EDUC388
Aboriginal Education Issues and Approaches
D2 2012

Education

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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
Unit Convenor
Neil Harrison
neil.harrison@mq.edu.au
Contact via neil.harrison@mq.edu.au

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
39cp or admission to GDipEd

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is designed to develop students' knowledge and understanding of those issues impacting on the delivery of Indigenous education in Australia. Invasion and colonisation, the effects of government policies, the stolen generations, and the developing relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians are explored in the context of learning and teaching in the classroom. Approaches for teaching Indigenous students are explored, along with the requirement to include Indigenous perspectives across the curriculum. Aboriginal people involved in education introduce many of these issues.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
2) Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
4) Be able to talk about Aboriginal people living in contemporary Australia
5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
7) Recognise Aboriginal people as the custodians of their land and culture
8) Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives
9) Demonstrate an understanding of the Reconciliation process and its significance to the emergence of a shared Australian history and identity
10) Demonstrate and understanding of Aboriginal peoples in other countries

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 3</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Assessment 1**

Due: **TBA**  
Weighting: **30%**

Students are to select a seminar question from the following list and prepare a seminar presentation of 45 minutes duration. The presentation must include an ICT component and be delivered by no more than three students working together. While the group is expected to work together, it must be made explicit how each member contributed to the presentation.

**The presentation must demonstrate how the topic would be taught (in a lesson) to school-aged students. See the marking rubric for assignment 1.**

**Week 1: The Darug**
**Week 2: Teaching Aboriginal students**
**Week 3: Aboriginal history**
**Week 4: Stolen Generations**
**Week 5: An overview of Aboriginal education**
**Week 6: Teaching Aboriginal perspectives**
**Week 7: Teaching ESL to Aboriginal students**
Week 8: Public Holiday

Week 9: Excursion to Berry Island. **No presentations**

Week 10: Teaching Aboriginal languages

Week 11: Aboriginal people and the media

Week 12: Excursion to Royal Botanic Gardens. **No presentations**

Week 13: Yarramundi Kids

*Your presentation must include a lesson for school students ie you must demonstrate how you would teach the weekly content /topic to students.*

On successful completion you will be able to:

1. Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
2. Be able to talk about Aboriginal people living in contemporary Australia
3. Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
5. Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives

Assessment 2

Due: **Week 5**

Weighting: **30%**

Read and analyse the article from Noel Pearson and the reply from Christine Nichols

This task is designed to introduce you to the major points of view on Aboriginal education in Australia. We want you to compare two very different positions, one from Noel Pearson and the other from Christine Nichols. What do they offer? What is overlooked? You will be given the opportunity to discuss the papers.

On successful completion you will be able to:

1. Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
2. Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
3. Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
4. Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/32203/unit_guide/print
Assessment 3
Due: TBA
Weighting: 40%

Research and present an essay on a selected topic. OR Participate in an excursion OR Interview an Aboriginal person

Option 1: Research Essay
Select one of the following essay questions. Research the topic and prepare an analytical essay on the question.

Essay Questions: Choose only one of the following:
1. Chris Sarra argues that ‘high expectations’ is one of the keys to improving Aboriginal student outcomes. Why does he take this position? Is there any evidence to support it, or to suggest that his approach is working?
2. A number of ‘high-end’ private schools are now offering specific programs for Aboriginal students? What is the philosophy driving these programs? Are they working? Examine some of the criticisms made of these programs. Are such criticisms justified?
3. “A positive self identity has been identified as one of the factors necessary for individual educational success (Mellor & Corrigan, 2004)”. Discuss.

Option 2: Excursion Plan
Trip to Berry Island (end of Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft). The guides will show you bush tucker on Berry Island, middens, rock engravings. Following your guided field trip to the Island, prepare a detailed plan and worksheet for an excursion to the site. Ask the guides as many questions as you can to help you design your excursion plan and worksheet.

Note: you cannot do this assignment if you do not attend the excursion.

Details:
· Excursion plan length 1500-2000 words (excluding references).
· The information provided must be based on the visit to Berry Island, and your research.

Option 3: Personal Interview
Interview an Aboriginal person about his or her life.

