ABEC314
ATSI Children and Health: Educational and Social Implications
S2 External 2013

Institute of Early Childhood

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## General Information

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<th>Unit convenor and teaching staff</th>
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### Unit description

This unit focuses on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders. Political, historical, cultural and social issues that contribute to current health issues and practices are examined. Topics range from traditional medicine and the impact of European invasion to current nutrition, dental health, allergy, disease and safety. Problems associated with social factors are also addressed in light of governmental policies.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/](http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/)

## Learning Outcomes

1. To demonstrate effective writing skills
2. To become familiar with health issues and how they relate to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
3. To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
4. To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
5. To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment
6. To examine and evaluate contextual issues that affect ATSI health
7. To consider successes and failures of historical and political initiatives to promote the health and safety of Indigenous children

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>23.07.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>16.09.13</td>
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<td>Informal Report</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Exam</td>
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**Assignment**

Due: **23.07.13**  
Weighting: **10%**

Comment on the role of ATSI art and creativity in promoting group cohesion and wellbeing.  
Give examples by citing particular exhibits  
What effects might invasion and colonisation have had on the cultural activities and mental health of ATSI people?

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:  
• To demonstrate effective writing skills  
• To examine and evaluate contextual issues that affect ATSI health

**Essay**

Due: **16.09.13**  
Weighting: **30%**

Choose either a physical or mental health issue facing the Indigenous population today. Describe the incidence, severity and likely effects on the quality of life of affected individuals. Comment on the precursors to this problem in the community and how the situation might be alleviated in the present.  
1500-2000 words

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:  
• To demonstrate effective writing skills
Informal Report

Due: TBA
Weighting: 30%

Child protection issues in your local community

a) Subjective information and validity of claims

• How well informed does your local community appear to be regarding child protection regulations and the law? Have you heard of unsubstantiated claims and/or beliefs regarding how to deal with these claims? If yes, consider possible reasons these reactions or beliefs exist. If you have not heard any community or workplace discussion, reflect on possible reasons for this lack.
• Why is it important to rectify misinformation and misunderstanding in the general community regarding child protection? How might this effectively be done?
• As an educator how do you explain to others the need to distinguish between subjective reactions or beliefs and the requirements as set out in children’s regulations and the law

Word limit: 1500 – 2000 word

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
• To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
• To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment
• To examine and evaluate contextual issues that affect ATSI health

Exam
Due: 30
Weighting: 30%

This will cover all aspects covered in the unit including all tutorial material.
The quiz will be in multiple-choice, short answer or short essay format.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• To demonstrate effective writing skills
• To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
• To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment
• To examine and evaluate contextual issues that affect ATSI health
• To consider successes and failures of historical and political initiatives to promote the health and safety of Indigenous children

Delivery and Resources
Students will work with the resources copied to their iPADS.

Policies and Procedures
Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html
Special Consideration Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Support
Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at: http://students.mq.edu.au/support/
Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- To become familiar with health issues and how they relate to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
- To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
• To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment
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• To consider successes and failures of historical and political initiatives to promote the health and safety of Indigenous children

Assessment tasks
• Essay
• Informal Report
• Exam

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• To become familiar with health issues and how they relate to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
• To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
• To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
• To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment
• To examine and evaluate contextual issues that affect ATSI health
• To consider successes and failures of historical and political initiatives to promote the health and safety of Indigenous children

Assessment tasks
• Assignment
• Essay
• Informal Report
• Exam
Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- To become familiar with health issues and how they relate to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
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**Assessment tasks**

- Essay
- Informal Report

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- To demonstrate effective writing skills

**Assessment task**

- Assignment

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to
read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- To demonstrate effective writing skills
- To become familiar with health issues and how they relate to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
- To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
- To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment
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**Assessment tasks**

- Assignment
- Essay
- Informal Report
- Exam

**Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens**

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- To become familiar with health issues and how they relate to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)
- To gain knowledge of children’s services regulations and guidelines
- To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services
To consider ways of working with the families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to promote the health and safety of young children in the early childhood setting and home environment

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### Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Informal Report
- Exam

### Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcome

- To understand application of these regulations and guidelines in children’s services