UNSW Course Outline

COMM5701 Social Impact - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : COMM5701
Year : 2024
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : UNSW Business School
Academic Unit : UNSW Business School
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Postgraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

COMM5701 Social Impact is the core course in the Graduate Certificate in Social Impact and the MBAX (Social Impact) programs. It is highly recommended that students take COMM5701 either as their first Social Impact course (or one of the courses in their first study session that includes Social Impact courses).

The course is an introduction to Social Impact covering fundamental concepts and key developments in what has become a complex social purpose eco-system. The course introduces an understanding of changes across what was formerly seen as a distinct social sector to examine the cross-sectoral social purpose developments that includes traditional organisational structures of Charities and Not For-Profits, Business and Government, but also new and emerging 'hybrid' structures and programs. The course will further explore how intractable social, economic and environmental problems embedded in society are being addressed through social innovation in business entrepreneurship, enterprises and cross-sector collaboration. It looks at why the traditional boundaries between government, business and the social sector have become blurred and fluid and what that means for the capacity to deliver new forms of social impact.

Fundamental tools and concepts are introduced, starting with a foundation in systems thinking and the application of critical thinking tools and systems mapping. The course develops an understanding of systems thinking and the theory of how to address complex social issues or 'wicked problems' through application of these tools. Key concepts are further explored of measuring and funding impact, scaling, leadership and collaboration. The course examines the trends and drivers reshaping the dynamics of social impact and the changing role of government from provider to enabler. The course reviews changes in the social purpose ecosystem, including looking at business models for social change, the 'hybridity' of social enterprises and social businesses, social procurement, social value creation, new forms of philanthropy and social impact investment.

Course Aims

The course aims to develop an awareness and critical understanding of social impact and the accelerating economic relationship between the public (government), private (business) and the social (not-for-profit) sectors; the way this relationship is driving the delivery of social and environmental value in communities; and the way in which this accelerating economic relationship drives social innovation, both globally and locally.

It aims to equip participants with a cross-sector understanding of key social impact concepts as they apply to the social purpose ecosystem, and to use this understanding to operate effectively in this changed and changing environment.

Relationship to Other Courses

COMM5701 is the core course in the Graduate Certificate in Social Impact and the MBAX (Social

Impact) programs.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Demonstrate a strong understanding of key foundational concepts within the social impact field
CLO2 : Apply critical analysis and systems thinking to an understanding of the complex and changing social purpose eco-system
CLO3 : Explain and describe the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of the social economy and its impact on complex, intractable social issues
CLO4 : Identify new organisational forms, business models and cross-sector collaborations for social purpose
CLO5 : Analyse and respond to global trends and organisations that effect social change, social innovation and impact
CLO6 : Develop critical thinking, research and communication skills for social impact work

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Demonstrate a strong understanding of key foundational concepts within the social impact field	• Class Participation • Group Presentation • Research Paper
CLO2 : Apply critical analysis and systems thinking to an understanding of the complex and changing social purpose eco-system	• Class Participation • Research Paper
CLO3 : Explain and describe the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of the social economy and its impact on complex, intractable social issues	• Group Presentation • Class Participation • Research Paper
CLO4 : Identify new organisational forms, business models and cross-sector collaborations for social purpose	• Group Presentation
CLO5 : Analyse and respond to global trends and organisations that effect social change, social innovation and impact	• Class Participation • Research Paper
CLO6 : Develop critical thinking, research and communication skills for social impact work	• Reflection

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom

Learning and Teaching in this course

Approach to learning and teaching in the course:

The teaching model employed in COMM5701 this term is intensive weekends as well as supplementary online material. The Moodle site will provide access to resources that can provide you with the tools to examine, explore and discuss your learning with your co-participants and facilitators. These online resources will set the scene, framework and context for the topics being examined.

Learning activities and teaching strategies:

In order to maximise the collaborative and experiential nature of this course, an asynchronous 'flipped' learning and teaching approach will be used that will help to support deeper student engagement and outcomes. The flipped approach means you do reading and researching independently and use weekend intensives for interactive and peer-based learning. Each Unit (topic/module) will include a range of learning materials and readings for you to complete. You have two major resources to help you learn:

1. The course materials comprising readings, references, insights and commentary for each unit. You will do much of your learning independently by working through the course materials and conducting research, but you will also work collaboratively in the weekend intensives.
2. Your co-participants are an invaluable source of rich learning content for you. Their work and life, and their willingness to question and debate the course materials, your views and those of the facilitator, represent a great learning opportunity.

Discussion protocols

Participants should:

- Communicate respectfully with others at all times.
- Demonstrate global and cultural competence by carefully considering the social and cultural implications of social impact knowledge, processes and practices within differing contexts and situations in forum posts and interactions with peers.
- Conduct themselves with integrity, especially with regard to academic honesty and confidentiality.
- Ensure their contributions are relevant to the learning activity.

Additional Course Information

Links to all required and optional resources are on the reading list for your course in the UNSW

Library's Leganto system, which you can access via your Moodle course. Please note you will need to login and may be required to enter your UNSW zID and zPass in order to access the library site.

Required readings consist of core texts and their applications. Readings are chosen to provide both theoretical foundation and to illuminate their meaning and usage in professional contexts. The readings are not to be studied in detail but designed to initiate thinking and understanding of key themes in social systems and change.

In a course like this, with a broad overview, we touch on key themes, delving into some in greater depth than others. However, the case studies discussed in the weekly discussion forums and covered in Assessments will provide opportunities to explore many of the themes in more detail.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Class Participation Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Ongoing
Group Presentation Assessment Format: Group	20%	Due Date: Week 8: 28 October - 03 November
Research Paper Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	40%	Due Date: 15/11/2024 11:59 PM
Reflection Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	20%	Due Date: 22/11/2024 11:59 PM

Assessment Details

Class Participation

Assessment Overview

Activity and engaged participation in activities and discussions at both weekend intensives.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Demonstrate a strong understanding of key foundational concepts within the social impact field
- CLO2 : Apply critical analysis and systems thinking to an understanding of the complex and changing social purpose eco-system
- CLO3 : Explain and describe the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of the social economy and its impact on complex, intractable social issues

- CLO5 : Analyse and respond to global trends and organisations that effect social change, social innovation and impact

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

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.

Group Presentation

Assessment Overview

In this assignment, you assume the role of the judging panel for the Nobel Prize for Social Innovation and Impact, selecting a shortlist of finalists, developing the evaluation criteria and ultimately determining the winner

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Demonstrate a strong understanding of key foundational concepts within the social impact field
- CLO3 : Explain and describe the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of the social economy and its impact on complex, intractable social issues
- CLO4 : Identify new organisational forms, business models and cross-sector collaborations for social purpose

Detailed Assessment Description

Full details can be found in the Assessment Handbook on Moodle.

Assessment Length

15 minutes

Submission notes

In class at the 2nd intensive weekend

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. 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.

Research Paper

Assessment Overview

In this assignment you will analyse two real life case studies applying systems thinking frameworks and tools, along with the other unit topics, to real world social problems.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Demonstrate a strong understanding of key foundational concepts within the social impact field
- CLO2 : Apply critical analysis and systems thinking to an understanding of the complex and changing social purpose eco-system
- CLO3 : Explain and describe the trends and drivers re-shaping the dynamics of the social economy and its impact on complex, intractable social issues
- CLO5 : Analyse and respond to global trends and organisations that effect social change, social innovation and impact

Detailed Assessment Description

The purpose of this Research Paper assessment is to conduct a high-level analysis using case studies and the content learned through COMM5701. You should apply systems thinking frameworks and tools, along with the other unit topics, to real world social problems. It will stimulate your thinking around what it means, as well as the steps required, to design solutions. It will encourage a complex understanding of social issues, the systems surrounding them, and the people they impact.

We will evaluate your ability to analyse and compare the social impact of two real-life case studies. You will be required to critically evaluate the impact that the initiatives had on the targeted communities and to draw meaningful conclusions from your analysis.

Assessment Length

2000 words (+ / - 10%)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

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Reflection

Assessment Overview

The purpose of self-reflection is to provide an opportunity to reflect, to gain a sense of progress and to set next steps to ensure ongoing social impact development.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO6 : Develop critical thinking, research and communication skills for social impact work

Detailed Assessment Description

The purpose of self-reflection is to give students a chance to reflect, to gain a sense of progress and to set next steps to ensure ongoing social impact development.

This course provides students with multiple opportunities to challenge themselves and increase their current social impact skills or develop new ones. This is a comparatively safe environment in which to stretch, grow, and work towards professional social impact opportunities. This task requires students plan from the beginning to experiment and work on areas of social impact knowledge and skills they wish to improve in and collect evidence of their development across the term.

Assessment Length

3-4 minutes

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

This is not a Turnitin assignment

<u>Generative AI Permission Level</u>

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. 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.

General Assessment Information

Full assessment details can be found in the Assessment Handbook on Moodle.

