ANTH106
Drugs Across Cultures
S3 External 2015
Dept of Anthropology

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Disclaimer
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General Information

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Credit points
3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Using anthropological and ethnographic studies, this unit focuses mainly on the social and cultural contexts of drug use, both legal and illegal. This includes the economic and political factors influencing the production and distribution of drugs and the way in which these processes are enmeshed in a global economy. This unit also examines psychological theories of addiction and the neurology of drug use. Topics include: the international traffic in opium/heroin and cocaine in the Golden Triangle of mainland South–East Asia and in South America and the way this traffic intermeshes with regional politics and local tribal, peasant and commercial systems of production and exchange; the social history of drugs in the USA, UK and Australia; youth culture and drugs in the West; AIDS and intravenous drug use; addiction and treatment; drugs and the law; the global political economy of pharmaceuticals, particularly contraceptives, erectile dysfunction drugs, and antiretrovirals in the age of AIDS; and the placebo effect.

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

Discipline-Based Learning Outcomes

Generic Skills:
**General Assessment Information**

VERY IMPORTANT: It’s important that you allow others to learn for themselves. These are open-note quizzes, but the point of this assessment task is to give you the chance to familiarise yourself with the online quizzes, iLearn technology and the lecture material. That point is defeated if students share quiz answers. DO NOT discuss the quiz questions or post answers on the iLearn discussion board. Anyone who distributes quiz answers, whether through iLearn or any other print or electronic media, is in violation of the Academic Honesty Policy.

**RESEARCH ESSAY**

**SUBMISSION** You must submit your essay assignment through Turnitin.

Turnitin: Turnitin can be accessed through the link on the iLearn page for ANTH106. Please note that you cannot resubmit the same assignment twice, so please make sure that you do not make a mistake and submit an earlier draft to Turnitin, because it is not possible to undo this. Once you submit to Turnitin, you cannot withdraw what you have submitted.

Feedback: Your essays will be returned through the ANTH106 iLearn page, approximately two and a half weeks after submission date, except in the case of late submissions, which will be returned at the markers’ discretion. Your marker will write the feedback on your electronic submission through Grademark. Pay close attention to the feedback you get on your essay so that you can benefit from it when writing future essays.

**EXTENSIONS** Extensions must be requested in writing with valid documentation of their necessity (e.g. medical certificate) through the university’s disruption of studies procedure. See http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/Special%20Consideration.html for information about whether your circumstances qualify under the university’s policy and information on how to apply for disruption of studies. Any work which is submitted after the due date without an extension will be penalised at the rate of 2 percentage points per day.

The University recognises that at times an event or set of circumstances may occur that: • Could not have reasonably been anticipated, avoided or guarded against by the student AND • Was beyond the student’s control AND • Caused substantial disruption to the student’s capacity for effective study and/or completion of required work AND • Substantially interfered with the otherwise satisfactory completion of unit or program requirements AND • Was of at least three (3) consecutive days duration within a study period and/or prevented completion of a formal examination. In such circumstances, students may apply for Special Consideration. Special Consideration applications must be supported by evidence to demonstrate the verity of the circumstance(s) and that substantial disruption has been caused to the student’s capacity for effective study. Applying for disruptions of study consideration: The Disruptions of study application must be completed by the student and submitted online through www.ask.mq.edu.au. For an application to be valid, it must include all supporting evidence. For more information, see: http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Term Test</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>18/12/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Test</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Mid Term Test

Due: **18/12/15**  
Weighting: **30%**

This is a multiple-choice quiz of 30 questions. The quiz will examine your knowledge of prior lectures and the required lecture readings. You will have approximately 30 minutes to complete the quiz. The quiz will only be available online. The online quiz may be taken anytime from 9:00am to 11.29pm on the specified day, and accessed through iLearn. (The link will appear the day of the quiz.) The quiz is available all that day to accommodate multiple work schedules, but note: once you begin the quiz you have only 30 minutes to finish it, so make sure that you have 30 minutes uninterrupted and that you are at a computer with a reliable internet connection.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Discipline-Based Learning Outcomes

