ANTH805
Race, Nation and Ethnicity
S1 Evening 2015

Dept of Anthropology

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Information</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Tasks</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery and Resources</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Schedule</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies and Procedures</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Capabilities</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Eve Vincent
eve.vincent@mq.edu.au
Contact via eve.vincent@mq.edu.au
W6A, 611
Thursday 4-6pm

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MGlobalHlthDevStud or GradCertGlobalHlthDevStud or MAppAnth or PGDipAppAnth or MDevCult or PGDipDevCult or PGCertDevCult or MIntRel or MPASR or PGDipPASR or PGCertPASR or GradDipPASR or GradDiplntRel or 4cp in ANTH units at 800 level

Corequisites

Co-badged status
ANTH705

Unit description
This unit examines the changes that have occurred in the nation-state's understanding and management of migration. How does public policy seek both to integrate migrants and respect their cultural and class differences? What does racism mean in the contemporary global era? How might social exclusion be prevented? The unit relates these problems (and others) to changing theoretical viewpoints in anthropological analysis, particularly the rise of the transnationalist perspective. Two main issues of policy relevance are addressed: the methodological nationalism of social sciences that underpins migration management, and the uses of 'culture' in discourses on integration.

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

1. Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.
2. Evaluate and question the claims about culture, race, and ethnicity made in the media, by governments, and other public sources.

3. Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.

4. Demonstrate the ability to design, and conduct a social research project on an 'ethnic' community in Sydney, and communicate research findings in oral and written forms.

5. Understanding the ways questions of race and ethnicity intersect in complex ways with issues of identity, agency, gender, sexuality, commodification and conflict.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Facilitation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnographic Research</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Friday June 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Friday April 24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Tutorial Participation**

Due: Various
Weighting: 10%

Each student is expected to actively participate in the weekly seminar discussions. Seminar attendance and participation is mandatory; please email in advance if you are unable to make the class for reasons beyond your control. Students are expected to be active participants and demonstrate that they have actively engaged with the readings. Participation also means contributing to a general atmosphere of critical inquiry, showing respect for others' opinions, and listening and responding to the contributions of others. If you are having trouble speaking up in class discussion, please come to speak with me and together we can strategise ways to facilitate your contribution. One suggestion is to take notes on what you read and to write out questions or comments in advance. It is especially useful to bring areas of confusion to the seminar, as these can be clarified through our discussions.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.
- Evaluate and question the claims about culture, race, and ethnicity made in the media, by governments, and other public sources.
- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/
Seminar Facilitation

Due: Various  
Weighting: 10%

Each student (or pair of students) is responsible for leading one seminar discussion during the semester. This is an opportunity to facilitate a class discussion - the object is to find ways to stimulate discussion and draw out your fellow classmates, rather than to spend the hour talking. Prepare for the task of facilitation by carefully reading the required readings (and consult any available recommended readings as needed), critically summarising them (identifying the central arguments, for example), clarifying unfamiliar themes or ideas, and raising points for general discussion. Think about the kinds of questions you might pose: choose questions that are not overly theoretical or tricky: what you want is to get people talking, the ideas can become more complex as the discussion develops. Creativity is definitely a plus: feel free to use techniques such as debates, role-play, film clips, etc.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.
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- Understanding the ways questions of race and ethnicity intersect in complex ways with issues of identity, agency, gender, sexuality, commodification and conflict.

Ethnographic Research

Due: Friday June 12  
Weighting: 40%

Over the semester, students will conduct a series of non-intrusive ethnographic observations in an 'ethnic' community or suburb in the Sydney region, and then produce an analysis of these observations. You will be responsible for finding a community and/or location for research. For example, Lakemba is a community that has received a great deal of media attention and occupies an interesting place in Sydney's social geography and imagination. This research project will culminate in a paper (between 2,000 and 2,500 words) that integrates your observations and experiences, an analysis of media and public discourse, demographic and historical details, and supporting literature and theory. The ultimate theme of your paper will depend on your community, the direction of your ethnographic gaze, and the types of
participation and observations conducted. You might focus on themes such as food, the use of space, media discourse, ethnic identity, community relations, immigrant issues, and community services.

