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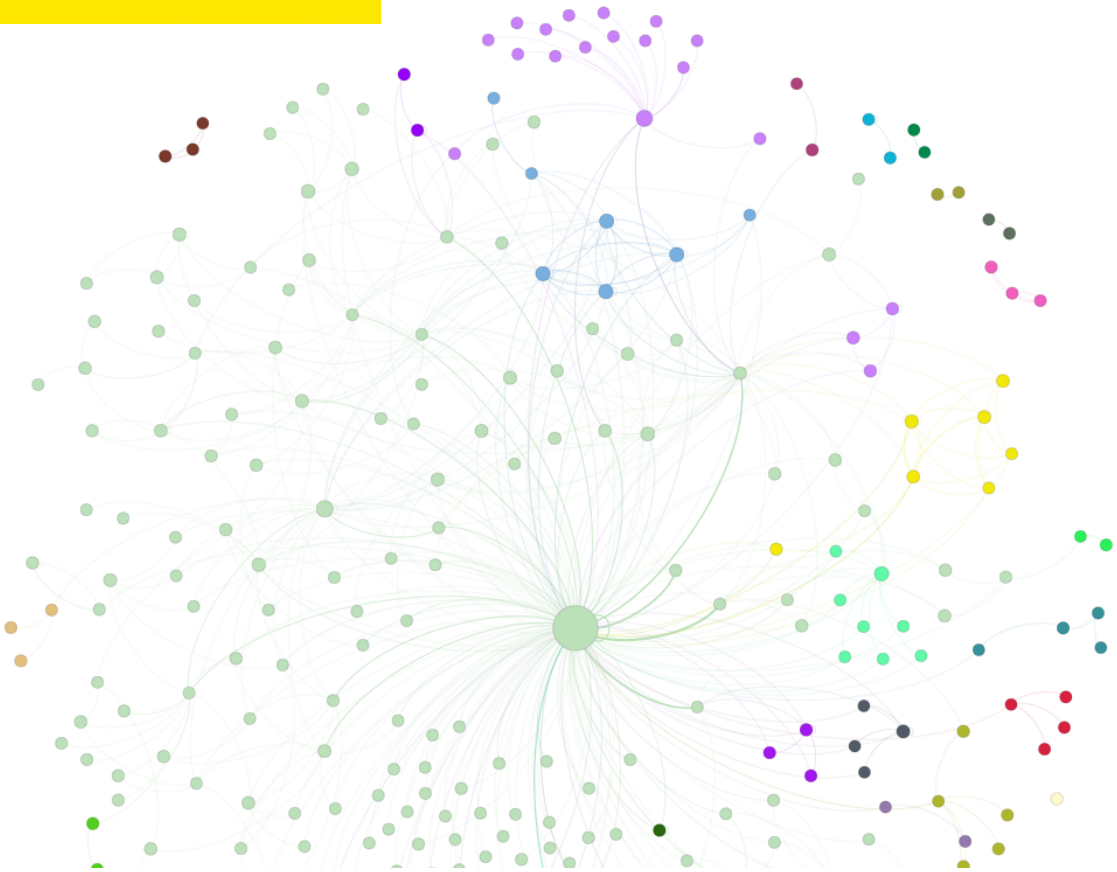

ARTS1092

Working with Data

Term Two // 2019

School of the Arts and Media // UNSW Arts and Social Sciences

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Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Luigi Di Martino	l.dimartino@unsw.edu.au	TBC	TBC	

School Contact Information

Room 312, level 3 Robert Webster Building

Phone: (02) 9385 4856

Email: sam@unsw.edu.au

Website: https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au

The School of the Arts and Media would like to Respectfully Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and the Ngunnawal people (Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Data and its rhetoric are all around us. The ways in which we imagine data as well as the data objects themselves have a profound impact on the ways in which the world is organised, how resources are distributed, how we understand recent events and what we come to know as “fact” versus mere “opinion”. In this course you will learn to both produce and critically analyse data objects. In addition to practicing data extraction, analysis and visualisation, you will learn how to evaluate the multiple examples of data that you encounter “in the wild” – data that are used by the media, by governments and civil society to explain and organise the world around you. By the end of the course, you will have gained a solid introduction to the processes involved in working with data and an ability to reflect on current debates about the impact of data on society.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Extract, analyse and visualise data in meaningful, ethical ways
2. Critically evaluate data objects
3. Reflect on current debates about the impact of data on society

Teaching Strategies

The focus of this course is on equipping you with the skills to both produce and critically analyse data objects. You will gain hands on experience of working with data in the process of data extraction, analysis and visualisation, as well as acquiring the skills necessary to critically evaluate data objects and reflect on current debates about the impact of data on society. The structure of the course requires that you are actively engaged in both lectures and tutorials since your progress with both theory and practice each week is an essential component of your assessments.

