

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



The College

AUSTRALIAN STUDIES

700213/900077

2020



UNIT OUTLINE

Last amended:	September 2020
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Unit name	Australian Studies
Unit number	700213/900077
Coordinator	Chantal Rozairo
Session	2020.3
Handbook summary	Australian Studies aims to inform students of some of the aspects of the historical development of Australia and highlight some of the important physical, social, political and economic issues and events which have helped shape the development of Australia as an independent, modern nation. The study of issues, events, attitudes and values in the Australian context along with the development of academic skills will assist students in their study of Humanities units at the tertiary level. In addition, all students, especially international students, should acquire a better appreciation of the environment in which they live and learn to think more critically about issues facing people in the 21st century.
Credit point value	10
Prerequisite/s	None
Unit incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with	N/A
Unit level	700213 Diploma 900077 University Foundation Studies
Attendance requirements	Students are expected to attend at least 80% of classes. Educational research consistently demonstrates that this attendance level is associated with a high likelihood of achieving a passing grade.
Enrolment restrictions	
Learning outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this unit, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate an understanding of key events, processes and debates in the history of Australia 2. demonstrate an understanding of the difference between primary and secondary sources and a basic ability to interpret both 3. evaluate competing interpretations of central debates in contemporary Australia, including (but not limited to) those surrounding the issues of human rights, multiculturalism, religion and social welfare 4. present ideas effectively in written, oral and digital form, and 5. demonstrate an understanding of some of the distinguishing geographical, social and political features of contemporary Australian society.

Unit content	<p>In this unit students will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian geography and demography • Aboriginal Australian civilisation and connections to Asia • Aboriginal Australians and European visitors • Colonial Australia: Australian Britons and Aboriginal dispossession • Australian nation building: Federation, ANZAC and looking to America • Australia and migration: from White Australia to multiculturalism • Australian identity • Australia in Asia, and • issues in contemporary Australia
Mode of delivery	<p>This unit consists of six hours of tutorials each week as well as online activities via vUWS.</p>
Online learning requirements	
Essential requirements	<p>Essential text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no essential text for this unit. <p>Further resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bliss, S & Paine, J 2010, <i>Geoactive 2: stage 5 Australian geography</i>, John Wiley and Sons, Milton, Queensland. • Cadzow, A & Maynard J 2011, <i>Aboriginal studies</i>, Nelson Cengage Learning, Victoria • Daniel, K (ed.) 2012, <i>SBS world guide: the complete fact file on every country</i>, 17th edn, Hardie Grant Books (SBS Books), Prahran, Victoria • Darlington, R, Greer, V & Hospodaryk, J 2004, <i>History zone 2 (stage 5): Australia since 1901</i>, Heinemann, Port Melbourne, Victoria. • Drum, M & Tate, J 2012, <i>Politics in Australia</i>, Palgrave Macmillan, Victoria. • Fraser, I, Gionea, J, Fraser, S 2011, <i>Economics for business</i>. • Grieg, A, 2013 <i>The Australian way of life</i>, Palgrave Macmillan, Victoria. • Hinkson, M & Harris, A 2001, <i>Aboriginal Sydney: a guide to important places of the past and present</i>, 2nd edn, Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra, ACT. • Jupp, J (ed.) 2009 <i>The encyclopaedia of religion in Australia</i>, Cambridge University Press, Victoria. • Lyons, M & Russell, P (ed.) 2005, <i>Australia's history: themes and debates</i>, University of NSW, Sydney. • Mackay, H 1999, <i>Turning point; Australians choosing their future</i>, Pan Macmillan, Sydney. NSW. • Mackay, H 2010, <i>What makes Australia tick? The ten desires that drive us</i>, Hachette Australia. • Mason, K 2007, <i>Experience of nationhood: modern Australia since 1901</i>, Cengage Learning, South Melbourne. • Murphy, J 2011, <i>Half a citizen: life on welfare in Australia</i>. Allen and Unwin, Sydney, NSW.

- Najman, J & Western J 2000, *A sociology of Australian society*, Macmillan, South Melbourne.
- Newman, D & Crago, T 2004, *A short history of Australia*, Victoria Book Publishing, Springvale, Victoria.
- Perkins, R & Langton, M 2010 (ed.), *First Australians: an illustrated history*, Miegunyah Press, Carlton, Victoria.
- Pettitt, A & Ranald, P 2004, *Protecting human rights in Australia*, Public Interest Advocacy Centre, Sydney.
- Pietsch, J, Graetz, B & McAllister, I 2010, *Dimensions of Australian society*, Palgrave Macmillan, Victoria.
- Prosser, R 2004, *Countries of the world: Australia*, Evans, London.
- Sappey, R 2009, *Industrial relations in Australia: work and workplaces*, Pearson Education, Frenchs Forest, NSW.
- Taylor, P 2007, *Why we are Australian: 125 defining men, women and moments over three centuries*, Five Mile Press, Rowville, Victoria.
- Thomas, F, Strauss, B, Osheim, D, Neuschel, K, Accampo, E, Roberts, D et al. 2011, *Western civilisation: beyond boundaries*, volume B: 1300-1815, Nelson Cengage Learning, Victoria.
- White, SA 2003, *Understanding Australia: a guide for international students*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- White, SA 2003 *Understanding Australia*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

Assessment for this unit will be based on the following components

Task	Weighting	Learning outcomes assessed	Mandatory task
1. In-class test (50 minutes)	10%	1, 2, 4 and 5	Yes
2. Expository essay (1000 words)	30%	1, 3, 4 and 5	Yes
3. Showcase presentation	30%	1, 2, 3 and 4	Yes
4. End of session assessment	30%	1, 3, 4 and 5	Yes
TOTAL	100%		

For details of assessment due dates, please refer to the learning guide for this unit.

All marks will be determined in accordance with The College [Assessment Policy](#).

All assessment tasks are mandatory unless otherwise specified. Should a student fail to attempt/submit the first formal assessment task in a unit, they will be deemed to be at risk and will need to follow an intervention plan in order not to receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade. However, failure to attempt/submit all other mandatory assessment tasks will result in an immediate FNS grade for the unit.

To pass this unit, students must:

- attain an overall mark of at least 50% for the unit
- submit/complete all required items of assessment and activities, and
- keep a copy of all work submitted.