



Australia's
Global
University



ARTS3870

Debates and Controversies in Sociology and
Anthropology

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Claudia Tazreiter	c.tazreiter@unsw.edu.au	Tuesdays 2-3pm	MB162	9385 3691

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

email: soss@unsw.edu.au

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Sociology and Anthropology*

This capstone course gives you an opportunity to reflect upon key recent and classical debates in sociology and anthropology, drawing on a range of contemporary social problems as critical case studies. The course canvasses a range of perspectives and problems to show how the dynamism of these disciplines is created through a diversity of approaches. The course will incorporate discussion around: the relationship between theory and practice; the pursuit of values-based social science; public and community engagement within the social sciences; and, the importance of thinking and working in interdisciplinary ways.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize some key controversies and debates within Sociology and Anthropology
2. Identify the basic elements of dispute within a theoretical or methodological perspective
3. Display skills associated with scholarly inquiry including those related to critical analysis, argument and written expression
4. Write an essay with conceptual coherence

Teaching Strategies

Please refer to the information in Moodle

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Essay Proposal	25%	11/10/2019 09:00 AM	2,3,4
Review Exercise	20%	23/10/2019 05:00 PM	1,2,3
Final Essay	55%	29/11/2019 06:00 PM	1,2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Essay Proposal

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1000 words

Details: (1000 words): Written assessment that proposes an idea for the final essay. Students will develop a topic, identify a research question, and determine the basic elements of their argument. Students will receive written feedback from the course convenor and another student member of the class.

Additional details:

For this assignment you will be developing a proposed topic for your final essay. You will need to identify a research question, and determine the basic elements of your argument. You should draw on the reading materials and topics provided in this course guide in order to develop your ideas. You will receive feedback from the course convenor and another student member of the class on your proposal.

Your proposal should include the following elements:

Title

The proposal must have a title that adequately reflects the topic of the text

Research Problem

The proposal will pose a research question or problem that will be considered through the course of the paper

Statement of Purpose

The proposal will articulate the purpose of the paper, and offer a provisional thesis statement.

Relevant Literatures

The proposal will present an overview of relevant literatures to support your research problem.

Outline

Your proposal will present the general structure of the essay and the provisional or working elements of the argument, the provision of subheadings, and a general indication of the content of each subheading.

Concepts

Your proposal will identify the concepts (and corresponding thinkers) that will be used in the essay.

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

Assessment 2: Review Exercise

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1000

Details: (1000 words) Assessment task requires students to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a sociological concept. Students will receive written feedback from the course convenor.

Additional details:

This assessment task requires you to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a sociological concept. When considering your evaluation, you will need to think about:

- The historical context in which the concept was developed.
- Has the original concept been modified, and if so, how and in what ways?
- How relevant is the concept today?

Your assignment should be written in essay format, and should **analyse** the concept. You should make use of library resources – peer-reviewed journal articles in particular will be useful here.

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

Assessment 3: Final Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3000

Details: (3000 words) A written assessment that develops their essay proposal into a full essay that takes into account the comments made in the review process. Students will receive written feedback from the course convenor. This will be the final assessment for this course.

Additional details:

Here you will draw on your research and the feedback you received on your essay proposal in order to prepare your essay. In the final essay students should try to use 10 to 15 academic references (e.g., books, journal articles). Websites that are not explicitly part of the social science discourse do not count

as references. Wikipedia is NOT an appropriate source and may not be used!

Your Final Essay must include an EPILOGUE (200 to 500 words) on HOW YOU USED THE FEEDBACK you received on your essay proposal.

Format

Title

- The essay should have a title that adequately reflects the content of the paper

Introduction

- The introduction contains a statement of what the essay is about, how the argument is structured and the nature of the material used.

Main Text

- The main text should have several sub-divisions dealing with sub-themes. It is absolutely essential to demonstrate how the different sub-themes relate to each other.
- The text engages with theory, theoretical concepts and demonstrates their application.
- It is not enough to make statements. You must present EVIDENCE for your claims. An author must always keep in mind that he/she has to convince the reader of his/her point of view: argue, demonstrate and prove.
- Critically interrogate your assumptions. How did you arrive at them? Could there be other positions? Have you actively searched other positions? Explain the different arguments and compare them. What do you conclude from the comparison?
- Throughout the essay you must refer to the sources from which you have gained their knowledge (Author, year and *page numbers*)

Conclusion

- The conclusion begins with a summary of the main argument in the essay, and then proceed to consider future points of investigation.

Epilogue

- Reflect on the feedback you received for Assignment 1. How did you use the feedback to improve your academic writing?

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

Attendance Requirements

Attendance at all seminars is required. A minimum 80% attendance is necessary for successful completion of the course

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 16 September - 20 September	Seminar	Introduction
Week 2: 23 September - 27 September	Seminar	Disciplinary Challenges, Disciplinary Debates
Week 3: 30 September - 4 October	Seminar	Social Construction and Relativism
Week 4: 7 October - 11 October	Seminar	Rationality and Irrationality
Week 5: 14 October - 18 October	Seminar	Postcolonial and cosmopolitan imaginaries
Week 6: 21 October - 25 October	Seminar	Popular Culture and Populism
Week 7: 28 October - 1 November	Seminar	Biopower and Biopolitics
Week 8: 4 November - 8 November	Seminar	Leaving and Staying
Week 9: 11 November - 15 November	Seminar	Music and Migration
Week 10: 18 November - 22 November	Seminar	Beyond Nature and Culture

Resources

Prescribed Resources

A course reader is available at the UNSW bookstore. Please bring the reader to class each week.

Recommended Resources

Course Evaluation and Development

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

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