Assessment

There are two assessment tasks to complete. You must complete and hand in both tasks in order to pass this course. This means that you will fail if you do not hand in one task even if you have a total grade of over 50 from the other assignment.
See the course website on Moodle for full assignment task descriptions, marking criteria and submission instructions.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Essay	40%	05/07/2019 11:55 PM	3
Portfolio	60%	09/08/2019 11:55 PM	1,2

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2,500 words +/- 10%

Details: (Individual task) 2,500 words. An essay that demonstrates your ability to reflect on current debates about the impact of data on society. Feedback provided via course LMS.

Additional details:

Please see Moodle for full assessment description.

Feedback via course LMS.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Portfolio

Start date:

Length: 1,500 words +/- 10%

Details: (Individual task; Final task) You will produce 3-5 data objects/images and provide textual annotations of those objects (1,500 words). Feedback provided via course LMS.

Additional details:

In this assessment, you will be asked to refine and describe the visualisations that you have created in class.

Please see Moodle for full assessment description.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

All lectures in this course are online.
Studio (tutorial) class attendance is compulsory in weeks 8, 9 and 10 as you will be completing activities in preparation for the assessment. Students are expected to attend all other weeks (except for the Reading Week in week 6). These in-class activities will help you to attain all three course learning outcomes. Unexcused absence from more than 80% of Studio classes will result in the award a fail grade.

Course Schedule

View class timetable

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 3 June - 7 June	Lecture	Introduction – Data and visualisations
	Studio	Choosing the most appropriate visualisation
Week 2: 10 June - 14 June	Lecture	Methods for and implications of gathering data
	Studio	Data extraction: Twitter
Week 3: 17 June - 21 June	Lecture	The impact of data on society: decision making and knowledge production
	Studio	Data extraction: Facebook pages and Google News
Week 4: 24 June - 28 June	Lecture	Big Data Ethics, Privacy, and Surveillance
	Studio	Working with Excel and manual coding
Week 5: 1 July - 5 July	Lecture	Key metrics used for analysing Twitter
	Studio	Working with Tableau
	Assessment	**Essay due this week.**
Week 6: 8 July - 12 July	Reading	Reading Week - No Lecture, No Studio Classes
Week 7: 15 July - 19 July	Lecture	Visualising Networks - Introduction to the Portfolio
	Studio	Working with Gephi
Week 8: 22 July - 26 July	Lecture	Create your visualisation - Introduction to the Portfolio
	Studio	Work on your portfolio
Week 9: 29 July - 2 August	Lecture	Learning from practices
	Studio	Work on your portfolio
Week 10: 5 August - 9 August	Lecture	Sum-up: Working with data is always a learning process
	Studio	Getting ready for submitting your Portfolio
	Assessment	**Portfolio due this week.**

Resources

Prescribed Resources

All weekly readings and other course content will be available via the course website on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

The UNSW Library has many useful resources on data and visualisations, for example:

Acharya, S. & Chellappan, S., 2017. *Pro Tableau : A Step-by-Step Guide*, Berkeley, CA: Apress.

Burgess, J., Marwick, A. E., & Poell, T. (2017).*The SAGE handbook of social media.*Los Angeles: SAGE.

Gatto, M. A. (2015). *Making research useful: Current challenges and good practices in data visualisation*. Oxford: Reuters Institute *for the Study of Journalism.*

Knaflic, C.N., 2015. *Storytelling with data: A data visualization guide for business professionals*, Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley.

Nguyen, A., 2018. *News, numbers and public opinion in a data-driven world*, New York, NY: Bloomsbury Academic.

Sloan, L., 2017. *The SAGE handbook of social media research methods.*London: SAGE.

Weller, K., Bruns, A., Burgess, J., Mahrt, M., & Puschmann, C. (2014). *Twitter and society.* New York: Peter Lang.

Course Evaluation and Development

This course is delivered for the first time in 2019. Please complete your myExperience survey at the end of term to help us develop the course for future students.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

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/

Image Credit

Luigi Di Martino, 2015.

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