Research Essay

Due: **15/01/16**  
Weighting: **35%**

The 35% essay should be 1400-1500 words in length and should be submitted by the 15th of January, 2016 (11.59pm). You should provide a word count when you submit your essay. Please note: 1500 words is the absolute maximum word limit! You will be penalised by 1 percentage point for each 10 words that you exceed the 1500 word limit, so it is imperative that you make your points clearly and concisely. It is also imperative that your written expression is free of grammatical and spelling errors. We advise students who have significant writing problems to take a writing skills course (for further information see the Undergraduate Studies Handbook).

You are to submit your essay via a turnitin link that will be posted on ilearn.

For advice on essay writing see 'Writing Anthropological Essays' on the Anthropology Web site http://www.anth.mq.edu.au/ug_essaywriting.html and the essay assessment rubric in this unit outline. Topics and a list of resources will be handed out in Week 1. Essay topics and a list of reference sources will be placed on the Unit Homepage on iLearn.
Final Test
Due: 29/01/16
Weighting: 35%

This is a multiple-choice quiz of 35 questions. The quiz will examine your knowledge of prior lectures and the required lecture readings. You will have approximately 35 minutes to complete the quiz. The quiz will only be available online. The online quiz may be taken anytime from 9:00am to 11.24pm on the specified day, and accessed through iLearn. (The link will appear the day of the quiz.) The quiz is available all that day to accommodate multiple work schedules, but note: once you begin the quiz you have only 35 minutes to finish it, so make sure that you have 35 minutes uninterrupted and that you are at a computer with a reliable internet connection.

The quiz will focus on the readings and course content for weeks 3, 4 and 5. It will include, however, some questions from the midterm. This is a good thing! It means a few easy marks for you.

Delivery and Resources

All required and recommended readings are available on eReserve.

Attendance at the university is not required in this unit.

All lectures will be recorded on Echo (previously iLecture) and can be accessed via iLearn ilearn.mq.edu.au.

Listen to the recordings and study the associated lecture slides.

ESSENTIAL: REGULAR INTERNET ACCESS IS ESSENTIAL TO COMPLETE THIS COURSE!

It is YOUR responsibility to procure a reliable and accessible Internet connection throughout the semester. This will be essential for you to complete quizzes, submit assignments and obtain your readings. Lack of Internet access or an unreliable Internet connection will not be a valid excuse for incomplete assessments. The Unit Homepage can be accessed through iLearn. The iLearn page for this unit should be your first source of information about this unit. It is ESSENTIAL that you regularly check the iLearn page, forums and announcements, as these will be the main means of communication between you and your convener.

Lectures
Where: Online (on ilearn) Convenor and teaching staff Convenor: Dr Guy Threlfo Email: guy.threlfo@mq.edu.au Phone: 0481 511 687

Guest lecturers:

• Ms Lily Ainsworth, MRes Student, Macquarie University • Dr Paul Cohen, Associate Professor Emeritus, Anthropology Dept, Macquarie University • Professor Greg Downey, Associate Professor, Anthropology Dept, Macquarie University • Dr Sebastian Job, Anthropology Department, Sydney University • Professor Suzanne Fraser, Social Studies of Addiction Concepts Research Program, National Drug Research Institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University • Ms Niree Kraushaar, Psychology Department, Macquarie University • Dr Ross MacKenzie, Dept of Environment and Geography, Macquarie University • Dr James Martin, Centre for Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism, Macquarie University • Mr Jason Smith, Detective Inspector, Drug Squad, State Crime Command NSW Police Force • Mr Tony Trimingham, Founder and Director of the Family Drug Support Group • Dr Alex Wodak, President of the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation and former Director, Alcohol and Drug Services, St Vincent’s Hospital • Dr Lisa Wynn, Associate Professor, Anthropology Dept, Macquarie University

For general concerns

Name: Payel Ray, Anthropology Department administrator Email: payel.ray@scmp.mq.edu.au Phone: +61 2 9850 8077 Office: W6A 615

Unit Schedule

WEEK ONE LECTURES

Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and Anthropology (L. Wynn)

This is an introduction to the unit, the topics and lecturers, and the unit requirements. The introductory lecture begins with a review of the major categories of drugs and their effects and covers a brief history of drug use and drug policy.

