INED820

Research Methods in Indigenous Education

S2 External 2015

Dept of Indigenous Studies - Warawara

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MIndigenousEd or PGDipIndigenousEd or PGCertIndigenousEd or GradDipIndigenousEd or GradCertIndigenousEd

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This research unit is organised around a hypothetical research project which students begin to develop themselves without actually carrying out. This unit will facilitate the first stages of the research. Assessment tasks for this unit will produce an ethics application, research proposal and design and an annotated bibliography.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.

Analyse, identify and evaluate issues concerning research in Indigenous contexts.

Choose an Indigenous research topic and develop your own research questions in relation to the topic.

Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.

Critically reflect on your responsibilities as a researcher in practice contexts.

Critically engage with the perspectives of other students using the prescribed online technology (ilearn).

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Weekly Online Activity	30%	Midnight Sunday each week
Hypothetical Research Proposal	40%	Week 10 Sunday 18th October
Critical Essay - 1500 words	30%	Week 13, Sunday 8th November.

Weekly Online Activity

Due: **Midnight Sunday each week**
Weighting: **30%**

Students are required to provide a response of approximately 250 words to the weekly online activity. There are 13 weeks in the semester and each week will be given a mark out of 10. The best 10 weeks will then be added together to give you a total mark out of 100. This will then be reduced to a percentage of 30% which will contribute to your final grade. ***Things to consider:*** · The response should be uploaded by to the Sunday of each week. · Referencing in this activity is appropriate. When you reference in text, make sure you have a reference list at the bottom. The reference list will not be included in your word count for this activity. · Restrict your responses to around 250 words. (Applying a 10% flexibility rule this means that they must be 225-275 words). Marks will be deducted for posts that fall outside of these parameters . · Students will receive a grade each week. Feedback will be provided via a scored rubric unless you attempt a weekly question and do not achieve a pass grade. Written feedback will be given in this case. · You will be able to see what the other students post for their responses after you have posted your own response. This is to enhance student engagement and learning while ensuring a fair process for all. *Please note that late submissions will incur a one mark per day penalty. Let me know if you are having difficulty meeting the deadline.*

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Hypothetical Research Proposal

Due: **Week 10 Sunday 18th October**
Weighting: **40%**

Due dates: First submission Sunday 27th September. Peer appraisal due Sunday 4th October. Final submission due Sunday 11th October. (My apologies this won't all fit in the due date box).

You are required to write a 2,000 - 2.500 word research proposal for a hypothetical project. The research proposal is an integral component to all research projects. This task can be viewed as quite difficult or overwhelming for those who are new to research. Breaking the study down into smaller sections makes the overall task appear less daunting and become more manageable. Designing your research also provides an avenue for you to unpack your ideas and identify areas where there may be gaps in terms of understanding and development. In short, the research proposal is a means of planning and structuring your research. This task is based on a hypothetical research project you may be interested in undertaking in the future. This assessment is only the design of the project. You do not need to go out and undertake the actual project for this assessment (actually, please don't as you won't have ethics approval). Some of you may be thinking of undertaking Higher Degree Research (HDR) in the future, this task will prove highly beneficial to this cohort. Others may have identified a need for something to be investigated in your professional workplace or community. Here is your chance to start planning the project. When undertaking research you will need to demonstrate that you have a good understanding of what it is that you intend to research and most importantly – how you intend to go about it. The following headings should guide your thinking and are standard in most research proposals. However, if there are any additional headings you believe are integral to your research you may include them in the research proposal.

There will be a peer appraisal component to this assessment. Peer review can be a powerful meta-cognitive tool. It supports the development of evaluative, analytical and critical thinking skills, interpersonal skills, as well as enhancing understanding within the field of knowledge of a discipline. 10 marks will be allocated to this component of the assessment. 5 to your appraisal of another students' proposal and 5 for your reflection on the changes you have made (or not) to your proposal. More detailed information about how to do the peer review will be given closer to the time of the assignment.

COMPONENTS OF A RESEARCH PROPOSAL *Title* Provide a short title for your project. If you can, give it a memorable/catchy title. e.g. Leading Torres Strait Islander academic Martin Nakata wrote a book called 'Disciplining the savages:Savaging the Disciplines.'You need to also be careful not to use a title that is misleading i.e. the old classic 'The catcher in the rye' led some people to think it was about baseball. It wasn't!

Introduction (approx. 200 words) Provide a brief introduction to the research. Provide a brief background about your research topic without going directly into what you plan to do. Here you need to include some references!

