ARTS3751

Development Studies: Research, Practice and Ethics

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Susanne Schmeidl	s.schmeidl@unsw.edu.au	By Appointment	Morven Brown 138	(02) 9385 2405

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Development Studies*

How is development theory translated into practical outcomes? How can we make sure that a good idea leads to good development programmes and projects? This course provides you with a cutting-edge for entering into development practice as it exposes you to the real-life challenges you will face when working in development organisations. You will learn practical skills and techniques that will help you to advance and an innovative idea into a workable development project. You will learn about navigating ethical considerations in development and how to avoid (or at least minimise) harm to those receiving assistance. You will be able to explore hands-on how to develop evidence-based, participatory and context-sensitive projects, by learning how to apply necessary (research) methods for programme development. You will also learn how to understand and navigate the field of development actors, decision-making processes, and how to work collaborative and inclusive.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the relationships between research, policy, and agency in development
2. Critically evaluate the ways development agencies operate and their impacts
3. Conduct independent and/or collaborative research into development practice and ethics
4. Apply concepts and tools developed in the course to scenarios and case studies

Teaching Strategies

The **3-hour seminar** is designed to reflect the type of research, writing, and in-depth knowledge required in professional settings of development practice. It is also designed to encourage the kinds of collaborative work and peer feedback that are common in such professional settings.

You spend the semester in **Working Groups and will stay in these for the semester.** Not all of the seminar discussions will involve group work, but at least some of the time each week will.

Assessment

- Assessments should be referenced in accordance with the School of Social Sciences Referencing Guide, available at
  https://socialsciences.arts.unsw.edu.au/media/SOSSFile/SoSS_Referencing_Guide_2019.pdf
- No footnotes, please! The SoSS guide uses an in-text citation system.
- Please do NOT use web reference pages such as Wikipedia etc. Official aid organisation websites are OK to use.
- Essays are meant to demonstrate knowledge of course readings – thus you are required to engage with course readings in addition to doing your own independent research.
- You must have a bibliography in addition to the in-text references in the essay. 5% of the final mark will be taken off if you fail to include a bibliography.
- Word counts include the entire essay text as well as in-text citations. **Only the bibliography is exempt from the count.**
- Stay with assigned word counts. For the Portfolio, we allow a +/- 10% margin (above and beyond the word count), anything above [or below] this margin will result in a penalty of 5% deduction of the final mark for every 50 words.
- The course convenor is happy to discuss questions about your assignment while you are researching but will NOT be available to read drafts.
- Discussion of essays will only be available in allocated consultation sessions or by appointment.
- Please keep your email questions to a minimum.
- It is your responsibility to keep a copy of your work in case of loss of an assignment. You are also responsible for checking that your submission is complete and accurate.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Analytical Essay	25%	09/10/2019 12:00 PM	2,3,4
Critical Policy Blog	25%	30/10/2019 09:00 AM	1,2,3
Portfolio	50%	22/11/2019 11:00 PM	3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Analytical Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 800-900 words

Details: Students will write a short analytical essay about the key strength of their academic education in relation to the international development labour market. The essay will end with recommendations for how to fill gaps. The essay should be should be around 800-900 words. Students will be assessed based on a rubric made available to them at the start of the course so they can work towards specified standards. Written feedback and a numerical grade will be provided within ten working days of submission.

Additional details:

Students will receive an introduction to this assessment in Week 1 and the course content in Week 1 and 2 will have group sessions on this assessment to provide students with peer feedback. For more details consult Moodle.

Submission notes: Online submission on Moodle

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

Assessment 2: Critical Policy Blog

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 800-900 words

Details: Students identify a pressing problem in international development and develop an analytical blog offering policy solutions. The blog should be around 800-900 words. Students will be assessed based on a rubric made available to them at the start of the course so they can work towards specified standards. Written feedback and a numerical grade will be provided within ten working days of submission.

Additional details:

Please consult Moodle for further information. Students will be provided with tools on how to write blogs and one Seminar will cover key skills.

