



MSM 844

Museum Studies Special Project A

S2 External 2014

Dept of Environment & Geography

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Kirsten Davies

kirsty.davies@mq.edu.au

Contact via kirsty.davies@mq.edu.au

E7A, room 717

By appointment

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Permission of Executive Dean of Faculty

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is run in conjunction with MSM845. Students may complete a research project equivalent to a 10,000 word dissertation. The projects may be presented in the form of a traditional dissertation, a report, a conceptual framework for the development of an exhibition, exhibition curation, public program development, or other museum-based project on an approved topic. Students will consult with their supervisor to approve their line of research and are expected to present a written plan of their research during the first month and an interim report on results to date at the end of the unit. Note: For full-time students, concurrent enrolment in MSM845 is possible.

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:

Students will learn to research skills

Students will learn to plan a research project

Students will be required to write up their project outcomes using an academic style

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Scenario 2- Project proposal	10%	week 2
Scenario 2- Annotated Biblio	10%	week 4
Scenario 2- Chapter Outline	20%	week 6
Scenario 2 - Thesis	60%	Week 11

Scenario 2- Project proposal

Due: **week 2**

Weighting: **10%**

See appendix in unit guide in Ilearn

There are 2 other options (scenarios 1 and 3) for this unit. These are described in the Unit Guide on ILearn

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Students will learn to research skills
- Students will learn to plan a research project
- Students will be required to write up their project outcomes using an academic style

Scenario 2- Annotated Biblio

Due: **week 4**

Weighting: **10%**

Refer to Ilearn Unit

There are 2 other options (scenarios 1 and 3) for this unit. These are described in the Unit Guide on ILearn

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Students will learn to research skills

Scenario 2- Chapter Outline

Due: **week 6**

Weighting: **20%**

See unit guide on Ilearn

There are 2 other options (scenarios 1 and 3) for this unit. These are described in the Unit Guide

on ILearn

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Students will be required to write up their project outcomes using an academic style

Scenario 2 - Thesis

Due: **Week 11**

Weighting: **60%**

See Unit Guide on Ilearn

There are 2 other options (scenarios 1 and 3) for this unit. These are described in the Unit Guide on ILearn

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Students will learn to research skills
- Students will learn to plan a research project
- Students will be required to write up their project outcomes using an academic style

Delivery and Resources

Technologies used

This unit has an online presence, you will need regular access to a reliable broadband internet connection and a computer

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/

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 - 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 outcome

- Students will learn to research skills

Assessment tasks

- Scenario 2- Project proposal
- Scenario 2- Annotated Biblio
- Scenario 2 - Thesis

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

- Students will learn to research skills
- Students will learn to plan a research project

Assessment tasks

- Scenario 2- Project proposal
- Scenario 2- Annotated Biblio
- Scenario 2- Chapter Outline
- Scenario 2 - Thesis

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

- Students will learn to research skills
- Students will learn to plan a research project

Assessment tasks

- Scenario 2- Annotated Biblio

- Scenario 2- Chapter Outline
- Scenario 2 - Thesis

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

- Students will learn to research skills
- Students will learn to plan a research project
- Students will be required to write up their project outcomes using an academic style

Assessment tasks

- Scenario 2- Project proposal
- Scenario 2- Chapter Outline
- Scenario 2 - Thesis

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:

Assessment task

- Scenario 2 - Thesis

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 outcome

- Students will learn to plan a research project

Assessment task

- Scenario 2 - Thesis

Assessment scenarios

SCENARIO 1: THE TRADITIONAL 10,000 WORD DISSERTATION

If you are doing it as a 10,000 word dissertation only (8 credit points, over two semesters - one unit per semester):-

semester one (of two):

1. Project proposal (10%) see appendix 1
2. annotated bibliography - on your chosen research topic. (10%)
3. chapter outline of your thesis. A point form presentation of the issues each chapter of the thesis is to deal with.(20%)
4. final output is a chapter for your thesis, which should be about 2500 words (60%). Please note, your reference listing and appendices are additional to the expected word count.

semester two (of two):

The supervisor - having read the submitted chapter outline & chapter will offer feedback on that chapter by the beginning of the new semester.

1. annotated bibliography on social science research – concentrating on useful methodologies and methods of data collection and analysis relevant to the topic of your dissertation (10%)
2. Project proposal - see appendix 1. This should include a discussion of any issues you are encountering. (10%)
3. a chapter for your thesis (this cannot be the same chapter submitted in the previous semester) (20%)
4. final output is your completed thesis. Total word count 10,000 +/- 10% (60%). Please note, your reference listing and appendices are additional to the expected word count.

SCENARIO 2: THE TRADITIONAL 5,000 WORD DISSERTATION (ONE UNIT IN ONE SEMESTER)

If they are doing it as a 5,000 word dissertation only (one unit in one semester):-

1. Project proposal (10%) see appendix 1
2. annotated bibliography - on your chosen research topic. (10%)
3. chapter outline of your thesis. A point form presentation of the issues each chapter of the thesis is to deal with.(20%)

4. final output is your completed thesis. Total word count 5,000 +/- 10% (60%). Please note, your reference listing and appendices are additional to the expected word count.

SCENARIO 3: EQUIVALENT TO A 5,000 WORD DISSERTATION (ONE UNIT IN ONE SEMESTER)

A project that is equivalent to a 5000 word dissertation (one unit in one semester) may include:

- an exhibition proposal/plan or finished exhibit that needs to be researched. This needs to be a very detailed product, and cannot be simply a re-run of the assignment you did in MSM 820/202.
- detailed and well researched proposal, plan or report ready to submit to a government authority or similar body
- education or other museum program
- audience research and analysis
- other formats approved by your university supervisors

Assessments will need to be confirmed with your supervisor, but will be structured as follows:

1. Project proposal (10%) see appendix 1
2. annotated bibliography - on your chosen research topic. (10%)
3. 2000 word written component (20%). The topic will vary depending on the type of project you have undertaken. This component deals with the methodologies you are using in your special project – or other issues related to your project. You can chose to write about any/all of the following issues in relation to your final output for this project:

1. Research methodologies
2. Data analysis (quantitative / qualitative)
3. Copyright issues
4. Human Ethics Approval
5. Other topics as discussed with your supervisor

4. Final Project (60%). Your final project, as negotiated with your supervisor is the equivalent of a 5,000 word dissertation.