

# ARTS2822

Decolonising Research Methods

Term 2, 2023



## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Caroline Lenette	<a href="mailto:c.lenette@unsw.edu.au">c.lenette@unsw.edu.au</a>	By appointment - please email me to arrange a time		

### School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

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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**

*Note: The course code for this course was previously ARTS3875*

This course will challenge you to think about the origins of social research methods and how they shape projects seeking to investigate sociocultural issues. By exploring the links between methods and methodology, you will learn how research is a form of intervention across different contexts. You will understand the importance of historical, theoretical, and philosophical contexts from which western research methods have emerged. Researchers do not apply a set of neutral techniques to research topics, but rather research is part of a dynamic engagement with sociocultural worlds, with often deep connections to colonial thought and power. You will explore the importance of reflexivity among social researchers, that is, the capacity to reflect on who we are, what we bring to the research, and the ethics of accountability. You will develop an understanding of your subjective positioning and discuss how to decolonise your practice both through methods and methodologies. You will engage with diverse sources of knowledge and learn decolonising principles and praxis as an ethical approach in complex settings.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**


1. Explore contemporary ideas of culture, coloniality, and complexity.
2. Analyse and address ethical dilemmas and positionality in research.
3. Identify the benefits of learning through knowledge sharing and lived experience.
4. Understand the links between theory, methods, and methodology.

### **Teaching Strategies**

This course will consist of a three hour seminar to: i) allow for engaging dialogue between students and lecturer; ii) to encourage students to reflect on their own positionality; and iii) to increase their critical self-awareness of reflexive research practice.

## Assessment

We will use [APA 7th](#) referencing style in this course.

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Reflexive Essay	30%	26/06/2023 09:00 AM	1, 2, 4
2. Group Presentation 	20%	Seminars 5, 7, 8, 9 & 10	1, 3
3. Final Essay	50%	07/08/2023 09:00 AM	1, 2, 4

### Assessment 1: Reflexive Essay

**Assessment length:** 1000 words

**Due date:** 26/06/2023 09:00 AM

Students are required to write a 1000 word reflexive essay that interacts with a key source on decolonising methodologies. They must reflexively engage with what this might mean for them as researchers.

Feedback: Written comments, and graded against a rubric.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

### Assessment 2: Group Presentation (Group)

**Start date:** Seminar Five onwards

**Assessment length:** 40 Minute Group Presentation

**Due date:** Seminars 5, 7, 8, 9 & 10

Students will participate in a group presentation for a given week in their tutorial. They will work collectively and receive a group mark for this task.

Feedback: Verbal comments after presentation, followed by written comments, and graded against a rubric.

This is not a Turnitin assignment

### Assessment 3: Final Essay

**Assessment length:** 2000

**Due date:** 07/08/2023 09:00 AM

Students are required to write a 2000 word essay on course themes.

Feedback: Written comments, and graded against a rubric.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

## Attendance Requirements

You are strongly encouraged to attend **all seminars** and contact the Convenor if attendance becomes an issue. It is difficult to explore this topic in depth if you miss classes or don't engage with your peers and presenters. This is also important for group work; you are more likely to be a good contributor to your team if you commit to the course tasks from the beginning.

## Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

### Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 29 May - 2 June	Topic	Setting the scene for decolonising research
Week 2: 5 June - 9 June	Topic	Indigenous Knowledge I
Week 3: 12 June - 16 June	Topic	Doing honest and respectful research
Week 4: 19 June - 23 June	Topic	Indigenous Knowledge II
Week 5: 26 June - 30 June	Topic	Ethnography and ethnographic praxis
	Assessment	Reflexive Essay
Week 6: 3 July - 7 July	Topic	Flexibility week (no classes)
Week 7: 10 July - 14 July	Topic	Indigenous Knowledge III
Week 8: 17 July - 21 July	Topic	Reflexivity
Week 9: 24 July - 28 July	Topic	Participatory Research
Week 10: 31 July - 4 August	Topic	Creativity and creative methods

## Resources

### Prescribed Resources

Alonso Bejarano, C., López Juárez, L., Mijangos García, M.A., & Goldstein, D.M. (2019). *Decolonizing ethnography: Undocumented immigrants and new directions in social science*. Duke University Press.

You can access a copy via Leganto on Moodle.

