



UNSW Course Outline

IEST5006 Rethinking Environment: Sociocultural Theory - 2024

Published on the 09 Sep 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : IEST5006

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 : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course offers a robust set of cutting edge and foundational theoretical approaches for understanding, rethinking, and intervening in the most pressing environmental challenges we face. Effective environment and society leadership requires a multidimensional understanding of

the social, economic, political, cultural, historical, and ethical dimensions of environmental challenges. Accordingly, this course explores theoretical perspectives from multiple disciplines on human-environment relations, with a focus on demystifying the societal forces behind environmental challenges and on seeking openings for change.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Investigate and synthesise a range of key established and recent theoretical approaches to understanding how today's environmental problems are entangled in social and cultural questions
CLO2 : Engage a trans-disciplinary range of theoretical approaches to cultural systems of knowledge and power to analyse both place-based and international environmental challenges
CLO3 : Apply theoretical approaches to environmental relations to rigorously evaluate issues and articulate appropriate reflexive leadership practices to address real-world new and/or complex problems
CLO4 : Communicate the complex entanglements of societal and cultural aspects of environmental challenges in a variety of formats to diverse audiences
CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Investigate and synthesise a range of key established and recent theoretical approaches to understanding how today's environmental problems are entangled in social and cultural questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Reflection Activities • Final Exam
CLO2 : Engage a trans-disciplinary range of theoretical approaches to cultural systems of knowledge and power to analyse both place-based and international environmental challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Reflection Activities • Final Exam
CLO3 : Apply theoretical approaches to environmental relations to rigorously evaluate issues and articulate appropriate reflexive leadership practices to address real-world new and/or complex problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam
CLO4 : Communicate the complex entanglements of societal and cultural aspects of environmental challenges in a variety of formats to diverse audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Reflection Activities • Final Exam
CLO5 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Blackboard Collaborate | Echo 360

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Weekly Reflection Activities Assessment Format: Individual	45%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 1: 09 September - 15 September, Week 2: 16 September - 22 September, Week 3: 23 September - 29 September, Week 4: 30 September - 06 October, Week 6: 14 October - 20 October, Week 7: 21 October - 27 October, Week 8: 28 October - 03 November, Week 9: 04 November - 10 November, Week 10: 11 November - 17 November
Final Exam Assessment Format: Individual	55%	Start Date: Centrally scheduled Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details

Weekly Reflection Activities

Assessment Overview

Students will write a reflection each week based on the weekly readings/learning materials and due before the class in which the readings are discussed.

Length: 300 words x 9 weeks, Total 2,700 words.

Feedback via rubric and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Investigate and synthesise a range of key established and recent theoretical approaches to understanding how today's environmental problems are entangled in social and cultural questions
- CL02 : Engage a trans-disciplinary range of theoretical approaches to cultural systems of knowledge and power to analyse both place-based and international environmental challenges
- CL04 : Communicate the complex entanglements of societal and cultural aspects of environmental challenges in a variety of formats to diverse audiences

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not 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](#).

Final Exam

Assessment Overview

Students will take a final examination during the formal examination period in which they will write three or four short essays from a larger number of prompts.

Length: 3,300 words in total.

Duration: 2 hours

Feedback via rubric and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Investigate and synthesise a range of key established and recent theoretical approaches to understanding how today's environmental problems are entangled in social and cultural questions
- CL02 : Engage a trans-disciplinary range of theoretical approaches to cultural systems of knowledge and power to analyse both place-based and international environmental challenges
- CL03 : Apply theoretical approaches to environmental relations to rigorously evaluate issues and articulate appropriate reflexive leadership practices to address real-world new and/or complex problems
- CL04 : Communicate the complex entanglements of societal and cultural aspects of environmental challenges in a variety of formats to diverse audiences
- CL05 : Exhibit a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in knowledge and skill acquisition through integrating course concepts into independent scholarly research

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	Seminar	Introduction: The Concepts of Environment, Management, and why Theory MattersIntroduction: The Concepts of Environment, Management, and why Theory Matters
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Seminar	Conventional Western Approaches to the Environment, Management, and Knowledge Production about the Environment
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Seminar	Political Ecology
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Seminar	Ecofeminism
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Seminar	Foucault, Discourse and Environment
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Seminar	Critical Race Theory and Environmental Justice
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Seminar	Science and Technology Studies
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Seminar	Postcolonial Theory
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Seminar	Ecocultural Identity

Attendance Requirements

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

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All reading, documentaries and other supplemental material in this class will be available on the course library site, accessible through the course Moodle.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	John Carr					No	Yes

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.

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