ABST2060
Indigenous Histories and Knowledges
Session 2, Online-scheduled-weekday 2024
Department of Indigenous Studies

Contents

General Information ............................................. 2
Learning Outcomes ........................................... 2
General Assessment Information ............................. 3
Assessment Tasks .............................................. 4
Delivery and Resources ....................................... 6
Policies and Procedures ....................................... 6

Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Zac Roberts
zac.roberts@mq.edu.au

Tamika Mathias
tamika.worrell@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
40cp at 1000 level or above and 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://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-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-

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/162269/unit_guide/print
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.

## General Assessment Information

### Late 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.

### Terminology 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...
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content Quizzes</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weeks 3, 6, 9, 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Content Quizzes

Assessment Type: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task: 26 hours
Due: Weeks 3, 6, 9, 12
Weighting: 30%

Quizzes focused on 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.

Major Essay
Assessment Type 1: Essay
Indicative Time on Task 2: 40 hours
Due: Week 13
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: Week 7
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.

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.

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

See ilearn for details.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (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). 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) 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
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.