Viva Voce

Any student may be called upon to provide a viva voce (from the Latin meaning 'living voice') for any assignment. A viva voce is an interview style meeting where you will be asked to explain, discuss, or use information related to any assignment or work produced for this course. These can be used to ascertain knowledge and ability including the extent to which the student has undertaken the required reading, done preparatory work and can demonstrate understanding of what they have written or presented. Viva voces are used in conjunction with submitted assessment work not instead of submitted work.

Academic Integrity and Code of Conduct

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display academic integrity in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the UNSW Code of Conduct with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do

comply with the UNSW Code of Conduct, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

In order to pass this course, you must:

- achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100;
- achieve a satisfactory result on any essential assessment components; and
- meet any additional requirements described in the Assessment Summary section.

You are expected to attempt all assessment requirements in the course.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Module	Topic: Introduction to Social Impact Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Module	Topic: Beginning social impact practice Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Module	Topic: Social impact across the traditional three sectors Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Intensive	Topic: Social impact and social enterprise Detail/engagement: • Read required content on Moodle • Weekend Intensive 1: Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October 9am-5pm, UNSW Kensington Campus
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Module	Topic: Case study analysis Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Module	Topic: Impact leadership and management Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle.
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Module	Topic: Funding and scaling for sustainable impact Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle.
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Intensive	Topic: Demonstrating impact Detail/engagement: • Read required content on Moodle. • Weekend Intensive 2: Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd November 9am-5pm, UNSW Kensington Campus
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Module	Topic: Capstone case study Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle.
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Module	Topic: Reflection Detail/engagement: Read required content on Moodle.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance in this course is through participation at the intensive weekends. It is mandatory that students attend both intensive weekends.

Webinar attendance is not compulsory but is strongly encouraged

General Schedule Information

To create and foster a positive learning environment this course draws on the Community of Inquiry teaching model and is structured to ensure the group moves through the course together. This course is delivered through online learning materials as well as 2 x in person intensive weekends, with 10 units of learning. Each unit consists of workbooks and readings.

Course Resources

Recommended Resources

The University and the Business School provide a wide range of support services for students, including:

Centre for Social Impact (CSI)

http://www.csi.edu.au/

Please direct any CSI education program, enrolment and administration queries here

Email: csistudents@unsw.edu.au **Phone:** (02) 8936 0990

Business Student Centre

https://www.business.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/student-centre

The Nucleus: Student Hub

https://nucleus.unsw.edu.au/en

Location: Level 2, in the Main Library. (UNSW map location F21) **Phone:** (02) 9385 8500

Moodle eLearning Support

For online help using Moodle, go to: https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-support

For technical support, **Email:** itservicecentre@unsw.edu.au ; **Phone:** (02) 9385 1333

Academic Skills Support

[Academic Skills Support | UNSW Current Students](#)

Provides academic skills support services, including workshops and resources, for all UNSW students. See website for details.

Library services and facilities for students

[Students (unsw.edu.au)](#)

IT Service Centre

https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/

Provides technical support to troubleshoot problems with logging into websites, downloading documents, etc.

IT Walk-in Service Centres: Upper Campus IT Hub - Room G06, D26 Biological Sciences Building (Next door to XS Cafe) ; **Middle Campus IT Hub** - G008, Ground Floor H13 Anita B Lawrence Centre

Phone: (02) 9385 1333

UNSW MindHub

https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/mindhub

Provides support and services if you need help with your personal life, getting your academic life back on track or just want to know how to stay safe, including free, confidential counselling via Mental Health Connect

Office: Level 2, East Wing, Quadrangle Building; **Phone:** (02) 9385 5418; **Email:** counselling@unsw.edu.au

Equitable Learning Services (formally Disability Support Services)

https://student.unsw.edu.au/els

A free and confidential service that provides practical support to ensure your mental or physical health conditions do not adversely affect your studies.

Phone: (02) 8374 9201; **Email:** els@unsw.edu.au

Nura Gili Student Success Team

https://www.indigenous.unsw.edu.au/current-students/student-success

Our Student Success Team aim to enhance the student experience at UNSW. We work to equip all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UNSW with the skills they need to thrive in an ever-changing and innovative world.

Phone: (02) 9385 3805; **Email:** nuragili@unsw.edu.au

Course Evaluation and Development

The course underwent an extensive revision in 2023. This process incorporated student feedback and industry perspectives on graduate education as well as the latest resources developed by the Centre for Social Impact. The student feedback response to this was overwhelmingly positive.

