



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2849 Popular Culture and World Politics - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2849

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 Social Sciences

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

Popular culture plays a significant role in the structure and possibilities of world politics. The relationship between popular culture and world politics is important, with significant consequences for what the world is, what it can be and how it is experienced. The course asks

you to reflect explicitly on the relationship between world politics and popular culture, in both broad and specific terms. It asks you to reflect personally and politically on the intersections of questions of knowledge, power, privilege and identity in world politics. The course focuses on how the production, consumption and representation(s) of popular culture create knowledge about the world, and to what effects. This is explored by examining the intersections of, for example, questions of race, gender, sexuality, nation and class. The course asks you to build your own picture of key aspects of the relationship between popular culture and world politics, and to choose your own examples of the role that popular culture plays in the representation and dissemination of power and knowledge in world politics.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Articulate the development and use of key concepts, theories and approaches in and to the study of popular culture and world politics.
CLO2 : Describe the significance of popular culture in understanding world politics and its component parts.
CLO3 : Engage collaboratively and sensitively with diverse cultural perspectives, including First Nations perspectives, to analyse popular culture examples, case studies and artefacts.
CLO4 : Communicate effectively and ethically for diverse audiences and purposes.
CLO5 : Evaluate and make responsible use of a variety of media and cultural sources.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Articulate the development and use of key concepts, theories and approaches in and to the study of popular culture and world politics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I: Audio-Visual Presentation • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay
CLO2 : Describe the significance of popular culture in understanding world politics and its component parts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I: Audio-Visual Presentation • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay
CLO3 : Engage collaboratively and sensitively with diverse cultural perspectives, including First Nations perspectives, to analyse popular culture examples, case studies and artefacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I: Audio-Visual Presentation • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay
CLO4 : Communicate effectively and ethically for diverse audiences and purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I: Audio-Visual Presentation • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay
CLO5 : Evaluate and make responsible use of a variety of media and cultural sources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Echo 360

Learning and Teaching in this course

Your learning in ARTS2849 is facilitated through a weekly two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial. It is anticipated that, on top of weekly attendance at both lecture and tutorial, you spend significant time preparing for class and for your assessments. ARTS2849 is designed expressly to enable you to focus on areas of particular interest to you, and the assessment regime encourages you to explore popular culture in a way that is meaningful to you. If you are in any way unsure about any aspect of your learning in ARTS2849, you should speak to your course convenor. You are always welcome to request a conversation. If you are uncertain about any aspect of your academic skills, you are encouraged to seek support, for example [here](#) and [here](#).

A **lecture** is a guided learning activity, led by your course convenor. Lectures provide you with an overview of key knowledge in a particular area, and they can be considered [a starting point](#) for your own further reading and research. Lectures also provide an important sense of where your lecturer positions themselves and their expertise in relation to the topic at hand. Because they cannot cover everything, what is covered in a lecture should indicate to you where course themes, priorities and significant debates lie. In ARTS2849, our lecture time is very much open to your interventions. You are encouraged to ask questions and to engage in lecture content throughout the lecture itself, and in ways that are meaningful to you. Good notetaking at lectures is essential. Lecture slides are usually made available just before the lecture begins, and lectures are recorded so that you may listen to them again in your own time. Recorded lectures should supplement and not replace in-person lecture attendance.

Tutorials are activity-led and depend on the strength of your preparation and willingness to participate. They are intended to facilitate discussion, to clarify lecture content and course material, and to extend your knowledge and experience. Tutorials are guided by your tutor, and tutorial activities are frequently group-based. UNSW offers a useful guide to tutorials [here](#). Tutorials are an important place to get to know your classmates and your tutor, to ask questions, and to participate in your learning as fully as possible. Where your course convenor is not your tutor, you are encouraged to ask questions related to tutorial activities within tutorials themselves, and for anything course-related, to ask for guidance from your course convenor directly.

It is essential to the learning and teaching practices of ARTS2849 that those participating in the course, including yourself and your teaching staff, show care, consideration and respect in all their engagements with each other, at all times. Discriminatory or disrespectful behaviour of any sort is intolerable. If you feel that you cannot, for any reason, commit to this, you are asked to think carefully about continuing in ARTS2849.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I: Audio-Visual Presentation Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 04/10/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 19/10/2024 12:00 AM
Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	60%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 19/11/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 04/12/2024 12:00 AM

Assessment Details

Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I: Audio-Visual Presentation

Assessment Overview

Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I

You must prepare and undertake an audio-visual presentation of up to seven minutes duration. Your presentation should be based on a plan for your “Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II” assessment (Assessment #2), and should include discussion of relevant and key debates, appropriate research and an outline of your chosen artefact(s) themselves.

You will receive written feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Articulate the development and use of key concepts, theories and approaches in and to the study of popular culture and world politics.
- CL02 : Describe the significance of popular culture in understanding world politics and its component parts.
- CL03 : Engage collaboratively and sensitively with diverse cultural perspectives, including

First Nations perspectives, to analyse popular culture examples, case studies and artefacts.

