**UNSW Course Outline**

# ARTS4247 Research Skills in the Humanities - 2024

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## General Course Information

**Course Code :**  ARTS4247
**Year :**  2024
**Term :**  Term 1
**Teaching Period :**  T1
**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](Handbook) [Class Timetable](Class Timetable)

## Course Details & Outcomes

## Course Description

This course will help you to develop a range of higher-level research skills. It will cover such areas as research methodology, research questions, the literature review, presentation skills, and academic writing. It will help you to identify and develop your research proposal, articulate its

point and purpose, and present it in oral and written form. It will thereby support you in the skills you need to produce a sustained research project such as the Honours thesis. The content is delivered through seminars and workshop.

## Course Learning Outcomes

| Course Learning Outcomes |
| --- |
| CLO1 : Evaluate the key principles of high-quality quality research in a relevant discipline |
| CLO2 : Locate, analyse and evaluate research relevant to a specific topic |
| CLO3 : Construct and articulate a clear and coherent research proposal |
| CLO4 : Articulate the ethical obligations generated by research in the humanities |

| Course Learning Outcomes | Assessment Item |
| --- | --- |
| CLO1 : Evaluate the key principles of high-quality quality research in a relevant discipline | • Thesis critique |
| CLO2 : Locate, analyse and evaluate research relevant to a specific topic | • Research presentation<br>• Research proposal |
| CLO3 : Construct and articulate a clear and coherent research proposal | • Research presentation<br>• Research proposal |
| CLO4 : Articulate the ethical obligations generated by research in the humanities | • Thesis critique<br>• Research proposal |

## Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

## Learning and Teaching in this course

This course is run in 4 on campus seminars and students also engage in asychronous online activities.

# Assessments

## Assessment Structure

| Assessment Item | Weight | Relevant Dates |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Thesis critique | 30% | Due Date: Week 4: 04 March - 10 March |
| Research presentation | 30% | Due Date: Week 10: 15 April - 21 April |
| Research proposal | 40% | Due Date: Week 11: 22 April - 28 April |

# Assessment Details
## Thesis critique

### Assessment Overview

1500 words. Your task is to submit a critical evaluation of one recent Honours thesis in your discipline. Your critique should consider the following: a) Thesis topic b) Literature review c) Thesis structure d) Argument e) Quality of writing. You will have the opportunity to present a short thesis critique to your colleagues. You receive written feedback on the critique.

### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Evaluate the key principles of high-quality quality research in a relevant discipline
- CLO4 : Articulate the ethical obligations generated by research in the humanities

### Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for more information.

### Assessment information

Students submit the written work prior to class. Students present their critique in class using PPT.

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

## Research presentation

### Assessment Overview

Your research presentation will be 15 minutes in duration, and will provide a summary of your research proposal, covering the research topic, statement, rationale, literature review, and methodology. It will be presented in the format of an academic conference paper. You will receive oral feedback at the presentation and written feedback afterwards.

### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Locate, analyse and evaluate research relevant to a specific topic
- CLO3 : Construct and articulate a clear and coherent research proposal

### Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for more information.

### Assessment Length

15 minutes

## Research proposal

Assessment Overview

2500 words excluding references. Your research proposal must cover the following: a) Tentative title of the project b) Project statement c) Rationale d) Literature review e) Methodology f) Tentative chapter outline g) Timeline h) References i) Ethical implications. You will receive written feedback. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Locate, analyse and evaluate research relevant to a specific topic
- CLO3 : Construct and articulate a clear and coherent research proposal
- CLO4 : Articulate the ethical obligations generated by research in the humanities

Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for more information.

Assessment Length

2,500 words + references

Assessment information

Students submit written proposal 1 week after their scheduled presentation.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

# General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

# Course Schedule

| Teaching Week/Module | Activity Type | Content |
|---|---|---|
| Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February | Seminar | Deconstructing the research process: Introduction to Honours |
| | Online Activity | Sage Research Methods: Philosophy of Research/Knowledge<br>Visit this website and read through the materials in preparation for this class. https://methods-sagepub-com.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/project-planner/philosophy-of-research<br><br>The Arts and Craft of Writing in the Sage Research Methods<br>How to structure your thesis?<br>• The mystery your research is to solve is your purpose (Chapter 4), your research question, hypothesis or debate.<br>• How others tried to solve the same mystery is your literature review.<br>• How you tried to solve it is your methodology report.<br>• What you discovered from your investigations are your findings.<br>• Your solution to the mystery is the conclusions.<br>• How this improves on previous investigations and what mysteries it leaves to be solved is your final discussion.<br>• The 'research participants and sources may be seen as the characters in this story, and will need to be introduced and developed as they would in a novel' (Blaxter et al., 2001: 242, my italics). |
| Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March | Seminar | The Literature Review.<br>• Explain what a literature review is and why you need to do one<br>• Define the steps in a literature search and a literature review<br>• Give you an overview of where to look for appropriate literature |
| | Online Activity | Literature review (cont.)<br>This week we will discuss what a good literature review is. Explore the Sage Research Methods tool:<br>https://methods-sagepub-com.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/project-planner/reviewing-the-literature |
| Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March | Seminar | Writing up research and academic presentations. |
| | Online Activity | Visit Sage Research Planner: Writing up<br>https://methods-sagepub-com.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/Search/Results<br>This stage will:<br>• Explain how to write academically<br>• Provide tips for writing up reports, dissertations, and theses<br>• Give guidance on how to write up the different sections of your research paper |
| Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April | Presentation | Students present their research proposal at the HAL Honours Symposium. Supervisors and academics are invited to watch the presentations. Students should be available until 1PM. |
| | Online Activity | ASYNCHRONOUS WRITING WORKSHOP<br>In this workshop you will have the opportunity to seek peer feedback on your draft proposal. See Moodle for instructions. |

# Attendance Requirements

Please note that lecture recordings are not available for this course. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and contact the Course Authority to make alternative arrangements for classes missed.

# General Schedule Information

This course is delivered in block teaching format in weeks 1, 4, 7 and 10.

# Course Resources

## Prescribed Resources

See Leganto

## Recommended Resources

Charles Lipsom, How to Write a BA Thesis: A Practical Guide from Your First Ideas to Your Finished Paper

This book is written for US Theses, which are much shorter than yours and based on far less independent primary research. But it is still very useful and I suggest that you buy a copy. The library has an older version if you want to take a look before purchasing.

Sage Research Methods Online (available in UNSW Library)

## Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback will be gathered through MyExperience. It is always analysed and considered in planning for this course.

Last year the course was significantly re-developed with block teaching format, fewer contact hours and more streamlined assessment.

# Staff Details

| Position | Name | Email | Location | Phone | Availability | Equitable Learning Services Contact | Primary Contact |
|----------|------|-------|----------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Convenor | Anikó Hatoss | | MB 266 | | by appointment | 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.

[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