Required Reading:


Additional References:


Hallucinogens (L. Wynn)

The hallucinogens lecture begins with a consideration of the religious and ritual context of the use of hallucinogens among indigenous peoples of North and South America, with particular
reference to shamanism. Among the specific issues discussed will be: the characteristics of shamanic trance-states, trance states and psychotherapy, the social functions of trance-states (e.g. diagnosis of illness). Then follows a discussion of hallucinogens in the West. During the 1940s and 1950s and increasing number of Westerners, including prominent intellectuals such as Aldous Huxley, began experimenting with hallucinogens by using them personally. Later, psychologists and scientists, such as Dr Timothy Leary, began extensive studies of the hallucinogenic experience. The qualities of the drug were so powerful, revealing what seemed an alternative reality, that their use quickly became a feature of the counterculture and alternative society of the 1960s and 1970s. However, connections between hallucinogens and mental illness were also proposed and the dangers of hallucinogenic experiences led to a rapid decline in their popularity. These issues are explored in the film Psychedelic Science.

Required Reading:


Additional references:

Huxley, A (1972) 'The Doors of Perception'. In The Doors of Perception and Heaven & Hell. London: Chatto & Windus, pp. 5-20.)


Cannabis (L. Wynn)

This lecture will explore the history of cannabis in Asia and the West – from its use for religious and medical purposes to its appropriation by literary and artistic circles – and examine the reasons for the shifting image of marijuana in Western countries, including the “gateway hypothesis.” Finally, debates over decriminalisation and legalisation will be examined.

Required Readings:


Additional references:


Patterns of Cannabis Use in Australia (1994), National Drug Strategy, Monograph No.27, Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service


Film: *Psychedelic Science* (NOT EXAMINABLE)

Available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEdxrHud5tE, this film documents the history of scientific research into psychedelic drugs: DMT, LSD and the newly rediscovered Ibogaine

**Tobacco and Shamanism (L. Wynn)**

This lecture will look at the pharmacology of the tobacco plant and the biochemistry of nicotine addiction. The biogeography of tobacco varieties in the New World reveals something of its earliest domestication and diffusion throughout the Americas, not as a drug of pleasure but as a sacred medicine, the use of which enable humans to visit and influence the Gods via a hallucinated ‘bridge of smoke’. Only fifty years after Columbus’ first voyage, tobacco was being smoked in the Portuguese royal court, and fifty years after that it was being traded and smoked around the world.

**Required Readings:**


**Additional References:**


**WEEK TWO LECTURES**

**Ethnographies of Drug Use (L. Wynn)**

Dr. Lisa Wynn examines how anthropologists have studied drug use. The lecture focuses on ethnographies of drugs use and highlights their value, particularly in relation to understanding the meaning of drug use in context. This lecture defines ‘ethnography’ and outlines ethnographic methods. Then follows an analysis of ethnographies of illicit drug use, such as those by Angela Burr, David Moore, Lisa Maher and Grund et al. This analysis highlights the value of drug use ethnographies, in particular the understanding of the meaning of drug use in context. The lecture also examines the contribution of ethnographies to an understanding of drug rituals and
symbolism and drug subcultures.

Required Reading:

Additional References:

Film: Coming of Age in Cabramatta (NOT EXAMINABLE)

The Drug Effect (S. Frazer)
What are drugs? What is addiction? These are key questions for understanding drug use and its implications, but the answers are often taken for granted. This lecture will explore both, introducing some useful concepts for thinking about drugs: neoliberal governmentality and social constructionism. How do western neoliberal values of individualism and rationality shape our responses to drug use? What does it mean to understand social problems as constructed, and how might this relate to ways of thinking about drugs, the law and health? This lecture will be delivered by Professor Suzanne Fraser (National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University), co-editor of The Drug Effect: Health, crime and Society.