Once you have collected your information, you will need to decide how you will present it in
writing. It will need to be more than just a description of someone’s life. It will also need to include some reflection and analysis. This means that you will need some explanation from your interviewee. Don’t be pushy, but you will need to ask some why questions like, why is that important to you? Why did you go down that road?

Details:

- 1500-2000 words (excluding references)
- The information provided should be based on your interview and the analysis of data
- Research should include links to the literature on educational theory and practice and may in addition include research collected from various groups, organisations or individuals.
- Please use APA Referencing Procedures

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 2) Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
- 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
- 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people

Delivery and Resources

1. About this Unit

This unit explores the educational policies and historical practices that have impacted Aboriginal education. It provides a historical overview of government policies since European invasion and addresses contemporary perspectives of racism, prejudice, social injustice and reconciliation. It offers students the opportunity to develop the necessary knowledge, skills and sensitivity to meet the needs of Aboriginal students.
Guest lecturers from Aboriginal organisations, representatives from the Department of Education and Community and other bodies will help to present the material. Aboriginal people involved in education will speak about their role in ensuring that Aboriginal people have access to the educational opportunities enjoyed by other Australians.

2. Teaching Staff

Neil Harrison
C3A room 907
neil.harrison@mq.edu.au

Natalie Taylor

Terry Wright
twrightmacquarie@gmail.com

Please note that all official correspondence will be conducted through the student’s mq account. Hotmail addresses are usually trashed before they arrive in my inbox.

3. Classes

Lectures: 1 hour, once weekly
Tutorials: 2 hours, once weekly

4. Unit Web Page

Access to the unit web page is through http://online.mq.edu.au. Please access Blackboard CE6 regularly throughout the semester as this is the main means of communication of information to students.
5. Required Text

Prescribed Text

6. Recommended Readings

Reports


Nichols, Christine (2009). Correspondence. In *Quarterly Essay 36, pages 93-102* see library online Journals


References


https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/32203/unit_guide/print


Cahill, R. (1999). *Solid English*. Perth: Education Department of Western Australia. [see reserve collection]


Dare to Lead [http://www.daretoread.edu.au/][2]

Dare to Lead, research and professional readings. [http://www.daretoread.edu.au/servlet/We b?s=169694&p=DTL08_ResRead_Main][3]


[1] Unit guide EDUC388 Aboriginal Education Issues and Approaches

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/32203/unit_guide/print


Langton, M. (1993). ‘Well, I heard it on the radio and I saw it on the television…’: An essay for the Australian Film Commission on the politics and aesthetics of filmmaking by and about Aboriginal people and things, Australian Film Commission, North Sydney. (see Reserve: P94.5.A32 .A85)


Child at School, 18 (1), 9-29. (see e-reserve) MUST READ!!


National Museum of Australia and Rigby (2008). First Australians: plenty stories. Rigby/Pearson Education. (DU120.F476 A444. This includes: Aboriginal Sporting Greats; Keeping strong through art; Keeping language Alive, Kaisiana’s Journey to Torres Strait; Fighting for Rights etc.)


https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/32203/unit_guide/print
Pearson, N. (2009). Radical Hope: Education and equality in Australia. In Quarterly Essay. [also read Christine Nichols critique of this article]


Walker, Dot et al. (2004). Aboriginal early readers [kit] /Publisher:Brisbane, Qld. : Queensland. Dept. of Education

7. Useful websites

ABC Education for Schools

http://www.abc.net.au/schoolstv/

Aboriginal Australia
http://www.aboriginalaustralia.com/


Act Now


Apology Speech made by Kevin Rudd


Australian Bureau of Statistics

http://www.abs.gov.au

Australian Aboriginal Health InfoNet

http://www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/

Australian Government Culture and Recreation Portal, Reconciliation


Brining them Home Teacher Resource


Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation


Dust echoes http://www.abc.net.au/dustechoes/dustEchoesFlash.htm

First Australians SBS Series


Australian Human Rights Commission


Interactive Time Line (EXCELENT RESOURCE)

http://www.programs.sbs.com.au/firstaustralians/content/


Reconciliation Australia

http://www.reconciliationaustralia.org/i-cms.isp

Reconcile


e/live/global/announcements/aboriginal.jsp?muid=000000&taleUserId=-445990256&userTyp
e=u&username=