Submission notes: Online Moodle assessment

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

Assessment 3: Portfolio

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3,000 words maximum

Details: The format, content and organisation of this portfolio is open and will be agreed upon no later than week 4 of the course based on the first analytical essay. It can be broken down into 2-4 components and will include one critical reflective part. It should not exceed 3000 words. Students will be assessed based on a rubric made available to them at the start of the course so they can work towards specified standards. Written feedback and a numerical grade will be provided within ten working days of submission.

Additional details:

Please consult Moodle for further information. This portfolio is the cumulation of a student's independent research conducted during the course aiming at filling gaps identified in the initial assessment. This might be one longer piece f research or a couple of shorter ones. The content is to be agreed with the course convener ideally by Week 4. One part that all students have to include in the portfolio is a reflection on learnings in the course and overall stream.

Submission notes: Online Moodle submission

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can 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: 16 September - 20 September	Lecture	Introduction to the Development Studies Capstone - Getting to know each other. Introduction to SWOT analysis
	Online Activity	Review 2-3 of the online sector job sites provided to you on Moodle. Select about three-sector job advertisements that you would be interested in applying for (ideally from different agencies) and make a list of common skills/knowledge required. On moodle, each student will be given an online space to post the job ads as well as their skill/knowledge summary. This online activity forms the basis for group discussion in Week 2 and This assessment will help you with the gap analysis that forms the foundation for assessment 1.
Week 2: 23 September - 27 September	Seminar	The Seminar will focus on group work where you conduct a gap analysis based on the job advertisements consulted and own skills assessed based on knowledge acquired during their university studies. At the end of the Seminar, students identify a key gap they want to improve upon during the Capstone.
Week 3: 30 September - 4 October	Lecture	Introduction to Reflective Practice
	Online Activity	Read at least THREE different blogs in International Development (from suggested sites) and identify one or two criteria of a 'good' blog and one or two criteria of a 'bad blog'. Students will be provided with an online Space on Moodle to share one 'good' and one 'bad' blog and the identified criteria. These will form the basis for discussions in group work during Week 4.
Week 4: 7 October - 11 October	Seminar	Contributing to Debates in International Development / Impacting International Development Policy / Introduction on to how to write short blogs/policy briefs. This Seminar is the founcation for the second assessment and involves a mixture of lecture, exercises and group work.
	Assessment	Assessment 1 - Analytical Essay (25%, 800-900 words) due before 12-noon on 9 October.

Week 5: 14 October - 18 October	Seminar	Ethics in International Development / Do no harm.
Week 6: 21 October - 25 October	Seminar	Getting ready for the job market - Careers in International Development Writing a successful job application / CV (there will also be an online activity)
Week 7: 28 October - 1 November	Seminar	Industry/Alumni Panel - what does it take to work in the sector / Q and A Group Work Sharing
	Assessment	Assessment 2 - Blog (900 words) due 30 October (9 am)
Week 8: 4 November - 8 November	Seminar	Industry/Alumni Panel - what does it take to work in the sector / Q and A Group Work Sharing
Week 9: 11 November - 15 November	Seminar	Getting ready for the job market - Careers in International Development Interview skills and career workshop (be prepared for mock interviews)
Week 10: 18 November - 22 November	Seminar	Final reflections - getting ready for the future.
	Assessment	FINAL assessment (Portfolio) due on 22 November, 11 pm.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

A reading list of compulsory readings available through the UNSW library online is available on our Moodle page for each week.

Recommended Resources

Please consult Moodle.

Course Evaluation and Development

Formal student feedback is gathered using UNSW's evaluation process, *My Experience.* Informal feedback and class-generated feedback are also important and will be sought throughout the course, please feel free to share your feedback verbally or in writing with the Course Convener. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback. The Capstone is taught in this format for the first year and was designed based on past student feedback. Your feedback is important to help us understand what we did well and where improvements are needed.

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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