We will discuss the project throughout the semester. You will be required to draw on many of the fundamentals of conducting ethnographic research (writing fieldnotes, creating maps, participating in activities, gathering demographic and historical data), short of organising formal interviews with community members. A separate document in iLearn will offer further guidance and get you started. In Week 13 we will share the results of this research in an informal session.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Evaluate and question the claims about culture, race, and ethnicity made in the media, by governments, and other public sources.
- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.
- Demonstrate the ability to design, and conduct a social research project on an 'ethnic' community in Sydney, and communicate research findings in oral and written forms.

**Essay**

Due: **Friday April 24**  
Weighting: **40%**

Students will write a research essay of no more than 3,000 words (not including the bibliography) addressing one or more of the themes of the unit. Essay questions will be circulated in Week 3. A detailed description of this assessment task and a marking rubric will be provided.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.
- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.
- Understanding the ways questions of race and ethnicity intersect in complex ways with issues of identity, agency, gender, sexuality, commodification and conflict.

**Delivery and Resources**

All required readings are available in your iLearn.

**Unit Schedule**

**Week 1: Thursday February 26**
Race, colonialism, and ethnicity: course introduction

Readings: For our first class please select one of the following readings and we will go over them together in class.


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Week 2: Thursday March 5

Imagined communities: the nation and nationalism

Readings


Second reading either:


Extended reading:

- Abu-Lughod, L. Finding a Place for Islam: Egyptian Television Serials and the National
**Week 3: Thursday March 12**

**Indigeneity and the state in an age of globalisation**

**Readings:**


**Extended Reading:**


**Week 4: March 19**

**Migration, transnationalism and the immigration experience**

**Readings:**


**Extended reading:**

- Levitt, P. and Lamb-Nieves, D. Social Remittances Reconsidered, *Journal of Ethnic and
**Week 5: Thursday March 26**

**Theorising and living multiculturalism**

**Readings:**


**Extended readings:**


**Week 6: Thursday April 2**

**Refugees and asylum seekers**

**Readings**


**Extended reading:**

Week 7: Thursday April 23

**Whiteness, ‘privilege’ and power**


**Extended Reading:**


* 

Week 8: Thursday April 30

**Abject Citizenship**

Guest lecturer: Dr Kate Hepworth

Readings:

TBA

* 

Week 9: Thursday May 7

**Gender, Sex, and Nationalism**

Readings:


3. Nagel, J. Sex and Nationalism: Sexually Imagined Communities. In *Race, Ethnicity, and...*
**Week 10: Thursday May 14**

**The commodification of ethnicity?**

**Readings:**


**Week 11: reading week**

**Week 12: Thursday May 28**

**Race ‘riots’?**


**Week 13: Thursday June 4**

Presentation of findings of ethnographic research project.

**Policies and Procedures**

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


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/](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/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://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/](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

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.
• Evaluate and question the claims about culture, race, and ethnicity made in the media, by governments, and other public sources.
• Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.
• Understanding the ways questions of race and ethnicity intersect in complex ways with issues of identity, agency, gender, sexuality, commodification and conflict.

Assessment tasks

• Ethnographic Research
• Essay

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

• Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.

Assessment tasks

• Tutorial Participation
• Seminar Facilitation
• Ethnographic Research
PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Analyse and discuss anthropological and scholarly literature on subjects relating to the themes of ethnicity, migration, and nationalism.
- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.
- Understanding the ways questions of race and ethnicity intersect in complex ways with issues of identity, agency, gender, sexuality, commodification and conflict.

**Assessment tasks**

- Tutorial Participation
- Seminar Facilitation
- Ethnographic Research
- Essay

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.
- Demonstrate the ability to design, and conduct a social research project on an 'ethnic' community in Sydney, and communicate research findings in oral and written forms.

**Assessment tasks**

- Ethnographic Research
- Essay
PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Evaluate and question the claims about culture, race, and ethnicity made in the media, by governments, and other public sources.
- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.

**Assessment task**

- Ethnographic Research

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Evaluate and question the claims about culture, race, and ethnicity made in the media, by governments, and other public sources.
- Apply anthropological perspectives and knowledge to issues concerning immigration/migration, asylum seeking and related transnational phenomenon and concerns.
- Demonstrate the ability to design, and conduct a social research project on an 'ethnic' community in Sydney, and communicate research findings in oral and written forms.

**Assessment task**

- Ethnographic Research