YouTube Video: The Australian Way (Part 5) Here's your fricken apology
http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=TacKpl2OWHI

YouTube Video: Sea of Hands
http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=6kANmVKNhS

YouTube Video: Kevin Rudd Sorry Speech
http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=B1jeWeDpc68

YouTube: Australia Says Sorry to Stolen Generation
http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=C9mJpL67QUw&feature=related

Yunkaporta, Tyson, 8 Aboriginal ways of learning http://8ways.wikispaces.com/

Journals/ Newspapers
Australian Journal of Aboriginal Education (formerly Aboriginal Child at School)
National Indigenous Times (Newspaper)

8. Graduate Capabilities

1. Discipline specific knowledge and skills
2. Critical, analytical and integrative thinking
3. Problem solving and research capability
4. Creative and innovative
5. Effective communication
6. Socially and environmentally active and responsible
8. Capable of professional and personal judgement and initiative

10. Course Requirements

All assignments must be submitted by the due date. Penalties will be incurred for late submissions (see below). Assignments are expected to be of a professional standard, text components should be word processed.
In cases of sickness or misadventure, students are to apply in writing for an extension to the course convenor at least three days before the due date of the assignment.

**Attendance**

EDUC388 is a lecture and tutorial-based unit of study. Students are therefore required to satisfy the tutorial attendance requirements specified by the Department of Education. The relevant rule states that students must attend at least 80 per cent of the scheduled class time. Where the student fails to meet this requirement they may be asked to show cause why they should not be excluded from, or fail the unit. Where a student thinks his/her attendance may fall below the 80 per cent requirement he/she should be prepared to substantiate the reasons by supplying the relevant documentation (for example, doctor’s certificate). Students should also consider lodging a ‘special consideration application through the University’s ‘Student Services’. See: [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs-special_consideration-policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs-special_consideration-policy.html)

**Enquiries:**

All enquiries regarding attendance should be directed to Neil Harrison by email. It is not necessary to phone the unit convenors or the TEP or Department of Education Office if you are unable to attend through sickness or misadventure. Documentary evidence explaining any absences from class must be forwarded to Neil Harrison either prior to, or as soon as possible following the absence from class.

**Attendance Register:**

An attendance register is necessary as a record of the student’s completion of professional requirements.

**11. Assessments**

**Assignment 1: Seminar Presentation**

Task details

- The presentation should be of **45 minutes** duration and done in a group of no more than three students.
- **YOU MUST INTERACT WITH THE CLASS - keep the upfront talking to a minimum**
- The presentation should be based on the prescribed readings, lectures and further research.
- Get the students in the class to discuss and examine key issues.
· Avoid trying to cover ‘everything’. Focus on interactions with students and work on how to teach the content. You must decide what you will cover for that topic, and HOW.
· The presentations should provide ample opportunities for other students to discuss the issues.
· Presentations should be enhanced by the use of the Interactive whiteboard, and computers
· The presentation must demonstrate how the topic would be taught (in a lesson) to school-aged students. See the questions for each week.

Marking Criteria
The presentation will be marked according to the following criteria (Excellent, Good, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory):
· Provides evidence of wide reading.
· Demonstrates how to teach the content to school students, including aims/outcomes.
· Explains how the aims of the lesson would be achieved (eg. this is how I would teach it, and this is what I would expect the students to learn)
· Presenters interact with their (university) class, and provide ample opportunity for class discussion.
· Critically engages with the issues and dilemmas around the topic (you need to identify what these could be!)

Assignment 2: In-class analysis
Task Details
· Read the papers from Noel Pearson and Christine Nichols BEFORE you come to class.
· The two positions will be discussed, in groups, in class, on the day for 30 minutes
· You will then be asked, individually to write an analysis of about 700-900 words in length.

Marking Criteria
The paper will be marked on the following criteria (Excellent, Good, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory):
· Outlines the arguments advanced by Noel Pearson
· Outlines the arguments advanced by Christine Nichols
· Compares the two positions and clearly explains how they differ. Uses examples from the readings to demonstrate these differences.
· Justifies who holds the more convincing position. Uses examples to support this.
· Sustains a logical discussion of the issues
· Coherently structured text
· Fluently written
· Ideas are well communicated

Assignment 3: Research Essay or Excursion Plan or Interview

Option 1: Research Essay

Task Details
· Essay length 1500-2000 words (excluding references)
· Research should include links to the literature on educational theory and practice and may, in addition, include research collected from various groups, organisations or individuals
· Please use APA referencing procedures.

