UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2458 Along the Silk Road: Conquerors, Traders and Explorers - 2024

Published on the 19 Dec 2023

General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2458
Year : 2024
Term : Summer
Teaching Period : U1
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture
Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages
Delivery Mode : Online
Delivery Format : Non Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

The 'Silk Roads' are often considered to be the world's greatest network of throughways that

linked China to the Mediterranean world over land and sea. The historical development of Chinese culture and civilization cannot be scrutinized without a reflective understanding of the Chinese Empire's dynamic interactions with the nomadic peoples and the Western world that were situated along the Silk Road. In this course, you will examine the geopolitical and cultural landscapes of Eurasia; the migration of peoples; as well as the spread of goods, religions, ideas, technologies, art and diseases between the East and the West. You will explore the construction of an early form of globalization, and how it has contributed to the formation and dissolution of people's ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural identities. This course ends by examining Chinese government's grand initiative 'One Belt One Road', and inquiring about the way in which the geopolitics of the Silk Road region in the past still exerts tangible and long-lasting impact on the world today.

This course is taught in English and with readings in English.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Evaluate the interconnections and mutual influences that contribute to the development of civilisations such as that of China
CLO2 : Articulate the role of commerce in the dissemination of arts, technologies
CLO3 : Critically evaluate a variety of historical evidence
CLO4 : Identify important historical events related to the 'Silk Road' within historical, social and cultural contexts
CLO5 : Make scholarly arguments using independently located and credible evidence

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Evaluate the interconnections and mutual influences that contribute to the development of civilisations such as that of China	• Essay • Online test
CLO2 : Articulate the role of commerce in the dissemination of arts, technologies	• Essay
CLO3 : Critically evaluate a variety of historical evidence	• Online test • Essay
CLO4 : Identify important historical events related to the 'Silk Road' within historical, social and cultural contexts	• Online test • Essay
CLO5 : Make scholarly arguments using independently located and credible evidence	• Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

All available on Moodle

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Essay Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Due Date: 22/01/2024 11:59 PM
Online test Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Due Date: 29/01/2024 12:30 PM

Assessment Details
Essay

Assessment Overview

Students write an essay based on independent research (ca. 3000 words). Feedback via individual comments and rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate the interconnections and mutual influences that contribute to the development of civilisations such as that of China
- CLO2 : Articulate the role of commerce in the dissemination of arts, technologies
- CLO3 : Critically evaluate a variety of historical evidence
- CLO4 : Identify important historical events related to the 'Silk Road' within historical, social and cultural contexts
- CLO5 : Make scholarly arguments using independently located and credible evidence

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for details

Assessment Length

3000 words (10% leeway)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Online test

Assessment Overview

Online test covering class content. The test will last 60 minutes. Feedback via individual comments and rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate the interconnections and mutual influences that contribute to the development of civilisations such as that of China
- CLO3 : Critically evaluate a variety of historical evidence
- CLO4 : Identify important historical events related to the 'Silk Road' within historical, social and cultural contexts

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for details

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

General Assessment Information

It is prohibited to use any software or service to search for or generate information or answers. For exmaple, if the use of generative AI such as ChatGPT is detected, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension and exclusion.

It is prohibited to use machine translation software in your assessments. If its use is detected, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension and exclusion.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Mon. 8 Jan 2024 10:00 - 12:00	Lecture	A general introduction to the Silk Road • The ecological conditions • Peoples, places, and empires
Mon. 8 Jan 2024 14:00 - 16:00	Lecture	Introduction to • The structure of the course • Assessment tasks • Attendance
Tue. 9 Jan 2024 10:00 - 12:00	Lecture	Eurasian Nomads: State formation in the steppes with an emphasis on the Mongol Empire
Tue. 9 Jan 2024 14:00 - 16:00	Lecture	China and its Neighbours to the West • The historical connection of China to Central Asia and further west, with special reference to the spread of Islam in Central Asia and China
Wed. 10 Jan 2024 10:00 - 12:00	Lecture	Dunhuang • The historical and cultural significance of an oasis city • Transformation of Buddhism and Buddhist art along the Silk Road
Wed. 10 Jan 2024 14:00 - 16:00	Lecture	Religions along the Silk Road • The pread and encounter of a plethora of religious beliefs and movements • Particular emphasis on Manichaeism and Zoroastrianism, as well as Persianate societies
Thu. 11 Jan 2024 10:00 - 12:00	Lecture	Art along the Silk Road
Thu. 11 Jan 2024 14:00 - 16:00	Lecture	Trade: commodities, traders and consumers • The complexity of commercial networks • Specific socio-cultural and political contexts for the survival/decline of these networks
Fri. 12 Jan 2024 10:00 - 12:00	Lecture	Travellers and explorers along the Silk Road • Important travelers, diplomats, scholars and missionaries along the Silk Road
Fri. 12 Jan 2024 14:00 - 16:00	Lecture	A 'New Silk Road' • The revival of the concept of 'Silk Road' in the 21st century, from geo-political and economic perspectives
Mon. 15 Jan 9:00-17:00 Tutorial	Tutorial	See Moodle for details
Tue. 16 Jan 9:00-17:00 Tutorial	Tutorial	See Moodle for details

Attendance Requirements

All lectures and tutorials are delivered online. It is compulsory to attend the two lectures delivered on Monday Jan 8 (10:00 - 12:00; 14:00 - 16:00), and the 2-hour tutorial of your choice (Jan 15 or 16).

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All made available on Moodle

Recommended Resources

Millward, James A., *The Silk Road: A Very Short Introduction*, Very Short Introductions (New York, 2013; online edn, Oxford Academic, 24 Sept. 2013), https://doi-org.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/10.1093/actrade/9780199782864.001.0001, accessed 9

Dec. 2023 (Hardbopies available at UNSW Kengsington Bookstore).

Other essential course readings: Available on Moodle

Course Evaluation and Development

This course is formally evaluated through MyExperience. Further development and adjustment are made according to student feedback and learning experience

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Ayshe Eli		Online			No	Yes
Lecturer	Ayshe Eli		Online			No	No
Tutor	Ayshe Eli		Online			No	No

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