Required Reading:

Additional Reference:
Seddon, T. (2011) 'Chapter 9: Court ordered treatment, neoliberalism and Homo economicus' in Suzanne Fraser and David Moore (eds). The Drug Effect:
Tears of Hope: A Family Perspective on Drugs (T. Trimingham)

The founder of Family Drug Support will provide a powerful personal account of drug addiction from the perspective of the family members of drug users. He will also talk about addiction treatment and drug policy.

Film: Ben: Diary of a Heroin Addict (NOT EXAMINABLE)

Available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7thZbHTvZIQ. Raised in a quiet, picturesque village Ben was a Boy Scout, loved cricket, played in the school orchestra and looked forward to the annual family holiday. But despite his privileged start in life Ben found himself on the road to ruin, injecting heroin up to four times a day. During his last months, Ben kept a video diary of his drug use and desperate attempts to come off heroin.

Essay-Writing Workshop M. Gold (NOT EXAMINABLE)

This lecture will guide you through the procedures to research, plan and write a good university essay. We will cover topics such as conducting research, referencing, structuring your essay and editing.

Political Economy of Tobacco (R. MacKenzie)

This lecture is about the broad health implications of smoking and the role of media in health policy and advocacy. Dr. MacKenzie will discuss his research on global trade liberalisation and the tobacco industry, primarily in SE Asia, looking at the growth of the globalisation of Western brands and consequences for lower- to middle income countries, consolidation of the tobacco industry, and smuggling.

Required Readings:


Additional references:


Epidemic: Some Future Scenarios.”


FILM: Tobacco Wars (NOT EXAMINABLE)

Available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iplzsMazQz4

Tobacco Wars is a comprehensive history of the cigarette, providing an indepth, balanced, and often shocking look at the tobacco industry. The series' three one-hour episodes are organized chronologically, from the advent of the cigarette through its ascension to one of the most profitable consumer products the world has ever seen. Via first person accounts and insider documentation, Tobacco Wars vividly portrays what the companies really knew about the link between smoking and disease, explains how mankind became seduced by such a dangerous product, provides a status report on Big Tobacco today, and looks towards the future of this most controversial of industries.

MIDTERM TEST - 18/12/15 - COVERING ALL REQUIRED (NOT ADDITIONAL) READING AND LECTURE CONTENT (NOT INCLUDING FILMS)

WEEK THREE

DMT and Ecological Consciousness (S. Job)

This lecture is an introduction to my ongoing research into the impact of psychoactive plants on ecological consciousness. Some westerners claim that 'plant teachers' like Ayahuasca, DMT and Salvia Divinorum can 'reconnect' us to nature, revealing our soul kinship with all living things. If this is in any way accurate it could be significant for future attempts to tackle environmental destruction and develop more biocentric societies. In this lecture I consider the culture of use of these plants in the West and evaluate the ecological claims made on their behalf.

Required Reading:


Ayahuasca tourism in Peru (L. Ainsworth)

Lily Ainsworth has just returned from doing research on tourists who go to Peru to experience ayahuasca. She'll talk about ayahuasca centres, what tourists learn there through their
psychedelic drug experiences, and their subsequent efforts to integrate what they’ve learned when they return home.

‘The Political Economy of Opiates’ (P. Cohen)

Guest lecturer Paul Cohen begins to examine the political economy of opiates in Asia, where he has conducted original ethnographic research. Professor Cohen outlines the history of opium in Asia with emphasis on the factors contributing to the growth of the Golden Triangle and Golden Crescent regions as the major sources of illicit opium production. The post World War II politics of opium in these regions will be analysed as well as the way in which local opium production and trade is linked to a global market in heroin. There will also be discussion of the social context of opium production and consumption by ‘hilltribe’ and peasant growers.

Required Readings:

Cohen, PT (2013) Symbolic dimensions of the anti-opium campaign in Laos, TAJA 24:177-192

Additional references:

B. Lintner (1993) The Politics of the Drug Trade in Burma, Indian Ocean Centre for Peace Studies, University of Western Australia.