Research Aim /Questions (approx. 100 words) Describe the key aims of the research. What questions do you seek to answer? e.g. This study aims to: 1. Identify successful strategies and practices for the supervision of Indigenous Australian doctoral candidates. 2. Establish a model of best practice for the supervision of Indigenous Australian doctoral students. HINT: Pay particular attention to the first word in each aim i.e. identify, establish, develop. *Significance* (approx. 200 words) Explain why your research will be significant. All research should anticipate some benefits. This could be through practical benefits such as creating new opportunities for people, or theoretical benefits such as new knowledge that can be shared with communities, scholars, and so on.

Literature Review (approx. 600 words) For example if you were to be researching the topic "Research projects written by Indigenous Australian postgraduate students" you would need to locate literature in the following areas – Indigenous Australian participation in higher education; benefits of Indigenous research; and perhaps research projects written by Indigenous people throughout the world. Your literature review needs to convince the reader/examiner that you are well versed in what others have done in your field (in the broader sense).

Methodology (approx. 300 words) Here you need to convince the reader that you have a clear process in terms of how you will go about your research. You need to describe in detail the steps you will take in the project. For instance: Ø How will you collect your data? Will you be relying on publicly accessible information (such as literature or archival evidence), stories from the past that have been told to you, your own personal experiences, participants, etc.... Ø Here you also need to mention details relating to participants (if you plan to have any) including recruitment, numbers and demographic . Ø Data collection – Will you be recording the data, if so how (audio, visual etc)? Note: Remember the AIATSIS and NHMRC Ethics Guidelines when writing your methodology.

Ethical Issues (approx. 150 words) Describe any ethical dilemmas you may have in undertaking your project.

Timeline (approx. 150 words) Provide a detailed summary of your plan to undertake your project. Include in the timeline aspects such as: Fieldwork Conducting a comprehensive literature review. Data analysis. Writing up your research. Here you need to break this down into timelines for each chapter or section.

Expected Outcomes (approx. 150 words) Here you need to mention details about the expected outcomes. If for instance, you expect that the research will be transformed in a report for your workplace and that this will lead to significant changes in your organisation then list that here.

Communication of Results (approx. 150 words) It is normal practice for research results to be disseminated to research participants and academic peers. Explain how you plan to communicate the results of your research project.

Response to Peer Feedback (please note the name of the student who provided your feedback) (no more than 500 words)

Note any changes you made in response to the feedback. If you didn't make any changes - and this might be quite reasonable - please justify your decision. Comment on whether you made any changes to your assignment based on your reading of the other assignment.

References Provide at least 15 references.

Please note: One mark per day penalty will apply

On successful completion you will be able to:
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- Choose an Indigenous research topic and develop your own research questions in

relation to the topic.

- Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.
- Critically reflect on your responsibilities as a researcher in practice contexts.

Critical Essay - 1500 words

Due: **Week 13, Sunday 8th November.**

Weighting: **30%**

The critical essay has two parts.

Part 1 - prepare an essay plan to be submitted in a 'weekly response'. The lecturer will nominate the week that the essay plan needs to be submitted. The essay plan will replace the weekly response for the designated week.

Part 2 - Write a critical essay of 1500 words which critically engages the topic of indigenous intellectual property and the surrendering of their intellectual property to researchers where their is a 'power differential' between the interviewer and interviewee.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse, identify and evaluate issues concerning research in Indigenous contexts.
- Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.

Delivery and Resources

This unit is delivered externally through ilearn. Unit resources are available via the online learning platform.

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://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html

Grading Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Grade Appeal Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

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

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.
- Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.
- Critically reflect on your responsibilities as a researcher in practice contexts.

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Online Activity
- Hypothetical Research Proposal
- Critical Essay - 1500 words

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.
- Analyse, identify and evaluate issues concerning research in Indigenous contexts.
- Choose an Indigenous research topic and develop your own research questions in relation to the topic.
- Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.
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Assessment tasks

- Weekly Online Activity

- Hypothetical Research Proposal
- Critical Essay - 1500 words

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.
- Analyse, identify and evaluate issues concerning research in Indigenous contexts.
- Choose an Indigenous research topic and develop your own research questions in relation to the topic.
- Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.
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- Critical Essay - 1500 words

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.
- Analyse, identify and evaluate issues concerning research in Indigenous contexts.
- Choose an Indigenous research topic and develop your own research questions in relation to the topic.

- Evaluate the complexities of conducting research with Indigenous people and communities.

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Online Activity
- Hypothetical Research Proposal
- Critical Essay - 1500 words

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.
- Choose an Indigenous research topic and develop your own research questions in relation to the topic.

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Online Activity
- Hypothetical Research Proposal

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Investigate the ethical and methodological requirements of good social research.
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