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ARTS2244

Rethinking Wildlife: Philosophy, Biodiversity, Extinction

Semester Two // 2018

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Colin Salter	c.salter@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

Attendance Requirements

A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face (F2F) or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.

A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.

If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, their request should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance. A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course's learning outcomes and/or volume of learning. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

For more information about the attendance protocols in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to: requests for extension; review of marks; occupational health

and safety; 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/>

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Environmental Humanities*

In this course you will explore philosophical and political issues in wildlife conservation from a range of disciplinary perspectives. Key topics include: the future of 'urban wildlife'; the divide between native and introduced species; the role of gene banking and cloning in conserving and possibly resurrecting endangered species; and the frequent conflicts between conservation priorities on the one hand and animal welfare or local people's autonomy and subsistence on the other. To explore these topics you will design your own research project, combining interviews with textual research to better understand human/wildlife relations in their cultural, ethical and/or political complexity (no prior ethnographic research experience is required).

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to

1. Explain the historical and philosophical development of biodiversity conservation, its underlying analytic frameworks and its shifting priorities.
2. Explain how cultural and political factors impact upon understandings, valuations and efforts to conserve endangered wildlife.
3. Analyse the complex intersection between cultural and biological/ecological approaches to conservation issues.
4. Apply selected disciplinary approaches to the understanding of biodiversity and extinctions; and draw on a range of different disciplinary approaches to explore some of the multifaceted ways in which wildlife matters (to people and larger ecosystems).
5. Apply skills of critical analysis, problem-solving and interpretation in both written work and in-class discussions.
6. Conduct independent research and assemble, synthesise and communicate findings and interpretations.

Teaching Strategies

This course asks students to engage with theoretical work that challenges foundational assumptions about the world and the objectives of conservation and environmentalism more generally. The core objective of this course is to familiarise students with this difficult material through lectures, in-depth tutorial discussions, independent research, and the preparation of assessment tasks.

Assessment

Before class in Week 4 you will need to read over research ethics documents and fill out the HREA Application form. This application will be part of your Research Plan and must be completed before you can begin your fieldwork.

You **must** attend the lecture and tutorial in Week 4 or you will not meet UNSW's requirements for field research preparation. If you miss *either* the lecture or the tutorial you will be required to do some additional reading, sit a quiz, and meet with me to discuss the relevant content before you are able to conduct any field research.

More details will be given in class in Week 3.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Research Plan	30%	31/08/2018 05:00 PM	1,2,3,4,6
Online weekly quiz	20%	Weeks 11 and 12	1,2,4
Major Essay	50%	29/10/2018 05:00 PM	2,3,4,5,6

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Research Plan

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1500 + 750 words

Details: 1,500 word research plan that lays out the structure of the student's planned research project for the course and their final essay. Research plan include a brief overview of your chosen topic/case study; the rationale for the research; the methods and approaches/theoretical frame; an annotated bibliography; and a completed UNSW/HREA ethics application form. Using a marking rubric, detailed feedback will be provided to students on the research plan and areas in which the work might have been improved. This feedback aims, in particular, to help students to revise the project to produce the best possible final essay.

Additional details:

Assignment 3 comprises two parts:

- a) a Research Concept (300 words, due Week 3) and peer feedback (450 words, due Week 4) and,
- b) a Research Plan (1500 words, due Week 13).

Submission notes: You must submit this research plan in order to be approved by the University to conduct the field research that the major essay will be based on. As such, failure to complete this research plan will lead to an automatic failure of the course.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Online weekly quiz

Start date:

Details: A short quiz will be completed each week, online, in the 24 hr period after the tutorials. Each quiz will include four questions that test knowledge and comprehension of key materials from lectures and readings. Students will receive feedback in the form of marked quizzes and correct answers to each week's questions.

Additional details:

Note. Assessment 2 has been changed from online weekly quizzes to group presentations. Further details are available on the course Moodle website.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 3: Major Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2500 + 750 words

Details: 2,500 word essay due at the conclusion of the course. Students will design their own essay questions within specified parameters and in consultation with their tutor. Essays will challenge students to consider the themes and concepts encountered throughout the course. They will be expected to make use of set readings and additional sources. Using a marking rubric, detailed feedback will be provided to students on the major essay and areas in which the work might have been improved. This is the final assessment task for attendance purposes.

Additional details:

Assignment 3 comprises two parts,

- a) an Annotated Bibliography (750 words, due Week 8) and,
- b) a Final Essay (2500 words, due Week 13).

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Students are expected to put their names and student numbers on every page of their assignments.

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.

Late Assessment Penalties

Students are responsible for the submission of assessment tasks by the required dates and times. Depending on the extent of delay in the submission of an assessment task past the due date and time, one of the following late penalties will apply unless special consideration or a blanket extension due to a technical outage is granted. For the purpose of late penalty calculation, a 'day' is deemed to be each 24-hour period (or part thereof) past the stipulated deadline for submission.

