Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Dr Alison Wannan	a.wannan@unsw.edu.au	By appointment before or after seminars or at other negotiated times. I work part time from Monday to Wednesday.	Room 134 Level 1 Morven Brown	9385 0356

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

email: soss@unsw.edu.au

phone: 02 9385 1807

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

In this course, you will have the opportunity to undertake a piece of directed original research with the support of an academic advisor. You will complete a number of formative tasks, building up to the submission of a single research report detailing the design, conduct and findings of your research.

8939 Master of Development Studies, 8225 Master of Arts (International Relations) and 8248 Master of Policy Studies must seek approval from the Program Convenor to enrol in the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Design, develop and report on research activities and questions, showing awareness of research ethics and selecting appropriate research methods related to their research topics;
2. Critically engage with current scholarship in their field of study to inform research and contribute to knowledge in this field; and
3. Demonstrate resourcefulness, creativity and flexibility in the application of knowledge and skills to solve problems related to research.

Teaching Strategies

This course is designed to facilitate directed research using online resources and individual/group supervision. Students will be encouraged to design a desk-based project that can be undertaken within a short time frame, to apply the concepts discussed in SRAP5101 Research Methods. The course structure includes dedicated writing time to ensure students complete their research projects within stated timeframes.

Assessment

Course design and learning activities

This course has been designed to facilitate directed research. Resources will be available online and group and/or individual supervision will take place in a face to face environment. Students can undertake group work and peer review throughout the course, however, the final essay or research project will be an individual piece of work. Students conduct a piece of desk-based research on a topic of their choosing. The course gives the students the opportunity to conduct research in an area of interest within

Attendance Requirements

Please note that lecture recordings are not available for this course. Students are strongly encouraged to

Resources

Prescribed Resources

You will benefit from becoming familiar with Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com) as a key search engine for academic publications and reports. You can set up the preferences to link to the UNSW Library even when you are not on campus.

Go to Google Scholar>settings>library links, and enter 'University of New South Wales' in the box for the "Library".

You can sign up for Table of Contents (TOC) Alerts from the homepages of relevant journals, to receive an email whenever new articles are published in that journal. Journal websites will often carry information on the most viewed and most cited articles; these are likely to be interesting and often influential contributions. Google Scholar will also point you to articles that have cited a particular article and hence be related to the topic.

Recommended Resources

Recommended resources

Belcher, W. (2009) *Upgrgle wmsp hmspl_j _prgajc gl /0 ucciq*, Los Angles: SAGE.

Hall, R. (2008) ?nnjgcb Qmag_j Pcqc_paf* Sydney: Macmillan

Additional readings

Other readings are provided on the course Moodle site under the Leganto link. This will give you direct access to the articles. Other additional readings will be added during the term.

Course Evaluation and Development

Past students suggested a couple of ways of improving the Course - both of which have been taken on board this term. The main two changes are providing additional readings as well as an option to have an extra seminar,as they liked small group discussions. Additional references about the different (qualitative and qualitative) approaches to conducting secondary research have been included on Moodle. Although most students thought the individual consultation sessions were most beneficial, some students had a preference to attend an additional seminar. Consequently in Week 8 there is an option for students to attend either an individual consultation or an additional seminar, or do independent research. The decision about whether there will be an additional seminar this term will be discussed with students in Week 6.

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 also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information 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 before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, 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.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and 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 also 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

- 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

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/