UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2249 Environmental Philosophy - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2249
Year : 2024
Term : Term 1
Teaching Period : T1
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture
Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

<u>Useful Links</u>

<u>Handbook</u> <u>Class Timetable</u>

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course examines influential theories of nature and the environment in philosophy and a range of interdisciplinary writings, from Aristotle to the present. The course explores the following questions: Is there a connection between how nature has been conceived in

philosophy and science and the current environmental crisis? Is the notion of nature still a meaningful term in the Anthropocene? What is the difference between 'nature' and 'culture'? How should humans understand their relationship to 'nature'?

These questions will be addressed from a range of perspectives, such as: Phenomenology, Critical Theory, German Romanticism, environmental ethics, Ecofeminism, contemporary thought and non-Western approaches. Drawing on these diverse traditions, the course examines possible alternatives for understanding the human-nature divide.

Course Aims
Broadly conceived the course aims to:

1. Examine the differences between various significant philosophical accounts of nature and the environment.
2. Present a broad understanding of different theoretical and philosophical assessments of environmental problems.
3. Critically evaluate the ways in which different theoretical approaches may lead to different environmental practices.
4. Explore the complex relationships between personal, social, and cultural practices and the environment.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Evaluate the merits and limitations of key approaches to Environmental Philosophy
CLO2 : Critically appraise the relevance of historical and contemporary approaches to nature and the environment to the contemporary context
CLO3 : Assess different key approaches to nature and the environment in philosophy and contemporary environmental thought
CLO4 : Showcase key theoretical inquiry skills of the humanities through critical analysis, textual interpretation, argument, and written expression

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Evaluate the merits and limitations of key approaches to Environmental Philosophy	• Short essay • Research portfolio • Essay
CLO2 : Critically appraise the relevance of historical and contemporary approaches to nature and the environment to the contemporary context	• Essay
CLO3 : Assess different key approaches to nature and the environment in philosophy and contemporary environmental thought	• Research portfolio • Essay
CLO4 : Showcase key theoretical inquiry skills of the humanities through critical analysis, textual interpretation, argument, and written expression	• Short essay • Research portfolio • Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

See course Moodle page for details

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Short essay	25%	Due Date: 18/03/2024 11:59 PM
Research portfolio	25%	Due Date: 19/04/2024 11:59 PM
Essay	50%	Due Date: 24/04/2024 12:00 AM

Assessment Details
Short essay

Assessment Overview

This is a short essay, completed within the first five weeks of the course that is primarily a close reading exercise of an important work in environmental thought.

Feedback is written and/or marking sheet or rubric.

Length 1200 words

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate the merits and limitations of key approaches to Environmental Philosophy
- CLO4 : Showcase key theoretical inquiry skills of the humanities through critical analysis, textual interpretation, argument, and written expression

Detailed Assessment Description

Detailed instructions will be available on Moodle

Questions will be available in week 2

Assessment Length

1200 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Research portfolio

Assessment Overview

A research portfolio where students address issues and questions from their weekly readings for the course. The portfolio is a record of students' preparation for class each week.

Students will write as a minimum 6 x 300-word reading summaries and textual analysis as well as a 200-word reflection on the research portfolio itself.

The written form of the portfolio is less formal than an essay and may be a mix of prose and bullet points.

This portfolio requires students to reflect on their own learning in the course and how

assessment tasks, including the research portfolio itself, may contribute to this.

Feedback is written and/or oral.

Length is approx. 2000 words

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate the merits and limitations of key approaches to Environmental Philosophy
- CLO3 : Assess different key approaches to nature and the environment in philosophy and contemporary environmental thought
- CLO4 : Showcase key theoretical inquiry skills of the humanities through critical analysis, textual interpretation, argument, and written expression

Detailed Assessment Description

Detailed instructions will be available on Moodle

Assessment Length

2000 words Minimum

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Essay

Assessment Overview

This is the final assessment task for attendance purposes. Feedback is written comments and or a marking sheet

Major essay on a key figure or theme in the course.

2200 words

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate the merits and limitations of key approaches to Environmental Philosophy
- CLO2 : Critically appraise the relevance of historical and contemporary approaches to nature and the environment to the contemporary context
- CLO3 : Assess different key approaches to nature and the environment in philosophy and contemporary environmental thought
- CLO4 : Showcase key theoretical inquiry skills of the humanities through critical analysis, textual interpretation, argument, and written expression

Detailed Assessment Description

Detailed instructions will be available on Moodle

Assessment Length

2200 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

General Assessment Information

See course Moodle page for details

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

achieve a grade of 50% fo your final grade

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Lecture	The Disenchantment of Nature for readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Lecture	Deep Ecology and Leopold's Land Ethic for readings and further information see course outline
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Lecture	Anthropocentrism and what it is to be human in the Anthropocene for readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	Alienation from Nature for readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Sexual Politics and the Environment For readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Other	No Class — Flex week
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Modernity, Technology and the Philosophy of the Locale for readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Film Screening of Warner Herzog's Grizzly Man Further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	After the End of Nature for readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Lecture	Nature and Responsibility for readings and further information see moodle lecture outline and reading list

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes. On-line enrolled students are welcome to attend the in person lectures.

Students must attend at least 5 of the 9 tutorials in the course. If this minimum requirement is not met, students may fail the course.

- Align with the course learning outcomes;
- Result in a recorded artefact (an artefact for participation may include a post, or response, to an online discussion forum, poll or quiz, when an artefact for mandatory attendance may include a record of attendance) and have processes in place for recording the student artefact;
- Where relevant, include evidence that the attendance or participation is required to meet a statutory or professional body requirement; and

- Be comparable where the activity is delivered in different modes.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

See Moodle page for details

Recommended Resources

See Moodle page for details

Course Evaluation and Development

Feedback for this course will be gathered informally throughout its duration, and formally at the end via myExperience. I am always keen to hear from you what works and what does not, especially as this is a new course. Do not hesitate to contact me with any comments or queries.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Simon Lumsden		Morven Brown Rm 335	02 9065 9747	TBA see Moodle page	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;

- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your

study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on

Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request Special Consideration as early as possible before the deadline. Support with Time Management is available here.

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, Room 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm