



UNSW Course Outline

ATSI2003 Reclaiming Material Culture - 2024

Published on the 29 Aug 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : ATSI2003

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : DVC (Academic) Board of Studies

Academic Unit : Nura Gili Indigenous Programs

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

The focus of this course is on the role of museums and art galleries in the representation of Indigenous peoples and their cultures. The course begins with an introduction to Indigenous material culture, in both pre-contact and contact Australia. Students will also learn about the

collection, study and display of Indigenous objects by museums and galleries. In this context disciplines of anthropology, ethnography, archaeology and museology are examined. Particular attention is given to the ways in which we can study objects and their different meanings as they journey from Indigenous contexts to non-Indigenous institutions. Students undertake an excursion to one or more local museums and participate in interactive seminar discussion as part of this course.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Illustrate the role of Indigenous material culture in representing Indigenous peoples and cultures in the past and present museums and institutions.
CLO2 : Interpret the representation of Indigenous material culture held in museums and collecting institutions.
CLO3 : Analyse the way in which objects change in purpose and function as they move through, and within varying Indigenous cultural and non-Indigenous institutional contexts.
CLO4 : Evaluate methods used by collecting institutions to display Indigenous material culture, and assess their overall effect on various audiences.
CLO5 : Locate, assess, and analyse a variety of sources about Indigenous material culture, and synthesise research findings into a simple, logical and coherent argument.
CLO6 : Communicate research findings and views, individually and in groups, accurately and effectively using a variety of techniques (written, spoken, visual).

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Illustrate the role of Indigenous material culture in representing Indigenous peoples and cultures in the past and present museums and institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation • Object biography
CLO2 : Interpret the representation of Indigenous material culture held in museums and collecting institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition interpretation • Participation
CLO3 : Analyse the way in which objects change in purpose and function as they move through, and within varying Indigenous cultural and non-Indigenous institutional contexts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Object biography
CLO4 : Evaluate methods used by collecting institutions to display Indigenous material culture, and assess their overall effect on various audiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition interpretation
CLO5 : Locate, assess, and analyse a variety of sources about Indigenous material culture, and synthesise research findings into a simple, logical and coherent argument.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition interpretation • Object biography
CLO6 : Communicate research findings and views, individually and in groups, accurately and effectively using a variety of techniques (written, spoken, visual).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition interpretation • Object biography

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Echo 360

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Participation	10%	Start Date: 17/09/2024 12:00 PM Due Date: Not Applicable
Exhibition interpretation	50%	Start Date: 10/09/2024 12:00 AM Due Date: Presentation according to a schedule set in the class. Written work one week after the presentation.
Object biography Short Extension: Yes (5 days)	40%	Start Date: 01/10/2024 01:00 PM Due Date: 19/11/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 06/12/2024 05:00 PM

Assessment Details

Participation

Assessment Overview

Each week students will be required to read assigned material so they can contribute effectively to class discussions. Discussion questions or topics for debate will be presented to students throughout the term, and verbal and written answers will be sought from students during tutorial sessions.

Participation will be marked according to established marking criteria that are made available to students at the beginning of term.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Illustrate the role of Indigenous material culture in representing Indigenous peoples and cultures in the past and present museums and institutions.
- CLO2 : Interpret the representation of Indigenous material culture held in museums and collecting institutions.

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for more detail.

Submission notes

Weekly in class.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Generative AI Permission Level

Not Applicable

Generative AI is not considered to be of assistance to you in completing this assessment. If you do use generative AI in completing this assessment, you should attribute its use.

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

Exhibition interpretation

Assessment Overview

Students are required to give a 10 minute group presentation (20%) that critically evaluates a museum or gallery exhibition that represents Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples and their cultures and/or histories. Students are also required to submit a written review (1000 words, 30 %) a week after their presentation incorporating relevant research and feedback provided in class.