Drug Symbolism (P. Cohen)
This lecture outlines theories of drug use in context, with emphasis on the way rituals and social sanctions operate in drug sub-cultures and the contribution of ethnography to understanding these processes. There will be some discussion of the symbolic analysis of drugs in relation to ‘drug problems’.

**Required Readings:**


**Additional references:**


**FILM: Raw Opium** Available at: http://vimeo.com/channels/mikefuller508033/64118843

“Raw Opium is a feature length documentary (and two-part TV series) about a commodity that has tremendous power – both to ease pain and to destroy lives. The opium poppy is the raw material for heroin, fueling a vast criminal trade larger than the economies of many countries. Raw Opium is a journey around the world and through time, where conflicting forces do battle over the narcotic sap of the opium poppy. From an opium master in southeast Asia to a UN drug enforcement officer on the border of Afghanistan hunting down the smugglers of central Asia; from a former Indian government Drug Czar and opium farmer to a crusading Vancouver doctor and Portuguese street worker who daily confront the realities of drug addiction. We see how this flower has played, and continues to play, a pivotal role – not just in the lives of people who grow, manufacture and use it – but also in the increasingly tense sphere of international relations. In the process, our assumptions about addiction and the War on Drugs are challenged.”– Raw Opium Website

**WEEK FOUR**

**Drug Law Reform (A. Wodak)**

This lecture reviews international drug policy and the legislative options available for dealing with illicit drugs. Following a consideration of current legislation regarding illicit drugs and some of their harms, the lecture considers the importance of a harm minimisation approach and what it entails. Our guest lecturer, Dr Alex Wodak, is one of the most prominent academics in drug research and policy in Australia.

**Required Readings:**


Additional References:


Drugs on the Digital Frontier (J. Martin)

This lecture examines the new generation of online illicit marketplaces, or cryptomarkets, that are increasingly facilitating the sale and distribution of illicit drugs. These websites have proliferated rapidly in recent years, with the most well known, Silk Road, closing under dramatic circumstances in late 2012. Questions we will be addressing in the lecture include: how does the sale and distribution of illicit drugs occur on the digital frontier? Are drugs distributed through cryptomarkets more or less harmful than those that reach consumers through conventional distribution networks?

Required Reading:


FILM: Coca Mama

Available at: Library Reserve (Will not be tested in this week’s quiz)

WEEK FOUR
‘Drug Pharmacology and Addiction’ and ‘Neuropharmacology’ (N. Kraushaar)

Niree Kraushaar of Macquarie’s Psychology Department will lecture on the pharmacology and neurobiology of drugs. She will examine how psychoactive drugs exert their effects on the central nervous system and discuss the neurotransmitters (or brain chemicals) including dopamine, serotonin, acetylcholine and GABA. She will also explore the difference between substance abuse and substance dependence (or addiction) and examine what properties of the drug determine its harm potential and whether there are any individual differences that make it more likely that a person will become addicted.

Required Readings:


Additional references:


‘Placebo Effect’ and ‘Ethics and Drug Trials’ (L. Wynn)

Lisa Wynn will describe how anthropologists, neurologists, and psychologists have studied the placebo effect and talk about the ethics of drug research. Numerous medical studies have illustrated how powerful placebos are. Placebos can cure a headache, ameliorate depression, and even induce a powerful high in drug addicts. Yet placebos are, by their very definition, inert. Therefore, it's not the placebo that's doing all these things. It's the meaning that we attribute to the placebo, and that is a complex blend of psychology and culture acting on physiology. In the first two hours of lecture, Dr Lisa Wynn will explore Moerman and Jonas's theory that the placebo effect is actually a meaning effect 29 and we will test the correlative theory, namely that sensory perception is determined by expectations, with a class experiment involving a blind wine tasting featuring special guest participants! Later in the lecture, she'll talk about the ethics of placebos in research and therapeutic use and the history and ethics of international drug trials.

