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.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/135038/unit_guide/print
**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://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Fri 5pm, Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Mon 5pm following week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Diary</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly (online)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Critical Essay
Assessment Type: Essay
Indicative Time on Task: 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: Essay
Indicative Time on Task: 50 hours
Due: Mon 5pm following week 13
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
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. 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 (*Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway. It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit 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/admin/other-resources/student-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](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)
Student Support

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

### Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://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 Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

### Equity 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.

### IT Help

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