We welcome feedback on the course structure through myExperience and directly to the Course Authority.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Elliott Bowen				By appointment	Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

COURSE POLICIES AND SUPPORT

The Business School expects that you are familiar with the contents of this course outline and the UNSW and Business School learning expectations, rules, policies and support services as listed below:

- Program Learning Outcomes
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

- Student Responsibilities and Conduct
- Special Consideration
- Protocol for Viewing Final Exam Scripts
- Student Learning Support Services

Further information is provided on the Policies and Guidelines page.

Students may not circulate or post online any course materials such as handouts, exams, syllabi or similar resources from their courses without the written permission of their instructor.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) – under the Outcomes tab – are what you should be able to demonstrate by the end of this course, if you participate fully in learning activities and successfully complete the assessment items.

CLOs also contribute to your achievement of the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), which are developed across the duration of a program. PLOs are, in turn, directly linked to UNSW graduate capabilities. More information on Coursework PLOs is available on the Policies and Guidelines page. For PG Research PLOs, including MPDBS, please refer to UNSW HDR learning outcomes.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display academic integrity in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the UNSW Code of Conduct with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Code of Conduct, it is strongly recommended that you complete the Working with Academic Integrity module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

SHORT EXTENSIONS

Short Extension is a new process that allows you to apply for an extended deadline on your

assessment without the need to provide supporting documentation, offering immediate approval during brief, life-disrupting events. Requests are automatically approved once submitted.

Short extensions are ONLY available for some assessments. Check your course outline or Moodle to see if this is offered for your assessments. Where a short extension exists, all students enrolled in that course in that term are eligible to apply. Further details are available the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances beyond your control interfere with your performance in a specific assessment task or tasks, including online exams. Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable.

Applications can only be made online and will NOT be accepted by teaching staff. Applications will be assessed centrally by the Case Review Team, who will update the online application with the outcome and add any relevant comments. The change to the status of the application immediately sends an email to the student and to the assessor with the outcome of the application. The majority of applications will be processed within 3-5 working days.

For further information, and to apply, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

LATE SUBMISSION PENALTIES

For assessments other than examinations, late submission will incur a penalty of 5% per day or part thereof (including weekends) from the due date and time. An assessment will not be accepted after 5 days (120 hours) of the original deadline unless special consideration has been approved. In the case of an approved Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) provision, special consideration or short extension, the late penalty applies from the date of approved time extension. After five days from the extended deadline, the assessment cannot be submited.

An assessment is considered late if the requested format, such as hard copy or electronic copy, has not been submitted on time or where the 'wrong' assessment has been submitted.

For assessments which account for 10% or less of the overall course grade, and where answers

are immediately discussed or debriefed, the LIC may stipulate a different penalty. Details of such late penalties will be available on the course Moodle page.

FEEDBACK ON YOUR ASSESSMENT TASK PERFORMANCE

Feedback on student performance from formative and summative assessment tasks will be provided to students in a timely manner. Assessment tasks completed within the teaching period of a course, other than a final assessment, will be assessed and students provided with feedback, with or without a provisional result, within 10 working days of submission, under normal circumstances. Feedback on continuous assessment tasks (e.g. laboratory and studio-based, workplace-based, weekly quizzes) will be provided prior to the midpoint of the course.

Faculty-specific Information

PROTOCOL FOR VIEWING FINAL EXAM SCRIPTS

UNSW students have the right to view their final exam scripts, subject to a small number of very specific exemptions. The UNSW Business School has set a protocol under which students may view their final exam script. Individual schools within the Faculty may also set up additional local processes for viewing final exam scripts, so it is important that you check with your School.

If you are completing courses from the following schools, please note the additional school-specific information:

- Students in the **School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation** who wish to view their final examination script should also refer to this page.
- Students in the **School of Banking & Finance** should also refer to this page.
- Students in the **School of Information Systems & Technology Management** should also refer to this page.

COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Feedback is regularly sought from students and continual improvements are made based on this feedback. At the end of this course, you will be asked to complete the myExperience survey, which provides a key source of student evaluative feedback. Your input into this quality enhancement process is extremely valuable in assisting us to meet the needs of our students and provide an effective and enriching learning experience. The results of all surveys are carefully considered and do lead to action towards enhancing educational quality.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Business School is actively monitoring student learning and quality of the student experience in all its programs. A random selection of completed assessment tasks may be used for quality assurance, such as to determine the extent to which program learning goals are being achieved. The information is required for accreditation purposes, and aggregated findings will be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of Business School programs. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential.

TEACHING TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Please note that teaching times and locations are subject to change. Students are strongly advised to refer to the Class Timetable website for the most up-to-date teaching times and locations.