



UNSW Course Outline

ZPEM4205 Human Geography Honours Special Topic - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ZPEM4205

Year : 2024

Term : Semester 1

Teaching Period : Z1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : UNSW Canberra

Academic Unit : UC Science

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : UNSW Canberra at ADFA

Campus : UNSW Canberra

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 9

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This 9 UOC course comprises part of the coursework requirement for the ZHSSGH Human Geography stream in 4511 B Arts (Honours).

Its topic is tailored to the interests and project(s) of the enrolled student(s).

Course Aims

To critically analyse the theoretical underpinnings of human geography by exploring ideas and debates in recent continental philosophy and social, cultural and political theory, focussing in particular on the nature of *events*, different forms of *subjectivity*, the meaning of *politics* today, and the interrelation of these themes with the concepts and dynamics of *spatial concepts* within the social sciences.

Relationship to Other Courses

This course forms part of the coursework component for Human Geography Honours.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Evaluate major theoretical approaches in continental philosophy used in to inform debate in human geography
CL02 : Analyse the major theoretical frameworks underpinning recent knowledge production in human geography and the wider social sciences (empirics, knowledge claims and their social scientific implications).
CL03 : Apply philosophical concepts in order to situate debates within contemporary research themes within the wider social sciences.
CL04 : Synthesise differing perspectives of philosophical research in evaluating knowledge claims within interdisciplinary research within the social sciences.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Evaluate major theoretical approaches in continental philosophy used in to inform debate in human geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Summaries • Work in Progress Presentation • Research Essay
CL02 : Analyse the major theoretical frameworks underpinning recent knowledge production in human geography and the wider social sciences (empirics, knowledge claims and their social scientific implications).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Summaries
CL03 : Apply philosophical concepts in order to situate debates within contemporary research themes within the wider social sciences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in Progress Presentation • Research Essay • Research Summaries
CL04 : Synthesise differing perspectives of philosophical research in evaluating knowledge claims within interdisciplinary research within the social sciences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in Progress Presentation • Research Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Student-centred learning is a key component of the teaching philosophy for honours. Students will be provided with the support that encourages self-directed learning, but they will be required to work independently. Usually, they will meet weekly with their supervisor, to develop a reading schedule, plan potential fieldwork sites, discuss conceptual and methodological literatures and gaps in the discipline, and receive feedback on their preliminary ideas and appraisals of the

literature. The meeting frequency may alter, dependent on the requirements of the student and the stage of their thesis planning.

Additional Course Information

Students are expected to attend the weekly ‘Non-Representational Theory’ reading group, hosted by the Cultural Geography group in the School of Science. A more detailed Course Schedule of reading groups and tutorials will be provided in the first supervision meeting in Week 1.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research Summaries	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 5: 25 March - 29 March, Week 8: 29 April - 03 May, Week 12: 27 May - 31 May
Work in Progress Presentation	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 07/06/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 14/06/2024 11:30 PM
Research Essay	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 09/06/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 16/06/2024 11:30 PM

Assessment Details

Research Summaries

Assessment Overview

Students are required to attend a weekly research reading group throughout the 13 week course where you will encounter at least four different philosophical/social theoretical texts. The assignment for this part of the course involves writing three 1000 word research summaries that will develop your understanding of key concepts underpinning recent social scientific debate: for example, subjectivity, the event, ethico-aesthetics, micro-politics, affect. The summaries will be assessed on how they demonstrate students' understanding of the way that the knowledge produced in contemporary geographical research helps society to understand what shapes our social and economic, cultural and political, and artistic and scientific futures. Short “summaries” enable students to present an argument (ie. a series of related premises arranged to support a conclusion) in a succinct and reflective manner. Students will receive written feedback through Turnitin, no later than one week after submission, on their capacity to grasp the salient arguments of the texts, including the challenges these arguments provide to competing

philosophical traditions and the succinctness and clarity of their expression.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate major theoretical approaches in continental philosophy used in to inform debate in human geography
- CLO2 : Analyse the major theoretical frameworks underpinning recent knowledge production in human geography and the wider social sciences (empirics, knowledge claims and their social scientific implications).
- CLO3 : Apply philosophical concepts in order to situate debates within contemporary research themes within the wider social sciences.

Assessment Length

3 x 1,000 words

Assessment information

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) - such as ChatGPT - in UNSW Assessments

PLANNING ASSISTANCE: As this assessment task involves some planning or creative processes, you are permitted to use software to generate initial ideas. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., only occasional AI generated words or phrases may form part of your final submission. It is a good idea to keep copies of the initial prompts to show your lecturer if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If the outputs of generative AI such as ChatGPT form a part of your submission, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension and exclusion.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Work in Progress Presentation

Assessment Overview

Students will give a 15 min class presentation outlining the arguments you are going to make in response to the research essay question you have chosen to undertake. This will enable students to get feedback ahead of the main essay assignment and prepare you for future conference style presentations.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Evaluate major theoretical approaches in continental philosophy used in to inform debate in human geography
- CL03 : Apply philosophical concepts in order to situate debates within contemporary research themes within the wider social sciences.
- CL04 : Synthesise differing perspectives of philosophical research in evaluating knowledge claims within interdisciplinary research within the social sciences.

Detailed Assessment Description

Students are also expected to lead group discussion on a chosen set of literature following their presentation, and will be examined on whether they have demonstrated the ability to synthesise and focus thematic ideas from disciplinary debates, drawing out the main arguments and counterarguments, and identifying key questions to lead discussion.