Required Reading:


Additional reference:


‘A Law Enforcement Perspective’, ‘War on Drugs’ and ‘Cocaine’

1. A Law Enforcement Perspective on Drugs J. Smith Detective Inspector

Jason R. Smith will speak about law enforcement and how drugs are policed in NSW with a brief personal account of his history of working on the NSW drug squad.
2. War on Drugs

L. Wynn Dr Lisa Wynn takes a critical look at the U.S.-led 'War on Drugs' in South America and mainland Southeast Asia, examining first supply-side strategies and the reasons for the failure of these strategies, and then looking at the demand-reduction programs of the U.S. and international agencies that include crop replacement and community-based drug control.

Required Readings:


Additional References:


3. Cocaine (L. Wynn)

This lecture will discuss coca and cocaine in the Silver Triangle (Bolivia, Colombia, Peru) of South America. The lecture examines the traditional uses of coca and then examines the contemporary situation in which peasant production of coca has become enmeshed in a global economy.

Required Readings:


Additional references:


Recommended viewing:

Cocaine (DVD): “This compelling three-part series from filmmaker Angus Macqueen is a chilling journey from the coca fields, impoverished farmers and cocaine-makers of the Peruvian Andes to drug gangs in the favelas of Rio, and also to the law officials who are powerless to stop this illicit trade. Macqueen spent 18 months filming this extraordinary series in Latin America and it reveals different insight into the much-maligned world of cocaine production. From the dirt-poor valleys of Peru and the shanty towns of Rio, Macqueen talks to people behind the production of cocaine, to
explore the effect on the lives of the West's 'war on drugs'. He comes to the contentious and surprising conclusion that legalisation of the drug would solve the biggest of the current problems which are mostly due to the huge demand for it, ironically, from the West" --SBS website.

WEEK FIVE

Drugs as Reproductive Health Technologies

1. Steroids (G. Downey)

Guest lecturer Prof. Greg Downey from the Anthropology Department will talk about performance-enhancing drugs and their use in sports.

Required Readings:


2. Emergency Contraception (L. Wynn)

Dr Wynn will discuss her research on debates over access to emergency contraceptive pills (ECPs) in the United States and Australia. Though ECPs are not mind-altering drugs (they are just a higher dose of the same hormones found in regular oral contraceptive pills), it is striking how the American discourse surrounding them has tended to focus on many of the same concerns – one might say paranoias – that surround discourses about illegal drug use. Is it the association between these pills and sex that leads this pharmaceutical product to be imagined in the same way as mood-altering illegal drugs?

Required Readings


Additional references:


3. Erectile Dysfunction Drugs (L. Wynn)

Lisa Wynn will look at the history of the development of the erectile dysfunction drug sildenafil (Viagra) and how it is consumed cross culturally, with a comparison of the different ways that Viagra is imagined and used in Egypt, China, and the U.S. and the ways it has shaped popular understandings of masculinity and sexuality.

Required Readings:


Additional references:
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:

Academic Honesty Policy  http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html


Disruption to Studies Policy  http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.

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

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in iLearn, 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.

Student Support

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

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser
Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

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

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit 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.

Graduate Capabilities

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 outcome
  • Generic Skills:

Assessment task
  • Research Essay

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 outcome
  • Generic Skills:
Assessment task

- Research Essay

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 outcome

- Discipline-Based Learning Outcomes

Assessment tasks

- Mid Term Test
- Research Essay
- Final Test

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 outcome

- Generic Skills:

Assessment task

- Research Essay

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 outcome**

- Generic Skills:

**Assessment task**

- Research Essay

**Changes from Previous Offering**

The content of this course is taken from recordings of live lectures given at Macquarie University during semester 1, 2015. The assessment schedule for this summer session of Drugs Across Cultures has been altered in order to make it easier to complete a 13 week course in 5 weeks. You will hear several 'exam reviews' as part of the audio content for the lecture series. However, these reviews do not apply to the exams that you will sit in this course. Details for the multiple choice tests are contained in this course outline.