Marking Criteria
The paper will be marked on the following criteria (Excellent, Good, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory):
· Provides the historical context for these issues
· Shows evidence of wide reading and relevant research
· Critically analyses issues and provides examples to support arguments
· Draws conclusions, which are based on evidence
· Sustains a logical discussion of the issues
· Coherently structured text
· Fluently written
· Ideas are well communicated
· Accurate referencing
Option 2: Excursion Plan

Task Details

**Where:** Berry Island (end of Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft)

**Instructions:** Meet at grassy area at the end of Shirley Road, near toilets. Free parking along Shirley Road. It is 15 minutes walk from Wollstonecraft station to Berry Island.

**Bring:** a coat and umbrella

**What:** The guides will show you bush tucker on Berry Island, middens, rock engravings.

**Task:** Following your guided field trip to the Island, prepare a detailed plan and worksheet for an excursion to the site. Ask the guides as many questions as you can to help you design your excursion plan and worksheet.

**Note:** you cannot do this assignment if you do not attend the excursion.

Details:

- Excursion plan length 1500-2000 words (excluding references).
- The information provided must be based on the visit to Berry Island, and your research.
- Please use APA Referencing Procedures
- Specify the age and abilities of the intended excursion group. Clearly set out the specific and wider aims and objectives of the excursion. Consider knowledge, skills and attitudes.

You will need to include:

- the aims and outcomes of the excursion
- Information about the place – where, what is it?
- Significance of the place to Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal people
- Rationale: Why would you take students to Berry Island? Why would you include Aboriginal perspectives?
- What would be the duration?
- What resources would you provide for the students? (maps, illustrations, notes, other). Provide concrete examples.
- What resources are available at Berry Island? How would you use them?
Include activities (not worksheets). This should be interesting, NOT just a boring list of questions. An activity could be a game like survivor, a ‘search and find’, ‘plans for doco’ etc

Marking Criteria

The paper will be marked on the following criteria (Excellent, Good, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory):

- Attendance on the day
- Imagination, creativity and practicality of excursion plan, designed to engage and challenge students
- Shows evidence of understanding of ‘place’ to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities
- Includes creative and engaging worksheet
- Shows evidence of wide reading and relevant research
- Critiques the relevant literature
- Accurate referencing
- Sustains a logical discussion of the issues
- Coherently structured text
- Fluently written

Option 3: Personal Interview

Task Details:

Interview an Aboriginal person about his or her life.

- 1500-2000 words (excluding references)
- The information provided should be based on your interview and the analysis of data
- Research should include links to the literature on educational theory and practice and may in addition include research collected from various groups, organisations or individuals.
- Please use APA Referencing Procedures

Possible areas to cover:

- **Background:** place of birth, where did he or she grow up? family etc *(start with the facts)*
- **Working life:** what is important here?
- **Relationships**
Opinions and values – What does she or he believe in? What is important in his or her life? What drives this person in his or her life?

Try to identify some key issues during the interview and follow-up on these at the time.

Conclusion: What did you learn from the interviews about the person, and about yourself?

Once you have collected your information, you will need to decide how you will present it in writing. It will need to be more than just a description of someone’s life. **It will also need to include some reflection and analysis.** This means that you will need some explanation from your interviewee. Don’t be pushy, but you will need to ask some why questions like, why is that important to you? Why did you go down that road?

Note: Please include a contact number or address for the person interviewed.

References: Read other Aboriginal biographies in order to link your interviewee’s story to the lives of other Aboriginal people. This will help you to draw conclusions about their life.

These two books present the interview data as a whole:


The following author weaves the interview data into her own text:

Maddison S (2009). Black Politics: Inside the complexity of Aboriginal culture

The following text is about interviewing methodology. It shows you how to conduct an interview.


Marking Criteria

The paper will be marked on the following criteria (Excellent, Good, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory):

- Asks probing but sensitive questions (include these in your write-up as an appendix or throughout)
Identifies key areas of the interview data (eg, family) and develops these with the help of the literature

Draws conclusions about the interviewee’s life (what is important? Is there any ‘meaning’ here?)

