



FOAR7006

Research Theme 2: Feminism, Queer Theory and the Problem of Identity

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2021

Arts Faculty level units

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Leigh Boucher

leigh.boucher@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines the ways in which various contestations (over postmodernism, poststructuralism and queer theory) challenged the foundational categories of feminist theory in the 1980s and 1990s. The unit will ponder whether the call for a contingent feminist theory and practice undermined or, in fact, invigorated feminist critical thought and practice. Through an engagement with the various critical frameworks that emerged in the wake of these contestations, the unit will then examine the reformulations and reframings that feminist scholars have produced in the decades since these interventions. What do these new critical frameworks seek to explain? Do they represent a return or a critical rupture? Are we living in a post-feminist moment? This unit will be framed as a cross-disciplinary unit, students are encouraged to bring their diverse disciplinary perspectives to the discussion and assessment.

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:

ULO1: Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key debates in feminist theory

ULO2: Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key terms and ideas in queer theory

ULO3: Critically reflect on the relationship between feminist politics and research in the humanities and social sciences

ULO4: Exercise independence in the identification of a research problem and formulate a sophisticated approach to investigate it

ULO5: Practice ethical and inclusive engagement with learning peers

ULO6: Demonstrate advanced written and verbal communication skills to deploy feminist categories of analysis

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Critical Essay	25%	No	Fri 5pm, Week 7
Research Essay	50%	No	Mon 5pm following week 13
Weekly Diary	25%	No	Weekly (online)

Critical Essay

Assessment Type **1**: Essay

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 20 hours

Due: **Fri 5pm, Week 7**

Weighting: **25%**

A short essay that examines key works from early in the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key debates in feminist theory
- Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key terms and ideas in queer theory
- Critically reflect on the relationship between feminist politics and research in the humanities and social sciences
- Demonstrate advanced written and verbal communication skills to deploy feminist categories of analysis

Research Essay

Assessment Type **1**: Essay

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 50 hours

Due: **Mon 5pm following week 13**

Weighting: **50%**

A research essay related to a key theme of the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key terms and ideas in queer theory
- Critically reflect on the relationship between feminist politics and research in the humanities and social sciences
- Exercise independence in the identification of a research problem and formulate a sophisticated approach to investigate it
- Demonstrate advanced written and verbal communication skills to deploy feminist categories of analysis

Weekly Diary

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Weekly (online)**

Weighting: **25%**

Students will complete a reflective diary after each weekly discussion where they identify key themes from the discussion.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key debates in feminist theory
- Demonstrate a coherent and advanced understanding of some key terms and ideas in queer theory
- Practice ethical and inclusive engagement with learning peers

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment

- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

-All readings can be accessed from ilearn

-Full descriptions of assessment can be found on ilearn

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](#) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](#) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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](#) or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

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

dents.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

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

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.