



FOAR7006

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

Session 1, Online-scheduled-weekday 2023

Arts Faculty level units

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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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

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

General Assessment Information

Research essay questions will be distributed via ilearn and the weekly diary will be submitted weekly in an online blog forum.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

*This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). **Late submission of time sensitive tasks** (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) **will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.***

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Research Essay	50%	No	9 June, 11.59pm
Critical Essay	25%	No	14 April, 11.59pm
Weekly Diary	25%	No	Submitted weekly, marked at the end of semester.

Research Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **9 June, 11.59pm**

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

Critical Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **14 April, 11.59pm**

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

Weekly Diary

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Submitted weekly, marked at the end of semester.**

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

A weekly unit schedule is available via iLearn and all readings will be available via Leganto

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)

[du.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

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 Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

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/.

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.