



UNSW Course Outline

BENV7307 Writing the City - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : BENV7307

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Built Environment

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Democracy hinges on the principle of popular debate, and questions of demotic engagement in the shaping of the built environment are more topical, and more controversial, than ever. Yet fewer and fewer newspapers (and almost no broadcast media) employ architecture critics in any form or role. Where criticism does happen, further, it is generally relegated to the 'arts' pages or

time-slots, effectively minimizing its exposure and greatly narrowing its demographic.

This course aims to give you an understanding of the different genres of architectural and urban writing, differentiating according to purpose, style, audience and lexicon. It aims to impart an understanding of how words are used in shaping cities, how media and publishing work in relation to the built environment and some of the essential skills in producing publication-quality text.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Discuss the various forms of architectural and urban writing.
CLO2 : Explain the roles of different media, genres and players in the culture-building and city-building process.
CLO3 : Prepare publication-quality text across genres of architectural and urban writing.
CLO4 : Create new work that demonstrates a capacity to analyse, evaluate, articulate and synthesise complex ideas and concepts about the concepts, patterns and evolution of architectural and urban fabric as coherent written text.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Discuss the various forms of architectural and urban writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-class Writing Exercises
CLO2 : Explain the roles of different media, genres and players in the culture-building and city-building process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memory, Identity, Space• In-class Writing Exercises
CLO3 : Prepare publication-quality text across genres of architectural and urban writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place as Character• Memory, Identity, Space• In-class Writing Exercises
CLO4 : Create new work that demonstrates a capacity to analyse, evaluate, articulate and synthesise complex ideas and concepts about the concepts, patterns and evolution of architectural and urban fabric as coherent written text.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place as Character• Memory, Identity, Space

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Active Learning: by engaging in dialogue, challenging enquiry and active listening you will be encouraged to take on the responsibility of learning.

Experiential Learning: through workshops, field trips and hands-on textual generation you will be expected to experience and engage with architecture, then analyse and articulate your own response within a theoretical frame.

Collaborative learning: some students may elect to undertake Assessment 3 as a team, but collaborative learning will also take place in the workshop sessions where we will collectively analyse written texts, including each others'.

Communication: Moodle (Learning Management System) will be used for housekeeping announcements and other course related information. It is vital that you subscribe to the forums, you check and read your UNSW email and participate in online discussions. Discussion forums are available for students to share ideas, post questions and even answer those of your peers.

Additional Course Information

In Writing the City, you will be expected to display a reasonable level of literacy, to read widely and with curiosity, and to participate actively in all class activities.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
In-class Writing Exercises Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Due Date: Weekly exercises completed in class time
Place as Character Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Due Date: Week 7: 21 October - 27 October
Memory, Identity, Space Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 10: 11 November - 17 November

Assessment Details

In-class Writing Exercises

Assessment Overview

You will complete in-class writing tasks covering various architectural and urban writing genres.

Grading will be done on a satisfactory and unsatisfactory basis. Verbal feedback will be provided in class.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Discuss the various forms of architectural and urban writing.
- CLO2 : Explain the roles of different media, genres and players in the culture-building and city-building process.
- CLO3 : Prepare publication-quality text across genres of architectural and urban writing.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Place as Character

Assessment Overview

You will select a familiar place in a town or city and write short descriptions or evocations of this place as a setting for some fictional event. Grading will be done against assessment criteria, accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO3 : Prepare publication-quality text across genres of architectural and urban writing.
- CLO4 : Create new work that demonstrates a capacity to analyse, evaluate, articulate and synthesise complex ideas and concepts about the concepts, patterns and evolution of architectural and urban fabric as coherent written text.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Memory, Identity, Space

Assessment Overview

You will write a short opinion piece on one of the course topics. Grading will be done against assessment criteria, accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Explain the roles of different media, genres and players in the culture-building and city-building process.
- CLO3 : Prepare publication-quality text across genres of architectural and urban writing.
- CLO4 : Create new work that demonstrates a capacity to analyse, evaluate, articulate and synthesise complex ideas and concepts about the concepts, patterns and evolution of architectural and urban fabric as coherent written text.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

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General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Solid & Void: what is a city?
	Tutorial	Discussion: what is a city? Assessments 1 and 2 introduced.
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Criticism: why dissent matters
	Tutorial	Group discussion on dissent and criticism. Initial thoughts for site selection for Assessment 2.
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Meaning Creation: meaning and urban form
	Tutorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forum: what is meaning?• Writing exercise: what are cities for?
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Truth & the City: authenticity in three dimensions
	Tutorial	Student presentations of initial ideas for Assessment 2
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Beauty: function versus aesthetics
	Tutorial	Guest presentation
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Other	Flexibility Week - no scheduled class meeting this week
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Politics and the Polis: how words shape cities
	Tutorial	Guest presentation
	Assessment	Assessment 2 due this week
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Case study: East Circular Quay
	Tutorial	Guest presentation
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Case study: Seidler and Sydney
	Tutorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion: Is Sydney the world's worst planned city?• Writing exercise: the pitch
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Gender and the City: modernism, masculinism and collective space
	Presentation	Presentations of Assessment 3

Attendance Requirements

You are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes for the School of Built Environment courses in which you are enrolled. If and where individual courses have specific attendance requirements, these will be stated in the course outline.

If you do not attend, engage, or participate in scheduled class activities, including lectures, tutorials, studios, labs, etc, you run the risk of failing a course.

If illness or unexpected and beyond your control circumstances prevent you from completing a task on time, or substantially disturb your assessment performance, you should apply for [Special Consideration](#), as soon as practicable, accompanied by appropriate documentation.

No special consideration will be provided if you miss out on essential course information and materials, or if you miss assessment tasks and deadlines due to unexplained absences or an unapproved lack of attendance.

You may be advised by the Course Convenor to withdraw from the course if significant learning

activities are missed.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Farrelly, E.M. Blubberland; the dangers of happiness (New South) 2007 / (MIT Press) 2008

Recommended Resources

See Moodle for Course Reading List

Course Evaluation and Development

Feedback from students is an integral part of improving my courses and teaching approaches. One of the multiple feedback mechanisms used in this course is myExperience, which I strongly urge all to complete at the end of term. Since we are a small group, feedback during term will be used to inform content of lectures or directions for the course to take. We encourage feedback, both internal and external.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Elizabeth Farrelly				please email me for an appointment	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;
- Review of results;

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

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

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](#).

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

School Contact Information

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