



ENGX3020

Global Contemporary Literature: Australians and the World

Session 1, Online-flexible 2024

Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor, lecturer, tutor

Toby Davidson

toby.davidson@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

tba

By appointment

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The limitations of Western conceptions of "the human" are highlighted in this unit as we consider how twenty-first century Australian, Indigenous, American, postcolonial and other forms of literature which challenge and expand Western conceptions of humanity, subjectivity and belonging. This unit looks at how literature is alive in the world today, and how it responds to the new opportunities afforded to it by the twenty-first century such as streaming, open-access and web publishing, social media and AI-written texts. All texts studied (essays, translated poetry and novels, speculative short fiction, Indigenous sci-fi and vampire TV series, multilingual historical film) have been produced since 2010. Current controversies are simultaneously examined in real time to show present-day faultlines in local and global publishing and writers' festivals. The premise of this unit is that writers living today are developing exciting and innovative ways of responding to contemporary debates on authorship, race, gender, climate change, refugee rights and social justice, neo-colonialism, multiculturalism, literary celebrity and activism. We will reflect on how we engage with global contemporary literature now, and how we can best critique evolving forms of literature which offer us radical visions of both the future and the past in Australia and beyond.

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: Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.

ULO2: Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.

ULO3: Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.

ULO4: Explain and analyse how literature participates in debates in the public sphere, including discussions over race, immigration, ethics, history, and the representation of disasters.

ULO5: Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

General Assessment Information

Submission Methods

Participatory tasks will be conducted via asynchronous online discussion forums. The Quiz will be conducted at a time of your choosing during week 3 via iLearn. The Analysis Task and Essay must be submitted via Turnitin in iLearn.

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 23.55 (11.55pm). A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-time-sensitived 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.

These are serious penalties that will substantially alter your final grade and even determine whether you pass or fail this unit. Please make every effort to submit your assignment by the due date.

If you find you cannot submit your assignment on time, please apply for Special Consideration through AskMQ. Make sure you read Macquarie University's policy regarding Special

Consideration requests before you apply: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Early Feedback Quiz	10%	No	Friday 8/3/24 at 23:55
Participation	20%	No	Ongoing, weeks 1-6,8-12
Secondary Literature Review	30%	No	Thursday 11/4/24 at 23:55
Research Essay	40%	No	Thursday 30/5/24 at 23:55

Early Feedback Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours

Due: **Friday 8/3/24 at 23:55**

Weighting: **10%**

Students will complete one online quiz, comprising of 20 multiple choice questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.

Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Ongoing, weeks 1-6,8-12**

Weighting: **20%**

Preparation of notes relating to set topics and any additional research. Participation in group

activities; answering questions in weekly forums and contributing meaningfully to online discussion.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
- Explain and analyse how literature participates in debates in the public sphere, including discussions over race, immigration, ethics, history, and the representation of disasters.
- Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

Secondary Literature Review

Assessment Type ¹: Literature review

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Thursday 11/4/24 at 23:55**

Weighting: **30%**

A 1500 word written analysis of a single published research article which may be used for the Research Essay.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
- Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

Research Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Thursday 30/5/24 at 23:55**

Weighting: **40%**

A 2000 word research essay related to a set topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
- Explain and analyse how literature participates in debates in the public sphere, including discussions over race, immigration, ethics, history, and the representation of disasters.
- Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

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

Delivery:

Lectures and tutorials start in Week 1.

Students are expected to attend or to listen to all recorded lectures before contributing each week.

On campus students: Please check the university timetable for lecture and class venues.

OUA or Online Flexible Students: Please be prepared to participate in the weekly activities via the iLearn Discussion Forums **beginning in week 1**.

Readings:

Required to Buy or Borrow

1. Karan Mahajan, *The Association of Small Bombs*, Vintage paperback or ebook.
2. Mykaela Saunders, ed. *This All Come Back Now*, University of Queensland Press paperback or ebook.
3. Behrouz Boochani, *No Friend But the Mountains*. Picador paperback or ebook.

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 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.

Unit information based on version 2024.02 of the [Handbook](#)