Hard copies are available for purchase at the UNSW

Bookshop: <https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9781478003953>

### Course Evaluation and Development

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

All assessments must be submitted electronically only, through the relevant assessment TurnItIn portal in Moodle. There is no hard copy submission required. Please ensure that your name and student ID number are on every page of your submission. All pages should be numbered. You are not required to attach a cover sheet to electronically submitted assessments.

When you submit an assessment at UNSW, you are acknowledging that you have understood and abided by the University requirements in the preparation of that assessment item, in respect of student academic misconduct outlined in the Student Code Policy and Student Misconduct Procedures, both of which are available at: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>.

**You are also declaring that the assessment item is your own work, except where acknowledged, and has not been submitted for academic credit previously in whole or in part.**

In addition, you submit the assessment in the knowledge that:

1. the course convenor may provide a copy of the assignment to another staff for the purposes of assessment or evaluation; and
2. a copy of this assessment item will be retained in the TurnItIn database and may be used in evaluations of originality.

UNSW provides support for students in using TurnItIn at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/turnitin-support>. This webpage includes information on how to generate and interpret originality reports in TurnItIn. Support is also available from the central TurnItIn Help Center at [http://turnitin.com/en\\_us/support/helpcenter](http://turnitin.com/en_us/support/helpcenter).

**To check you have submitted your assignment successfully you should click 'View digital receipt' at the bottom left-hand corner of the 'My Submissions' screen. You should print or save the digital receipt for your records. Do not navigate away from the submission screen or close your laptop during upload.**

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. For information about **Special Consideration** and **Extensions and Late Submission of Work**, please refer to the School's Policies and Guidelines available at <https://socialsciences.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies17guidelines/>.

## Return of assignments

Electronic submissions will be returned via the TurnItIn portal on Moodle with electronic feedback within ten working days of submission.



## Feedback

UNSW provides support for students in using TurnItIn to receive feedback at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-use-turnitin-within-moodle>. Please access this page to learn how to retrieve grades and comments on your assignment.

## 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

UNSW has an ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of learning informed by academic integrity. All UNSW staff and students have a responsibility to adhere to this principle of academic integrity. Plagiarism undermines academic integrity and is not tolerated at UNSW. Plagiarism at UNSW is defined as using the words or ideas of others and passing them off as your own. Examples include:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgment. This also applies to presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit.
- Collusion: Presenting work as independent work when it has been produced in whole or part in collusion with other people. Collusion includes students providing their 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 and passing it off as your own, 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 that have not been read, without acknowledging the 'secondary' source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Self-plagiarism: 'Self-plagiarism' occurs where an author republishes their own previously written work and presents it as new findings without referencing the earlier work, either in its entirety or partially. Self-plagiarism is also referred to as 'recycling', 'duplication', or 'multiple submissions of research findings' without disclosure. In the student context, self-plagiarism includes re-using parts of, or all of, a body of work that has already been submitted for assessment without proper citation.

It is not permissible to buy essay/writing services from third parties as the use of such services constitutes plagiarism because it involves using the words or ideas of others and passing them off as your own. Further, it is not permissible to sell copies of lecture or tutorial notes as you do not own the rights to this intellectual property.

If you breach the Student Code with respect to academic integrity the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure (see above).

## Academic Information

### Student responsibilities

You must read and adhere to the UNSW Student Code Policy (2016):

<https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/studentcodepolicy.html>.

There are five primary student responsibilities under this Code:

1. A condition of enrolment that students inform themselves of the University's rules and policies affecting them, and conduct themselves accordingly.
2. An obligation to act with integrity in academic work, to ensure that all academic work is conducted ethically and safely.
3. An obligation to observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the University community.
4. An obligation to use and care for University resources in a lawful and appropriate manner
5. An obligation to not diminish the University's reputation in the carrying out of academic and other associated University activities. (UNSW Student Code Policy, Art. 2)

A related document is the UNSW Student Misconduct Procedure (2016):

<https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/studentmisconductprocedures.html>.

All courses in the School of Social Sciences are run in accordance with School, Faculty and University rules and policies.

You need to make sure that you are familiar with University policies and School guidelines, <https://socialsciences.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policiesguidelines/>, particularly those relating to attendance requirements, extensions and late submission of assessed work.

### Image Credit

Water Ripple by Linus Nylund. Free to use under the [Unsplash License](#).

### CRICOS

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G