



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2242 The Politics of Climate Change - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2242

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 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

Climate change is often understood as primarily a scientific or environmental problem that requires economic or technological solutions. In this course we will explore how climate change is perhaps better understood as a social, cultural and political phenomenon which is remaking

the ways in which we understand our relationship with the Earth. How we understand climate, weather, nature and the environment are crucial for understanding contemporary global warming and our responses to it. We will examine the underlying politics of climate change. You will garner a conceptual and methodological toolkit for interpreting and making sense of the social aspects of climate change and the often intense political arguments that surround it. The course explores the history of climate science and the more recent emergence of a global consensus on anthropogenic global warming. The course goes on to consider recent work on abrupt climate change, climate modelling and the politics of climate change adaptation and mitigation technologies. The course draws on a multi-disciplinary framework for understanding the social, historical and political aspects of climate change, with insights from politics, sociology, and science and technical studies (STS). You will be introduced to key areas of contemporary scholarly thinking in the environmental humanities – including political ecology, the sociology of scientific knowledge and contemporary political theory.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify historical and political contexts that shape the current debates about climate change
CLO2 : Apply a conceptual framework to understand the underlying social and cultural faultlines of climate change
CLO3 : Make evidence-based arguments using independently located sources

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify historical and political contexts that shape the current debates about climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short essay - Discourse Analysis• Short Essay - Narrative Analysis• Final Essay
CLO2 : Apply a conceptual framework to understand the underlying social and cultural faultlines of climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short essay - Discourse Analysis• Short Essay - Narrative Analysis• Final Essay
CLO3 : Make evidence-based arguments using independently located sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Echo 360

Learning and Teaching in this course

Educational technologies include Moodle and Echo 360.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Short essay - Discourse Analysis Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	30%	Due Date: 04/10/2024 11:00 PM
Short Essay - Narrative Analysis Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	30%	Due Date: 08/11/2024 11:00 PM
Final Essay Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 22/11/2024 11:00 PM

Assessment Details

Short essay - Discourse Analysis

Assessment Overview

This first essay task (ca. 1,000 words) is designed to examine students' engagement with interpretive social science approaches to climate change. Students are required to conduct a discourse analysis of climate change, focused on a policy document or popular representation of climate change.

Individual written feedback is provided.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify historical and political contexts that shape the current debates about climate change
- CLO2 : Apply a conceptual framework to understand the underlying social and cultural faultlines of climate change

Assessment Length

1000 words

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](#).

Short Essay - Narrative Analysis

Assessment Overview

Students are required to produce a narrative essay based around a photographic, visual or audio depiction of the climate change. The word length for this piece is 1,000 words.

Individual written feedback is provided.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify historical and political contexts that shape the current debates about climate change
- CLO2 : Apply a conceptual framework to understand the underlying social and cultural faultlines of climate change

Assessment Length

1000 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

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Final Essay

Assessment Overview

This assessment is a 2,000-word essay. The essay topic is published on the course Moodle site.

Individual written feedback is provided. The final essay is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify historical and political contexts that shape the current debates about climate change
- CLO2 : Apply a conceptual framework to understand the underlying social and cultural faultlines of climate change
- CLO3 : Make evidence-based arguments using independently located sources

Assessment Length

2000 words

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](#).

General Assessment Information

Detailed information for each assessment will be provided on the course Moodle page

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Course Introduction & Histories of Climate Change
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	The social construction of climate science (MK)
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Climate politics as energy politics (MK)
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Governing Climate Change – approaching Net Zero (CW)
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Financialising climate change (TC)
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Homework	Flexibility week
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	The Land-Climate Nexus: Thinking through power, politics & prosperity below our feet
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Pre and Post-Carbon Politics
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Living in denial?
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Democratising climate change

Attendance Requirements

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

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All resources will be provided via the course Moodle page.

Recommended Resources

All resources will be provided via the course Moodle page.

Additional Costs

No additional costs.

Course Evaluation and Development

Course refinements based on feedback provided through the MyExperience survey.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Matthew Kearnnes		MB365		By appointment	Yes	Yes
Head tutor	Charlotte Wang				By appointment	No	No
Lecturer	Tom Cavanagh					No	No
	Kayla Lochner					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