ABST2060
Indigenous Histories and Knowledges
Session 2, Fully online/virtual 2021
Department of Indigenous Studies

Contents

General Information 2
Learning Outcomes 2
Assessment Tasks 3
Delivery and Resources 5
Policies and Procedures 6
Protocols for Indigenous Studies 8

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Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update

The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities.

Visit the MQ COVID-19 information page for more detail.
## General Information

**Unit convenor and teaching staff**

Zac Roberts  
*zac.roberts@mq.edu.au*

Tristan Kennedy  
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**Credit points**

10

**Prerequisites**

ABST1020 or ABST1000

**Corequisites**


**Co-badged status**


**Unit description**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are recognised as belonging to the oldest living culture on earth with over 60,000 years of histories and knowledges to draw upon. This unit explores Indigenous histories and knowledges from the big bang through to contemporary times. Students will develop an understanding of Indigenous relationships to land, water, fire, food and medicine and recognise the ways in which Indigenous knowledges are utilised in everyday activities. This unit will provide a significant understanding of how Indigenous knowledges about the world can inform future thinking about conservation, land management, climate change and sustainability.

## 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**: Identify Indigenous Australians’ contemporary and historical contributions to knowledge in scientific and community fields.
- **ULO2**: Recognise the diversity of Indigenous knowledges and in fields of science, technology, land and Country.
- **ULO3**: Analyse and reflect on the on-going relationship of Indigenous and non-
indigenous knowledges.

**ULO4:** Demonstrate a critical, self-reflective approach to the study of Indigenous histories, based on respect and mutual responsibility.

**ULO5:** Communicate effectively, in a range of written and spoken formats, within the conventions of the discipline of Indigenous Studies.

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>05/11/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>03/09/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial Activities</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Major Essay**

Assessment Type 1: Essay

Indicative Time on Task 2: 40 hours

Due: **05/11/2021**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will choose a question related to a particular area of Indigenous histories and knowledges and produce a critical essay that is informed by relevant Indigenous Studies literature.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and reflect on the on-going relationship of Indigenous and non-indigenous knowledges.
- Demonstrate a critical, self-reflective approach to the study of Indigenous histories, based on respect and mutual responsibility.
- Communicate effectively, in a range of written and spoken formats, within the conventions of the discipline of Indigenous Studies.

**Minor Essay**

Assessment Type 1: Essay

Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours

Due: **03/09/2021**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will produce an essay which responds to one of a choice of questions related to unit content.
On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify Indigenous Australians' contemporary and historical contributions to knowledge in scientific and community fields.
- Recognise the diversity of Indigenous knowledges and in fields of science, technology, land and Country.
- Analyse and reflect on the on-going relationship of Indigenous and non-indigenous knowledges.
- Communicate effectively, in a range of written and spoken formats, within the conventions of the discipline of Indigenous Studies.

**Tutorial Activities**

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 26 hours
Due: Weekly
Weighting: 30%

You will be required to actively participate in weekly online tutorial activities. These will be available on a weekly basis on iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify Indigenous Australians' contemporary and historical contributions to knowledge in scientific and community fields.
- Recognise the diversity of Indigenous knowledges and in fields of science, technology, land and Country.
- Analyse and reflect on the on-going relationship of Indigenous and non-indigenous knowledges.
- Communicate effectively, in a range of written and spoken formats, within the conventions of the discipline of Indigenous Studies.

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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 Learning Skills Unit 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


7 Food / Medicine Pascoe, B., 2014, Dark Emu. Magabala Books (online MQ Library)

8 Agriculture Pascoe, B., 2014, Dark Emu. Magabala Books (online MQ Library)

Steffensen, V., 2020, Fire Country, Hardie Grant Publishing, Melbourne (online MQ Library)


Policies and Procedures
Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr...
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 (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/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 (http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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

**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://students.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 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](mailto:disability.service@mq.edu.au) 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](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

**Protocols for Indigenous Studies**

In Australia there are two distinct Indigenous peoples: Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people.

When writing about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders do not use the acronym ‘ATSI’, write in full. Capital letters should always be used when referring to Aboriginal peoples and or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

While Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander are acceptable terms to use, it should be recognised that these are collective terms and often used improperly to impose a single identity on the many different communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people generally prefer to be known by the language/cultural groups or communities, to which they belong, that is, own names rather than terms such 'the Aboriginals' or 'the Islanders’. For example, Aboriginal people in the area surrounding Macquarie University may refer to themselves as Dharug. It is important that you always check the correct name or terms to use for people in the area/region.

The use of incorrect, inappropriate or dated terminology is to be avoided as it can give offence. Many historical terms or those in common usage some years ago are now not acceptable, including terms such as 'aborigine' ‘native’, ‘savage’ and ‘primitive’. Similarly, do not use the terms ‘half-caste’, ‘part-Aborigine/Aboriginal’ or any reference to skin colour or physical features, as they do not signify that a person is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and may cause offence. When quoting from academic or other sources that uses inappropriate, dated terminology or racists language, use (sic) directly after the inappropriate term of phrase, thus...
calling attention to the fact that it has been sourced from the original and that you understand it to be outdated, inappropriate or problematic in the contemporary context.