



ARTS5206

Research Specialisation

Term Three // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Dorottya Fabian	d.fabian@unsw.edu.au	Your primary contact for this course is your thesis supervisor. The Course Authority (administrative, non-teaching Convenor) is Professor Dorottya Fabian, Associate Dean Research Training.		
Amy Stansfield	a.stansfield@unsw.edu.au	For administrative inquiries related to this course, you should contact Amy Stansfield in the HDR office.	HDR Team Leader, Faculty Research Office, Arts and Social Sciences	

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

This core course of the Master of Philosophy in Arts and Social Sciences provides an opportunity to work closely with academic leaders in your field of specialisation and Social Sciences to gain in-depth knowledge of current developments. This specialisation enables you to hone your discipline-specific research skills, research methods and deepen your understanding of the field in its history, theories and approaches, as well as its cutting-edge debates in the literature. You will be supported by writing your research proposal.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate advanced research and information retrieval skills
2. Synthesize disciplinary knowledge purposefully to drive convincing arguments
3. Hone written and verbal communication skills
4. Critically evaluate and apply theories and methods to drive relevant research in a global context

Teaching Strategies

This course is designed to serve individual, discipline-specific learning needs and to provide deep knowledge of their chosen field of research. Classes will be small and interactive, including high expectations of active engagement and capacity to absorb and apply knowledge. Teaching is focussed on providing discipline-specific overviews of key concepts (via summaries, online resources, and set readings and their discussion) and on conducting research as each student develops their own individual project.

The presentations of research proposals will take place on week 9 in a symposium-workshop for the entire cohort in each interdisciplinary MPhil specialisation. The MPhil provides interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary training and so it is important for students to be able to present to a diverse audience. Students will need to articulate clearly the disciplinary distinction between their discipline and why they are doing it within their chosen discipline. When brought together, students will be encouraged to reflect on their own discipline by way of their research and how that contribute to the wider research area. The symposium-workshop will provide an opportunity for those wishing to undertake cross-disciplinary research as they will need to justify their research is necessary in filling in research gaps and in deriving novel insights.

To make this symposium-workshop a success, all students in each specialisation will be required to present their research in their discipline to their group at the start of the term (week 1) so that the importance of disciplinary knowledge and understanding of how that discipline sits in relation to other disciplines is established. A large group meeting gives the students an opportunity to grasp what others are doing and to hear about each-other's work in week 9.

Feedback on the presentations in week 9 can be harnessed for the final research proposal to be submitted the following week.

Assessment

The MPhil is designed to provide inter- and transdisciplinary training. Students will be able to address an interdisciplinary audience in their research proposal. They will need to articulate clearly the disciplinary distinctiveness of what they are doing it within their chosen discipline. Students will be encouraged to explore a way of contrast with other disciplines that contribute to the wider research field.

Teaching Strategies note to supervisors

This compulsory course in the MPhil program is normally convened by a senior academic colleague with whom the supervisor might share a research group or a research candidates. The class component of the course can be offered in a variety of ways depending on supervisor/research group leader's availability. T1 might be more suitably involved but MPhil candidates are officially enrolled in this course in the first year and are due in T3.

As indicated by the summary of the course, the convenor is responsible for facilitating discussions that deepen the candidates' and other participants' understanding of the current state of the discipline, its major debates, research questions, and methods. A minimum of the group should meet fortnightly but preferably weekly for 9 months (over the year). So as not to overwhelm the MPhil candidates, the assessments are primarily on the individual research thesis but they are expected to do any additional reading and discussions.

To ensure transparency, avoid conflict of interest and assist supervisors, it is recommended that the literature review and the proposal are marked by the primary supervisor. It seems appropriate to ask the co- or joint supervisor to provide timely additional feedback on top of comments from the primary supervisor. The research proposal is submitted to the annual research progress review panel. The expert reader of this panel marks this assignment as part of the review. The presentation is included in the mark. This assignment may take the form of a panel or, preferably, be a part of the public confirmation review presentation.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Annotated bibliography	20%	Week 4	1
Literature Review	30%	Week 7	2,3
Research Proposal	50%	Week 10	2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Annotated bibliography

Start date: Not Applicable

Details:

Prepare a literature search and annotated bibliography on an assigned

Written feedback and class discussion

Additional details:

Write a standard abstract for your intended research project and prepare an annotated bibliography for it. An annotated bibliography usually consists of a paragraph on its main point/argument, methods used, and whether used or not how.

Turnitin setting: assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students receive similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Literature Review

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: Maximum 3000 words

Details:

Prepare a literature review of an assigned / selected field identifying research gaps.

Written feedback

Additional details:

Written feedback will be provided by your supervisor (and/or secondary

Turnitin setting: assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students receive similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Research Proposal

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: Maximum 5000 words for written proposal, plus presentation.

Details:

Prepare a research proposal, inclusive of literature review, identification of research and objective and proposed method and outline of investigation. Prepare a presentation on this material. The oral presentation will comprise 10% of the mark,

written proposal will form the remaining 40%.

written and verbal feedback and class discussion

Additional details:

In addition to the written research proposal, you will be required to present a presentation on this material. This will be delivered as part of the research proposal.

You will receive written feedback from the Expert Reader of your research proposal in addition to panel discussion of your proposal.

Turnitin setting: assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students will receive similarity reports.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Your supervisor will provide you with a reading list.

Recommended Resources

Your supervisor will advise on recommended resources.

Course Evaluation and Development

This is the first time that this course has been offered, as the MPhil i to provide feedback on the course at the end of Term 3.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externaltel@unsw.edu.au. Hours are 8:00am - 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am - 5:00pm on weekends. If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any screenshots) and include this 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 not. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Moodle or Turnitin. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on the assignment page. Alternative submission details will be provided where necessary.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/learning/submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own in various forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct
UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the library
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

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