- **Work submitted less than 10 days after the stipulated deadline** is subject to a deduction of 5% of the total awardable mark from the mark that would have been achieved if not for the penalty for every day past the stipulated deadline for submission. That is, a student who submits an assignment with a stipulated deadline of 4:00pm on 13 May 2016 at 4:10pm on 14 May 2016 will incur a deduction of 10%.

Task with a non-integer percentage mark

If the task is marked out of 25, then late submission will attract a penalty of a deduction of 1.25 from the mark awarded to the student for every 24-hour period (or part thereof) past the stipulated deadline.

Example: A student submits an essay 48 hours and 10 minutes after the stipulated deadline. The total possible mark for the essay is 25. The essay receives a mark of 17. The student's mark is therefore $17 - [25 (0.05 \times 3)] = 13.25$

Task with a percentage mark

If the task is marked out of 100%, then late submission will attract a penalty of a deduction of 5% from the mark awarded to the student for every 24-hour period (or part thereof) past the stipulated deadline.

Example: A student submits an essay 48 hours and 10 minutes after the stipulated deadline. The essay is marked out of 100%. The essay receives a mark of 68. The student's mark is therefore $68 - 15 = 53$

- **Work submitted 10 to 19 days after the stipulated deadline** will be assessed and feedback provided but a mark of zero will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component (hurdle requirement), a student will be deemed to have met that requirement;
- **Work submitted 20 or more days after the stipulated deadline** will not be accepted for assessment and will receive no feedback, mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will receive an Unsatisfactory Fail (UF) grade as a result of unsatisfactory performance in an essential component of the course.

This information is also available at:

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

Special Consideration Applications

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances interfere with your assessment performance.

Sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may:

- * Prevent you from completing a course requirement,
- * Keep you from attending an assessable activity,
- * Stop you submitting assessable work for a course,
- * Significantly affect your performance in assessable work, be it a formal end-of-semester examination, a class test, a laboratory test, a seminar presentation or any other form of assessment.

For further details in relation to Special Consideration including "When to Apply", "How to Apply" and "Supporting Documentation" please refer to the Special Consideration webstie:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

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 information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.

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>)

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 23 July - 29 July	Lecture	Rethinking Wildlife: Introductions Course overview; key concepts and approaches <i>Note: additional information, including each weeks' readings, can be found on the course's Moodle website.</i>
Week 2: 30 July - 5 August	Lecture	Entanglements across species and communities What is wildlife? How are our lives intertwined?
Week 3: 6 August - 12 August	Lecture	Ethical duties, responsibilities Ethical thought about animals in general (utilitarianism, rights). Animal welfare and environmentalism (conflicting positions?). The ethical significance of being a wild animal.
Week 4: 13 August - 19 August	Lecture	Political theories, research methods What are the socio-political underpinnings of attitudes and responsibilities towards Other animals and wildlife? How has and does political theory engage with such attitudes and responsibilities?
Week 5: 20 August - 26 August	Lecture	Race, class and species. Exploring human/animal borderlands What roles do race and class play in shaping attitudes and responsibilities towards Other animals and wildlife?
Week 6: 27 August - 2 September	Lecture	The cognitive and emotion world of Other animals The history of thought about 'animal minds' – cognitive ethology and contemporary understandings of the mental and emotional lives of animals – bringing ethology into conversation with ethnographic fieldwork and philosophy.
Week 7: 3 September - 9 September	Lecture	Native and Invasive: who belongs? What does it mean to be 'invasive'? – who counts as native and who is introduced? Killing native and invasive species for conservation, practicalities and ethics? 'Rewilding' environments?
Week 8: 10 September - 16 September	Lecture	Conserving Wildlife: the politics of biodiversity What is biodiversity? How and when did we begin to think about the environment in this way? Which biodiversity gets conserved and with what consequences for whom? Do individuals species (and individuals) fit?
Week 9: 17 September -	Lecture	Extinction and endangered species

23 September		Does the extinction of species matter? Why (not)? Should we attempt to conserve species (and how)? Should we be trying to resurrect extinct species?
Break: 24 September - 30 September		
Week 10: 1 October - 7 October	Lecture	Urban wildlife, cohabitation Contemporary issues facing wildlife in urban places. Making space for wildlife in the city, practicalities and ethics. Other animals as 'pests' in the city.
Week 11: 8 October - 14 October	Lecture	Research Presentations
Week 12: 15 October - 21 October	Lecture	Research Presentations
Week 13: 22 October - 28 October	Lecture	No Lecture this week.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

See the course's Moodle website.

Recommended Resources

See the course's Moodle website.

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.

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