

SOSS1001

Social Research and Society

Term 3, 2022



Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Caroline Lenette	c.lenette@unsw.edu.au	By appointment - Please direct all course-related questions to me		

Lecturers

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
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School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

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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

This course introduces the methods and processes available to social scientists in researching in the social world. It explores the processes involved in locating and making sense of information used in the policy process and in generating new information through research. It introduces and examines a range of technologies to assess the use of information and provides skills in the use of such technologies and in the design, conduct and analysis of social research.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify, search for and appraise the quality and relevance of sources of information utilised in the research endeavour
2. Annotate, review and reference literature appropriate to research projects in the social sciences
3. Recognise key issues in research planning and design and selecting the appropriate methods for addressing particular research problems
4. Appreciate the limitations of social research

Teaching Strategies

Rationale:

In accordance with UNSW Learning and Teaching Guidelines, we expect to engage students in learning through structured hands-on activities premised on the belief that effective learning takes place when students are actively engaged in the learning process.

Teaching Strategies:

The learning outcomes will be addressed through lectures and tutorials. Students are expected to engage with the material and prepare for the tutorials and lectures in order to enhance their learning experience.

Assessment

The tutorials are designed to support you with your assessments. The best way to do well is to attend all the tutorials.

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Literature review	40%	14/10/2022 11:59 PM	1, 2
2. Research report	60%	21/11/2022 11:59 PM	1, 2, 3, 4

Assessment 1: Literature review

Assessment length: 1000

Due date: 14/10/2022 11:59 PM

This assessment consists of a 1000 word synthesis of literature relevant to the topic of the course.

You will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS). The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to you at the start of the course so that you can work towards specified standards.

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

Assessment 2: Research report

Assessment length: 2000

Due date: 21/11/2022 11:59 PM

This assessment consists of a 2000 word research report that includes a literature review, method description, results presentation and description, discussion and conclusion based on the course research topic and data collected during the semester. You will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS). The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to you at the start of the course so that you can work towards specified standards.

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: 12 September - 16 September	Lecture	What is social research?
	Tutorial	Introduction to research
Week 2: 19 September - 23 September	Lecture	Ethics and politics in research; Literature review
	Tutorial	Ethics and politics in research
Week 3: 26 September - 30 September	Lecture	Research strategies; Designs and methods
	Tutorial	Writing a literature review
Week 4: 3 October - 7 October	Lecture	What is quantitative research?
	Tutorial	How to reference using Endnote
Week 5: 10 October - 14 October	Lecture	Survey research; Survey data analysis
	Tutorial	Collecting data
	Assessment	Literature review
Week 6: 17 October - 21 October	Screening	Flexibility week: Watch Critical reading for writing 4: returning to the literature when writing a discussion (Moodle)
Week 7: 24 October - 28 October	Lecture	Secondary data analysis; Systematic observation; Content analysis
	Tutorial	Analysis of quantitative data
Week 8: 31 October - 4 November	Lecture	What is qualitative research?
	Tutorial	Graphing data; Interviewing
Week 9: 7 November - 11 November	Lecture	Interviews and focus groups
	Tutorial	Coding qualitative data
Week 10: 14 November - 18 November	Lecture	Participant observation and ethnography
	Tutorial	Report writing

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Textbook: Bryman, A. (2015) Social Research Methods (5th ed.). Oxford University.

Please note that you will use this textbook in other research methods courses. The 6th edition is now available. You are welcome to purchase the newest edition, but please note that we will refer to pagination from the 5th edition.

Print: <https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9780199689453>

Recommended Resources

Bryman companion site: <http://global.oup.com/uk/orc/sociology/brymansrm5e/>

Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically using, among other means, UNSW's MyExperience process. Informal feedback and class-generated feedback are also important. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback.

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, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

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.

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).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Image Credit

Photo by Marvin Meyer on Unsplash

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