- CLO4 : Communicate effectively and ethically for diverse audiences and purposes.

Detailed Assessment Description

The aim of your first Assessment in ARTS2849, your Audio-Visual Presentation, is to lay strong foundations for your final Assessment in ARTS2849, your Essay (Assessment #2). Your Audio-Visual Presentation must lay out the **design** and **theoretical content** of your Essay clearly and thoroughly. You are encouraged to be as imaginative as you wish with your Presentation, and to present a coherent presentation of the core ideas, concepts, debates and research needed for your Essay. To succeed, your Presentation must offer a strong engagement with high quality and relevant academic literature, which will be thoroughly integrated into your verbal discussion and clearly cited throughout your Presentation. This should be supported with a clear sense of the relevance of the one or two popular culture artefacts you intend to discuss in your final ARTS2849 Assessment (the Essay, Assessment #2). Accurate timekeeping is absolutely essential, and anything submitted over seven minutes in duration will be returned to you for editing, and your work may accrue late penalties.

Assessment Length

7 minutes (absolute maximum)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Generative AI Permission Level

Assistance with Attribution

This assessment requires you to write/create a first iteration of your submission yourself. You are then permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to improve your submission in the ways set out below.

Any output of generative AI tools, software or services that is used within your assessment must be attributed with full referencing.

If outputs of generative AI tools, software or services form part of your submission and are not appropriately attributed, your Convenor will determine whether the omission is significant. If so, you may be asked to explain your submission. 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](#).

Any use of AI for your assessments in ARTS2849 must be **attributed fully** and **accurately**. If you

are not sure how to do this, make sure you consult UNSW guidance on this [here](#) and check with your course convenor. If you are not sure if the software you are using counts as AI, err on the side of caution and assume that it does. You must make sure to keep good drafts of your work at all times in case these are requested. For security and privacy reasons, UNSW suggest the use of [Microsoft Copilot](#) only. Any failure to accurately attribute the AI that you use in and for your assessments may result in a finding of [plagiarism](#) and/or academic misconduct, which carries with it serious penalties.

Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part II: Essay

Assessment Overview

For Assessment #2, you must identify and discuss one or two relevant artefacts, producing a coherent and persuasive political analysis of 3,000 words. Your analysis should engage with core themes, debates and questions in and of the course. Possible artefacts for analysis include, films, TV shows, video games, art installations, books, music, performances, cultural practices, newsmedia, podcasts, social movements, media technologies, craft objects or other everyday artefacts.

You will receive written feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Articulate the development and use of key concepts, theories and approaches in and to the study of popular culture and world politics.
- CL02 : Describe the significance of popular culture in understanding world politics and its component parts.
- CL03 : Engage collaboratively and sensitively with diverse cultural perspectives, including First Nations perspectives, to analyse popular culture examples, case studies and artefacts.
- CL04 : Communicate effectively and ethically for diverse audiences and purposes.
- CL05 : Evaluate and make responsible use of a variety of media and cultural sources.

Detailed Assessment Description

The aim of your final Assessment in ARTS2849 (Assessment #2, Essay) is to produce a careful, persuasive and politically relevant analysis of up to two popular culture artefacts. In developing your Essay, you should make sure to focus on feedback provided to you on your first Assessment (Audio-Visual Presentation). Your Essay should embody a strong engagement with high quality and relevant academic research, which should be clearly related to and supported by practical example. Prior to final submission of your Essay, you are strongly encouraged to

consult your Turnitin Similarity Report, and to contact your course convenor if you need to make any changes.

Assessment Length

3,000 words (plus or minus 10 per cent)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Assistance with Attribution

This assessment requires you to write/create a first iteration of your submission yourself. You are then permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to improve your submission in the ways set out below.

Any output of generative AI tools, software or services that is used within your assessment must be attributed with full referencing.

If outputs of generative AI tools, software or services form part of your submission and are not appropriately attributed, your Convenor will determine whether the omission is significant. If so, you may be asked to explain your submission. 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.

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General Assessment Information

All your assessments in ARTS2849 must be formatted according to the guidelines in the [School of Social Sciences Referencing Guide](#). This is available through the SoSS website and the Moodle page for ARTS2849. It should be consulted fully before presenting assessed work in ARTS2849 and prior to emailing your course convenor with any referencing queries. If you are unsure about

anything in this guide, do make sure to check with your course convenor before submitting your work.

Moodle is a key repository of information for ARTS2849. You should check the ARTS2849 Moodle site regularly (at least daily).

Any information communicated directly to you through **email** will be sent to your University email account. You are expected to read and respond to email sent to this address, this is a University requirement. Please read the [Rules of Use of UNSW Email](#) and contact [UNSW IT](#) if you are unclear on using or redirecting your email.

You will spend some time during lecture and class time discussing and planning your assessments in ARTS2849. This is partly why **attendance** in this course is so important. Make sure you have made yourself fully aware of all relevant policies concerning **referencing**, **academic honesty** and **plagiarism**, and the **late submission** of work. If you notice errors when looking at your **Turnitin Similarity Report**, you are strongly encouraged to contact your course convenor in order to rectify these.

