



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2248 Disasters and Society - 2024

Published on the 22 May 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2248

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

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

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Increases in disasters along with the current and future predicted impacts of climate change has meant that disaster management and disaster risk reduction have emerged as a key project and policy areas. This course provides you with critical perspectives to examine this natural

disasters/society interface. The emphasis of the course is focused on natural disasters being better understood as social disasters with natural triggers. Thus, in the course you will develop an understanding of how forms of social vulnerability to hazards emerge and shape subsequent disaster impacts. You will also examine how natural disasters are disruptive events that can critically jolt and shape future social, economic and political outcomes in the context of governance and politics. In the first half of the course you will examine different theories and frameworks for understanding disasters. This will provide a critical platform for the second part of the course, where you will focus on different thematic areas of disasters governance and society, using case study disasters from around the world.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Explain how natural disasters, society, development programs, and policy are interrelated.
CLO2 : Appraise key authors and literature discussing disasters from a critical social science and humanities perspective.
CLO3 : Apply enhanced learning, analytic, and communication skills, to interpret links between society and disasters
CLO4 : Analyse disaster case studies from around the world with a range of different theoretical standpoints.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explain how natural disasters, society, development programs, and policy are interrelated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Case Study Analysis • Final Essay
CLO2 : Appraise key authors and literature discussing disasters from a critical social science and humanities perspective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Essay
CLO3 : Apply enhanced learning, analytic, and communication skills, to interpret links between society and disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Case Study Analysis • Final Essay
CLO4 : Analyse disaster case studies from around the world with a range of different theoretical standpoints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Case Study Analysis • Final Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Presentation	20%	Due Date: 14/06/2024 04:00 PM
Case Study Analysis	30%	Due Date: 16/07/2024 04:00 PM
Final Essay	50%	Due Date: 08/08/2024 04:00 PM

Assessment Details

Presentation

Assessment Overview

Five Minute Presentation

Students will be required to present their selected case study project to the class and offer feedback on other students's presentations.

Presentations are marked by the course convener, with additional feedback given by peers through a structured feedback process.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Explain how natural disasters, society, development programs, and policy are interrelated.
- CL03 : Apply enhanced learning, analytic, and communication skills, to interpret links between society and disasters
- CL04 : Analyse disaster case studies from around the world with a range of different theoretical standpoints.

Assessment Length

5 minutes

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Case Study Analysis

Assessment Overview

The student will select a case study disaster, and use some of the theories developed in the course to adopt a critical analysis of its social and political dimensions. The assessment will be 1,000 words long.

Feedback via written comments

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain how natural disasters, society, development programs, and policy are interrelated.
- CLO3 : Apply enhanced learning, analytic, and communication skills, to interpret links between society and disasters
- CLO4 : Analyse disaster case studies from around the world with a range of different theoretical standpoints.

Assessment Length

1000 words.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Final Essay

Assessment Overview

A final essay (2,000 words) in which students answer one of a select number of questions.

Feedback via written comments

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain how natural disasters, society, development programs, and policy are interrelated.
- CLO2 : Appraise key authors and literature discussing disasters from a critical social science and humanities perspective.
- CLO3 : Apply enhanced learning, analytic, and communication skills, to interpret links between society and disasters
- CLO4 : Analyse disaster case studies from around the world with a range of different theoretical standpoints.

Assessment Length

2000 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

General Assessment Information

See Moodle for more information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Topic	A historical introduction to Environmental Justice
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Topic	Political Economy and Disasters
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Topic	Social Construction of Disasters / Media
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Topic	Disasters and Socio-Political Change
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Topic	Disasters and Development
Week 6 : 1 July - 7 July	Lecture	Mid-Term Break
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Topic	Disasters and Climate Change
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Topic	Online Week - Mexico City Case Study
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Topic	Disaster Governance in Australia
Week 10 : 29 July - 4 August	Topic	Conclusion

Attendance Requirements

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

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Readings for the course will be accessed through Leganto

Recommended Resources

Books

- F Kruger, G Bankoff, T Cannon, B Orlowksi, E F Schipper (eds) (2015) Cultures and disasters: understanding cultural framings in disaster risk reduction, Routledge: London
- G Bankoff, G Frerks and D Hilhorst (eds) (2004) Mapping Vulnerability: Disasters, Development and People, Earthscan: London:
- S Boulter, J Palutikof, D J Karoly, and Guitart (eds) (2013) Natural Disasters and Adaptation to Climate Change, Cambridge University Press
- K Hewitt (ed) (1983) Interpretations of Calamity: from the viewpoint of human ecology, Allen and Unwin: London
- A Oliver-Smith and S Hoffman (eds) (1999) The Angry Earth: Disaster in Anthropological Perspective, Routledge: London

- G Bankoff (2003) Cultures of Disaster: Society and Natural Hazard in the Phillipines, Routledge:London.
- M Pelling (ed) (2003) Natural Disasters and Development in a Globalizing World, Routledge: London
- Christof Mauch, Christian Pfister (2009) Natural Disasters, Cultural Responses: Case Studies Toward a Global, Lexington Books:
- Piers Blaikie, Terry Cannon, Ian Davis, Ben Wisner (eds) (2003) At Risk: Natural Hazards, People's Vulnerability and Disasters, 2nd Edition, Routledge: London.

Journals

Disasters International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction Australian Journal of Emergency Management Global Environmental Change Environment and Planning E Environment and Planning A Environment and Planning C Geoforum Environmental Hazards Natural Hazards PLOS Currents: Disasters Progress in Human Geography Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers Annals of the Association of American Geographers Progress in Disaster Science Environmental Policy and Governance Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed, and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged that students complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site.

Feedback, whether in person or via emails, during the course, is encouraged.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Marilu Melo Zurita					No	Yes
Tutor	Tom Cavanagh					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 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

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