



# FOAR7006

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

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

*Arts Faculty level units*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Leigh Boucher

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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

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

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

**ULO5:** Practice ethical and inclusive engagement with learning peers

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

## General Assessment Information

Assessment submitted after the due date without special consideration will be penalised 10% per day. Information about special consideration can be found here: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Critical Essay</a>	25%	No	4/4/2022
<a href="#">Research Essay</a>	50%	No	3/6/2022
<a href="#">Weekly Diary</a>	25%	No	Completed weekly via blog

### Critical Essay

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **4/4/2022**

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 <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 50 hours

Due: **3/6/2022**

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

## Weekly Diary

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **Completed weekly via blog**

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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

A weekly seminar will take place at 3pm on Wednesdays. All required readings will be outlined in a weekly seminar guide available on iLearn, and available via the library.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](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 \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

## Student Support

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

### The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

## Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

## 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.