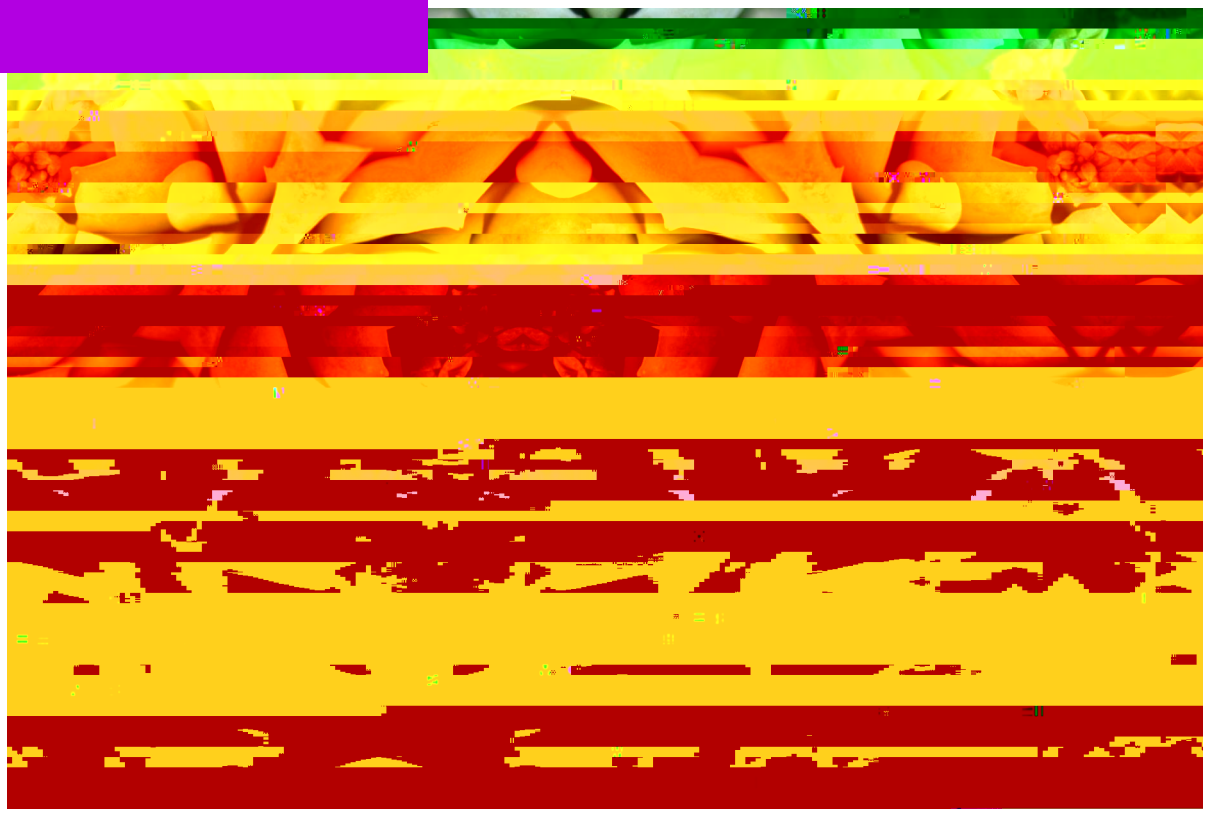

IEST5005

Environmental Communication: Discourse & Ecocultural Meaning Systems

Term Three // 2020

School of Humanities and Languages // UNSW Arts and Social Sciences

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Tema Milstein	tema.milstein@unsw.edu.au	During consultation hours (Wednesdays, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.) by appointment	Morven Brown 364 (or online via Teams due to distance learning or Covid)	

School Contact Information

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course explores communicative ways humans produce and transform environmental and cultural knowledges and relations. You will focus on local and global manifestations of discourses – or shared ways of making meaning, framing issues, and forming knowledge – and examine their interrelated environmental and sociocultural reverberations at everyday and structural scales. The course situates “the environment” both as actively socially constructed through communication and as deeply materially experienced through more-than-human relations. In gaining a deeper understanding of the roles of communication, or discourse, in shaping contemporary environmental orientations, you will also focus on restorative communicative ways forward.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the challenges of defining and communicating complex environmental problems to a wide audience.
2. Critically reflect on communication and cultural processes and contexts that construct, reproduce, and transform environmental perceptions and actions.
3. Explain ecocultural theories of communication.
4. Use communication and ecocultural research to deconstruct, critically investigate, and reenvision environmental relations.

Teaching Strategies

Learning in this course emphasizes instructor-facilitated and student-driven critical and creative seminar-based exploration, as well as out-of-classroom experiences. This sort of learning requires active individual and group participation. You will deeply engage with the readings before class meetings in order to actively participate in discussion, exercises, assignments, and experiential field studies and engagements.

Assessment

A correctly used scholarly referencing system is compulsory (APA referencing system is preferred). If you are unfamiliar with academic convention with citations, ensure you consult UNSW guidelines: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-do-i-cite-electronic-sources

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Weekly Reading Assessment	40%	Not Applicable	1,2,3
Field studies and field study reflection paper	60%	Please see additional details below.	1,2,3

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Weekly Reading Assessment

Additional details:

Field Study Reports due: 6 October, 27 October, 17 November.

Field Study Reflection Paper due 30 November.

See class Moodle for instructions and expectations.

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

Resources

Prescribed Resources

All course readings and additional resources will be freely accessible via class Moodle site.

Recommended Resources

N/A

Course Evaluation and Development

MyExperience will be used for evaluation at the end of the course. Student feedback each year has actively shaped this course to be what it is today.

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

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.

- 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

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/