Assessment Length

15 minute presentation, plus 30 mins of informal discussion

Assessment information

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Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Research Essay

Assessment Overview

Taking any two of the key philosophical/theoretical texts we have studied this semester, and discuss the similarities and differences in how they rethink the question of problematization with reference to one of the key concepts discussed throughout the course. Written feedback will be

provided no later than 2 weeks after submission, via Turnitin, and will assess student's clarity of argument, original inflections of debate and clarity and flair of expression.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Evaluate major theoretical approaches in continental philosophy used in to inform debate in human geography
- CL03 : Apply philosophical concepts in order to situate debates within contemporary research themes within the wider social sciences.
- CL04 : Synthesise differing perspectives of philosophical research in evaluating knowledge claims within interdisciplinary research within the social sciences.

Detailed Assessment Description

This essay brings a critical eye to the literature to determine which arguments and problems are germane to the disciplinary debate chosen. Students are assessed on their ability to bring together different arguments and perspectives demonstrating the analytical skills to evaluate both the affinities and differences of various theoretical approaches. Students will also be assessed on their ability to situate their argument within scholarly and disciplinary debates.

Assessment Length

4,500 words

Assessment information

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PLANNING ASSISTANCE: As this assessment task involves some planning or creative processes, you are permitted to use software to generate initial ideas. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., only occasional AI generated words or phrases may form part of your final submission. It is a good idea to keep copies of the initial prompts to show your lecturer if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If the outputs of generative AI such as ChatGPT form a part of your submission, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension and exclusion.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

General Assessment Information

All marks obtained for assessment items during the session are provisional. The final mark as published by the university following the assessment review group meeting is **the only official mark**.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

The assessment for the course has been designed so that an overall mark of 50% or greater indicates that the student has unambiguously demonstrated satisfactory completion of each learning outcome. For this reason, and consistent with the UNSW policy of abolishing the pass conceded grade, students who receive less than 50% overall for the course will receive a fail grade.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 26 February - 1 March	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 2 : 4 March - 8 March	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 3 : 11 March - 15 March	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 4 : 18 March - 22 March	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 5 : 25 March - 29 March	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 6 : 1 April - 5 April	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 7 : 22 April - 26 April	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 8 : 29 April - 3 May	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 9 : 6 May - 10 May	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 10 : 13 May - 17 May	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 11 : 20 May - 24 May	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 12 : 27 May - 31 May	Seminar	Reading Group
Week 13 : 3 June - 7 June	Seminar	Reading Group

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

There are no specific textbooks for Science Honours Research. Instead, students are expected to work closely with their supervisors to develop an independent and scholarly relationship with the

latest geographical literatures.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Tom Roberts					No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Course Evaluation and Development

One of the key priorities in the 2025 Strategy for UNSW is a drive for academic excellence in education. One of the ways of determining how well UNSW is progressing towards this goal is by listening to our own students. Students will be asked to complete the myExperience survey towards the end of each course.

Students can also provide feedback during the semester via: direct contact with the lecturer, the “On-going Student Feedback” link in Moodle, Student-Staff Liaison Committee meetings in schools, informal feedback conducted by staff, and focus groups (where applicable). Student opinions really do make a difference. Refer to the Moodle site for your course to see how the feedback from previous students has contributed to the course development.

Important note: Students are reminded that any feedback provided should be constructive and professional and that they are bound by the Student Code of Conduct.

<https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentcodepolicy.pdf>

Equitable Learning Services (ELS)

Students living with neurodivergent, physical and/or mental health conditions or caring for someone with these conditions may be eligible for support through the Equitable Learning Services team. Equitable Learning Services is a free and confidential service that provides practical support to ensure your mental or physical health conditions do not adversely affect your studies.

Our team of dedicated **Equitable Learning Facilitators (ELFs)** are here to assist you through this

process. We offer a number of services to make your education at UNSW easier and more equitable.

Further information about ELS for currently enrolled students can be found at: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/equitable-learning>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

UNSW has an ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of learning informed by academic integrity. All UNSW staff and students have a responsibility to adhere to this principle of academic integrity. All students are expected to adhere to UNSW's Student Code of Conduct. Find relevant information at: [Student Code of Conduct \(unsw.edu.au\)](https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/student-code-of-conduct)

Plagiarism undermines academic integrity and is not tolerated at UNSW. It is defined as using the words or ideas of others and passing them off as your own, and can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidental copying from a source without acknowledgement.

For more information, please refer to the following:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Special Consideration

Special Consideration is the process for assessing and addressing the impact on students of short-term events, that are beyond the control of the student, and that affect performance in a specific assessment task or tasks.

Applications for Special Consideration will be accepted in the following circumstances only:

- Where academic work has been hampered to a substantial degree by illness or other cause;
- The circumstances are unexpected and beyond the student's control;
- The circumstances could not have reasonably been anticipated, avoided or guarded against by the student; and either:
 - (i) they occurred during a critical study period and was 3 consecutive days or more duration, or a total of 5 days within the critical study period; or
 - (ii) they prevented the ability to complete, attend or submit an assessment task for a

specific date (e.g. final exam, in class test/quiz, in class presentation)

Applications for Special Consideration must be made as soon as practicable after the problem occurs and at the latest within three working days of the assessment or the period covered by the supporting documentation.

By sitting or submitting the assessment task the student is declaring that they are fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration (UNSW 'fit to sit or submit' requirement).

Sitting, accessing or submitting an assessment task on the scheduled assessment date, after applying for special consideration, renders the special consideration application void.

Find more information about special consideration at: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/special/consideration/guide>

Or apply for special consideration through your [MyUNSW portal](#).

Late Submission of assessment tasks (other than examinations)

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per day,
- capped at five 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 extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Electronic submission of assessment

Except where the nature of an assessment task precludes its electronic submission, all assessments must be submitted to an electronic repository, approved by UNSW or the Faculty, for archiving and subsequent marking and analysis.

Release of final mark

All marks obtained for assessment items during the session are provisional. The final mark as published by the university following the assessment review group meeting is the only official mark.