Writing reflects an understanding of ‘interviewing methodology’

Reflects carefully on what has been learnt

## Unit Schedule

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>LECTURES</th>
<th>WORKSHOP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Darug: the traditional owners of the Sydney region</td>
<td>Administration and organisation of seminar presentations for the semester. Unit outlines, assessment requirements, essential readings, aims of the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The historical context</td>
<td>The Darug community (see lecture from week 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stolen Generations</td>
<td>Recognising our history</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>An overview of Aboriginal education</td>
<td>Stolen Generations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Teaching Aboriginal perspectives</td>
<td>Social and academic context of Aboriginal education</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Teaching ESL to Aboriginal students</td>
<td>Teaching Aboriginal perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Aboriginal education history</td>
<td>Strategies for teaching Aboriginal students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MID SEMESTER BREAK</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Excursion to Berry Island (Wollstonecraft)</td>
<td>Excursion to Berry Island (Wollstonecraft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Yarramundi Kids</td>
<td>Aboriginal education history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Working with parents and the community</td>
<td>Teaching Aboriginal languages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Special Consideration Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html]

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

12. Academic Honesty

The nature of scholarly endeavour, dependent as it is on the work of others, binds all members of the University community to abide by the principles of academic honesty.

Plagiarism is a matter of particular importance. Plagiarism is defined as using the work or ideas of another person and presenting this as your own without clear acknowledgement of the source of the work or ideas. This includes, but is not limited to, any of the following acts:

- copying out part(s) of any document or audio-visual material or computer code or website content without indicating their origins;
- using or extracting another person’s concepts, experimental results, or conclusions;
- summarising another person’s work;
- submitting substantially the same final version of any material as another student in an assignment where there was collaborative preparatory work;
- use of others (paid or otherwise) to conceive, research or write material submitted for assessment; and
- submitting the same or substantially the same piece of work for two different tasks (self-plagiarism).
A pdf of the University’s Academic Honesty Policy can be found at:
[www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.pdf]

Students should also familiarise themselves with the University's practices and procedures on plagiarism. These can be found in the *Handbook of Undergraduate Studies* or on the web at: http://www.student.mq.edu.au/plagiarism/

The policies and procedures explain what plagiarism is, how to avoid it, the procedures that will be taken in cases of suspected plagiarism, and the penalties if you are found guilty. Penalties may include a deduction of marks, failure in the unit, and/or referral to the University Discipline Committee.

### 13. UNIVERSITY POLICY ON GRADING

See the following link to Macquarie University Grading Policy: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

**CRITERIA FOR AWARDING GRADES FOR ASSESSMENT TASKS**

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the University Calendar. The following descriptive criteria are included for your information.

- **HD** (High Distinction): Your assignment meets all the assignment outcomes in such an exceptional way and with such marked excellence that it deserves the highest level of recognition.
- **D** (Distinction): Your assignment clearly deserves a very high level of recognition as an excellent achievement in the unit.
- **Cr** (Credit): Your assignment is substantially better than would normally be expected of competent students in the unit.
- **P** (Pass): Your assignment satisfies the assignment outcomes.
- **F** (Fail): Your assignment does not meet the stated assignment objectives and outcomes.

**NOTE:** Except where specified numerical marks will NOT be awarded for specific assessment. They will only be awarded with your final grade.

### 14. APPEALS AGAINST GRADES

University regulations allow for students to appeal a unit grade if they feel they have been disadvantaged.

Grading appeals can be lodged on the following grounds:
The unit coordinator did not provide the outline as required;
Assessment requirements as specified in the unit outline were varied in an unreasonable way;
A clerical error has occurred in the computation of the grade;
Due regard has not been paid to the evidence of illness or misadventure that was submitted by the specified date;
The student was disadvantaged in some way due to the conduct of the final examination; and
The examiner’s judgement was not objectively applied because of prejudice against the individual.

