Environmental Change*

*Environment and Planning E*

*Environment and Planning A*

*Environment and Planning C*

*Geoforum*

*Environmental Hazards*

*Natural Hazards*

*PLOS Currents: Disasters*

*Progress in Human Geography*

*Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*

*Annals of the Association of American Geographers*

*Progress in Disaster Science*

*Environmental Policy and Governance*

*Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change*

### 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.

Feedback, whether in person or via emails, during the course, is encouraged.



## **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](mailto: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>

## Image Credit

Mexico 2017 earthquake: Israeli search & rescue team in action by [IsraelMFA](#)

## CRICOS

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