In this course, you are especially encouraged to make yourself aware of the [UNSW Indigenous Strategy](#) and the [ADA Indigenous Strategy](#). We are committed in ARTS2849 to generating a **culturally safe learning environment**, and you are encouraged in this course to treat your learning practices, assessments, peers and educators with the full extent of your respect, care and reflexivity, at all times.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

ARTS2849 requires that you **meet the attendance policy for the course**, and that you submit **all required assessments** by the due date (unless an extension has been granted). To receive a passing grade in ARTS2849, you must meet these conditions and achieve a grade of 50+ for the course, in total.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Building A Sense of World Politics Through Popular Culture
	Tutorial	Building A Sense of World Politics Through Popular Culture Q: How might reflecting on the role of popular culture expand the "potential bandwidth of political possibility" (Grayson et al 2009: 156) in world politics?
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Race and Representation
	Tutorial	Race and Representation Q: In what ways have popular culture artefacts challenged and reinforced racism and white supremacy?
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Empire and Knowledge
	Tutorial	Empire and Knowledge Q: What role does popular culture play in shaping, representing and reproducing racialised, (neo)colonial knowledge in world politics?
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Gender and Power
	Tutorial	Gender and Power Q: How is power reproduced in world politics in gendered ways, and through gendered popular culture?
	Assessment	Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part I, Audio-Visual Presentation (Assessment #1). Due Friday 4th October.
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Sex and Consumption
	Tutorial	Sex and Consumption Q: Why does 'sex' matter to how popular culture is produced, consumed and represented in world politics?
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Reading	Week 6 is Flexibility Week. There are no classes (lectures or tutorials) in Week 6.
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Capitalism and Technology
	Tutorial	Capitalism and Technology Q: How do capitalism and technology play central roles in the production, consumption and representation of popular culture in world politics?
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Conflict and Security
	Tutorial	Conflict and Security Q: What role does popular culture play in shaping, representing and challenging practices of conflict and (in)security in world politics?
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Music and Resistance
	Tutorial	Music and Resistance Q: How has music shaped the possibilities of and for resistance, transformation and revolution in world politics?
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Celebrity and Politics
	Tutorial	Celebrities and Politics Q: In what ways has the concept of 'celebrity' shaped world politics and its (many and varied) practices?
Week 11 : 18 November - 24 November	Assessment	Analysing Popular Culture and World Politics Part 2, Essay (Assessment #2). Due Tuesday 19th November (Week 11).

Attendance Requirements

Multiple studies have shown that [strong attendance](#) correlates with better engagement and success at University. The School of Social Sciences (SoSS) expects that you will **attend and participate actively in 100 per cent of learning and teaching activities** (including all lectures, tutorials, assessments and any required additional activities). **If you arrive to class more than 15 minutes late, you may be recorded as absent. If you attend less than 80 per cent of classes, you may be refused final assessment.** This means that your 'Essay' (Assessment #2, worth 60 per

cent in ARTS2849) may receive a mark of zero. It is **your responsibility to keep track of your attendance** and to check your UNSW email regularly. Contact your course convenors immediately if you are concerned about your attendance record and its impact on your ability to complete your course successfully. Lectures are recorded in this course and are available after the lecture has ended. Because tutorials follow the lecture quite closely, in timing and in content, you are **very strongly encouraged to attend lectures** where you are able. Tutorials are not recorded, and **may not be recorded, under any circumstances**, without the express and written permission of your course convenor.

If you are or will be absent for any reason, it is good practice to email your tutor or course convenors, in advance of class where possible.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Moodle contains your preparation requirements for each week of the UNSW Term. It is organised on a week-by-week basis and contains all your educational resources for ARTS2849. It is always assumed that you have completed, at a minimum, your required reading before coming to class, and that you have also undertaken some independent research to complement this. You should come to class each week fully prepared to participate.

Recommended Resources

Recommended readings and additional sources are listed on Moodle. Relevant course resources and subject guides can also be accessed through the [UNSW Library](#) (listed under 'International Studies'). You should check the Library regularly for all database, ejournal and subject guide inquiries.

Course Evaluation and Development

Your evaluative feedback is gathered formally using UNSW's MyExperience survey mechanism, and also through informal and class-generated channels. Your constructive feedback is important, and is used throughout the course revision process each year. Your feedback is appreciated and valued, and makes a difference. Please do remember when providing feedback to staff at UNSW that you are speaking to real people and that your words have an impact.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Penny Griffin				You are always welcome to ask me for a meeting during term-time. Please email me to arrange an appointment, which can be in-person or via Teams.	Yes	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.

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

School of Social Sciences

Location: Room 159, Morven Brown Building (C20), Kensington campus

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (except public holidays)

Telephone: +61 2 9385 1807

Email: soss@unsw.edu.au

Web: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/social-sciences>