Presentations and reviews are marked according to established marking criteria that are made available to students at the beginning of term.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Interpret the representation of Indigenous material culture held in museums and collecting institutions.
- CLO4 : Evaluate methods used by collecting institutions to display Indigenous material culture, and assess their overall effect on various audiences.
- CLO5 : Locate, assess, and analyse a variety of sources about Indigenous material culture, and synthesise research findings into a simple, logical and coherent argument.
- CLO6 : Communicate research findings and views, individually and in groups, accurately and effectively using a variety of techniques (written, spoken, visual).

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for more information.

Assessment Length

10 minutes and 1000 words

Submission notes

The written assessment must be submitted as Word document via Turnitin.

Assessment information

APA referencing is the preferred referencing for the essays. More information on referencing can be found here: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/how-cite-references-apa-style>.

Instructions for the Essay Format:

- indicate your topic or the essay question you are answering.
- leave a space and a half between lines.
- use 12 point font.
- leave space in margins for the marker's comments.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

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

Please see a source created by Melbourne University for guidance in acknowledging your use of AI in preparation of this assessment task: <https://students.unimelb.edu.au/academic-skills/resources/academic-integrity/acknowledging-AI-tools-and-technologies>

Object biography

Assessment Overview

Drawing on the theoretical concepts and ideas presented in the course, students are required to carefully interpret and study an Indigenous object that they have learned about during a museum excursion in an essay (2000 words) that must also draw on additional research.

Students will receive comprehensive written feedback and essays will be marked according to

established marking criteria that are made available to students at the beginning of term.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Illustrate the role of Indigenous material culture in representing Indigenous peoples and cultures in the past and present museums and institutions.
- CLO3 : Analyse the way in which objects change in purpose and function as they move through, and within varying Indigenous cultural and non-Indigenous institutional contexts.
- CLO5 : Locate, assess, and analyse a variety of sources about Indigenous material culture, and synthesise research findings into a simple, logical and coherent argument.
- CLO6 : Communicate research findings and views, individually and in groups, accurately and effectively using a variety of techniques (written, spoken, visual).

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for more details.

Assessment Length

2000

Submission notes

The assessment must be submitted as Word document via Turnitin.

Assessment information

APA referencing is the preferred referencing for the essays. More information on referencing can be found here: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/how-cite-references-apa-style>.

Instructions for the Essay Format:

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General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

In order to pass this course students must achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Made by Ancestor: Introduction to Indigenous Material Culture
	Tutorial	Studying Material Culture
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Fieldwork	Dharug Keeping Place, Parramatta. See Moodle for more information. (Tutorial as part of fieldwork.)
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Politics of Display: Museum Exhibitions
	Tutorial	Decolonising Museums
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Fieldwork	First Nations Curatorship and Colonial Museums (Australian Museum, 1 William St - TBC).
	Tutorial	Objects, Contexts, Memory, Journey (Presentations)
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	From 'Specimens' to 'Old People': Respect, Remains and Repatriation
	Tutorial	New Media and 'the Real Other' (Presentations)
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Reading	*** Reading Week - No Classes ***
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Fieldwork	Making Space in Art Institutions (NSW Art Gallery - TBC).
	Tutorial	Intersections: Art and Material Culture (Presentations)
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	The Power of Objects: Past and Present of Studying of Indigenous Material Culture
	Tutorial	Continuing Culture - First Nations Design (Presentations)
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Learning about Past through Material Culture
	Tutorial	Objects and Their Journeys (Presentations)
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Indigenous Material Culture: The Case of the Sámi
	Tutorial	Comparing International Museum Practice (Presentations)

Attendance Requirements

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

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Course readings (collection of articles, chapters and other related material) are available via Leganto on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Indigenous Studies Subject Guide, UNSW Library, <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/indigenous>

Additional Costs

There are additional costs from travel by public transport to fieldwork in Parramatta and Sydney CBD.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically using, among other means, MyExperience student course survey. Informal feedback and class- generated feedback are also important. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback. Significant changes to the course will be communicated to subsequent cohorts of students taking the course.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Johanna Per heentupa		Nura Gili, Electrical Engineering		By appointment	No	Yes