Appeals must be lodged on the appropriate university form. This can be accessed at:
http://www.registrar.mq.edu.au/academic-index.htm

15. THE MACQUARIE GATEWAY TO ACADEMIC LITERACY

The Macquarie Gateway to Academic Literacy is an interactive online course designed to help students improve their literacy and skills in writing. It can be accessed at: http://writinggateway.mq.edu.au

Part 1: Getting started: Writing at university
What makes writing ‘academic’, what tutors expect from assignments, dealing with time management and writing anxiety, and handy tips from students on assignment writing.

Part 2: Writing tutorials
Step by step tutorials in writing your paper from analysing the question to editing and proofreading. The tutorials include activity tasks for practice in each area, and a useful print out summary of the main points of each tutorial.

Part 3: Sample essays and report in different disciplines
Sample essays and reports with marker feedback and tutor comments on what tutors expect in assignment writing in your division, and how this can be achieved.

In addition to Macquarie Gateway, the University provides online and on-campus courses and counselling to help students improve their literacy skills details of which are available on the gateway site.

Macquarie Library information skills
InfoSkills gateway or to a specific module http://infoskills.mq.edu.au/

16. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at http://www.student.mq.edu.au.

Advice for students with disabilities/health conditions
The Equity Support Unit (ESU) provides support and assistance to students with a disability/health condition in aiming to ensure that they do not experience disadvantage in reaching their academic potential. Service provision is determined on a case-by-case basis following an assessment of a student’s needs and the provision of supporting documentation. Service provision is also dependent on the availability of resources.

To register with ESU, download an Advice of Disability/Health Condition form from www.registrar.mq.edu.au/academic-index.htm. This form must be completed annually, irrespective of whether a disability/health condition is temporary, long-term or permanent. Students wishing to request support services from the ESU should make an appointment to see a Disability Advisor immediately after enrolling at Macquarie University.

Contact persons:
Louella Freeman, Academic Disability Liaison Officer, School of Education,
Ph: 9850 8619

Sondra Wibberley, Disability Services Co-ordinator, Counselling & Health Services students with Disabilities. Student Services Building, Ph: 9850 7490

General contact details:
Tel: 02 9850 6494/7497 fax: 02 9850 6063 TTY: 02 9850 6493 email: equity@mq.edu.au

In person: Level 2, Lincoln Building (C8A), Macquarie University

Student Support
Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at: http://students.mq.edu.au/support/.

UniWISE provides:

- Online learning resources and academic skills workshops http://www.mq.edu.au/learning_skills/
- Personal assistance with your learning & study related questions.
- The Learning Help Desk is located in the Library foyer (level 2).
- Online and on-campus orientation events run by Mentors@Macquarie.

Student Enquiry Service
Details of these services can be accessed at http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/.
Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Support Unit who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

If you wish to receive IT help, we would be glad to assist you at http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help.

When using the university’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students and it outlines what can be done.

Graduate Capabilities

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 2) Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
- 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
- 4) Be able to talk about Aboriginal people living in contemporary Australia
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
- 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
- 8) Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives
- 10) Demonstrate and understanding of Aboriginal peoples in other countries

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 2) Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
- 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
- 4) Be able to talk about Aboriginal people living in contemporary Australia
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
- 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
- 8) Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives
- 10) Demonstrate and understanding of Aboriginal peoples in other countries

**Assessment tasks**

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
• 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
• 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
• 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
• 10) Demonstrate an understanding of Aboriginal peoples in other countries

Assessment task
• Assessment 3

Creative and Innovative
Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
• 4) Be able to talk about Aboriginal people living in contemporary Australia
• 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
• 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
• 8) Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives
• 10) Demonstrate and understanding of Aboriginal peoples in other countries

Assessment task
• Assessment 1

Effective Communication
We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 2) Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
- 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
- 4) Be able to talk about Aboriginal people living in contemporary Australia
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
- 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
- 8) Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation’s historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
- 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people

Assessment task

- Assessment 3
Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible
We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative
We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 2) Demonstrate the strategies that they can use to teach Aboriginal students
- 3) Demonstrate methods for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum K-12
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia
- 6) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of government policies and practices on Aboriginal people
- 8) Demonstrate cultural empathy and commitment to the teaching of Aboriginal histories, issues and perspectives

**Assessment tasks**

- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Commitment to Continuous Learning
Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they
participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 1) Be able to reflect on and interpret their own image of Aboriginal people
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and an appreciation of Aboriginal cultures in Australia