

## Course Outline

**Code: SCS701**

### **Title: Engaging Effectively with Aboriginal people**

**School:** Social Sciences  
**Teaching Session:** Semester 1  
**Year:** 2019  
**Course Coordinator:** Shelli Robins (formally Hellmrich) - mhellmri@usc.edu.au  
**Course Moderator:** Tina Lathouras - tlathouras@usc.edu.au

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

#### **1. What is this course about?**

##### **1.1 Description**

A major national challenge remains in ‘closing the gap’ for Indigenous Australians. Professionals in many fields (social work, counselling, planning, teaching, environmental management, health etc.) are expected to work effectively with Aboriginal families and communities, yet feel under-prepared and poorly served by their formal training. This course will provide you with relevant multidisciplinary knowledge to critically reflect on current ways of working with Aboriginal communities and develop specific strategies to effectively engage with Aboriginal people and deliver culturally inclusive practices.

##### **1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation**

Activity	Details
Nil	Nil

#### **2. What level is this course?**

700 level Specialised - Demonstrating a specialised body of knowledge and set of skills for professional practice or further learning. Advanced application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

#### **3. What is the unit value of this course?**

12 units

#### **4. How does this course contribute to my learning?**

Specific Learning Outcomes	Assessment tasks	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Critically reflect on the complex and dynamic nature of Aboriginal people’s experiences and the challenges of ‘closing the gap’ of Indigenous disadvantage.	1 and 2	Knowledgeable. Creative and critical thinkers.
Critically examine the histories and complexities of non-Indigenous people	1 and 2	Knowledgeable. Creative and critical thinkers.

<b>Specific Learning Outcomes</b> On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	<b>Assessment tasks</b> You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	<b>Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping</b> Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
engaging and working effectively with Aboriginal families and communities.		
Critically assess policies, strategies and practice that seek to effectively address Aboriginal disadvantage and empower Aboriginal communities	1 and 2	Creative and critical thinkers. Ethical.
Examine the ethical, moral and political responsibilities posed by working with Aboriginal families and communities and apply professional judgement based on reasoned arguments	1 and 2	Ethical.

## 5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

### 5.1 Enrolment restrictions

Must be enrolled in a postgraduate program

### 5.2 Pre-requisites

Nil

### 5.3 Co-requisites

Nil

### 5.4 Anti-requisites

Nil

### 5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Nil

## 6. How am I going to be assessed?

### 6.1 Grading scale

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

### 6.2 Details of early feedback on progress

The first assessment item is due in Week 3 and provides early and formative feedback on progress.

### 6.3 Assessment tasks

<b>Task No.</b>	<b>Assessment Product</b>	<b>Individual or Group</b>	<b>Weighting %</b>	<b>What is the duration / length?</b>	<b>When should I submit?</b>	<b>Where should I submit it?</b>
1	Journal	Individual	60%	5 X 800 words	Friday week 3, week 5, week 7, week 9 and week 11	Online Assignment Submission

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2	Essay	Individual	40%	2000 words	Friday, Week 13	Online Assignment Submission
			100%			

**Assessment Task 1: Reflective Journal**

<b>Goal:</b>	The purpose of this task is for you to analyse and critically reflect on weekly required readings to demonstrate you understand key concepts.
<b>Product:</b>	Journal
<b>Format:</b>	<p>The journal responses are submitted in weeks 3, 5, 7, 9 and 12. The first submission is not marked but you will receive written formative feedback from your tutor to guide your learning and preparation of future submissions. Each reflective submission should be approximately 800 words in length.</p> <p>The task will require you to analyse and critically reflect on the required readings and a series of set questions for each week related to those readings of relevance to your professional practice. Examples of graded journal entries and general feedback from previous year's journals are provided on Blackboard.</p> <p>On campus students - You are required to work on these each week and discuss your draft answers in either tutorial classes (every week).</p> <p>Online students - You are required to work on these each week and discuss your draft answers during Blackboard Collaborate sessions.</p>
<b>Criteria:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content: Relevant and critical reflection on readings and related study questions.</li> <li>• Argument: Adequately supported through discussion and use of referenced evidence.</li> <li>• Originality: Arguments indicate originality and independence of thought.</li> <li>• Structure: Arguments effectively presented and well organised. Evidence of careful reading in planning, preparation and writing.</li> <li>• Clarity and Expression: Clear quality of expression. Correct grammar, punctuation and spelling</li> <li>• Referencing: Evidence referenced using Harvard style and documented through correct use of citations, quotations and bibliography. In this course, an additional referencing requirement is for page numbers for all citations not just for direct quotes.</li> </ul>

**Assessment Task 2: Essay**

<b>Goal:</b>	In this assessment, you are required to critically apply your knowledge to develop an argument in relation to a specific topic.
<b>Product:</b>	Essay
<b>Format:</b>	You are required to write an essay of 2,000 words in response to one of a selection of questions concerning issues raised by the whole course. The questions for the essay will be posted on Blackboard in week 1.
<b>Criteria:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content: Relevant, detailed and critical. Addressing all major issues. Recognising conflicting theories and explanations.</li> <li>• Argument: Logically consistent and demonstrating critical analysis. Adequately supported through discussion and use of referenced evidence.</li> <li>• Originality: Arguments indicate originality and independence of thought.</li> <li>• Structure: Arguments effectively presented, organised and logically ordered. Evidence of careful reading in planning, preparation and writing. Effective introduction and conclusion.</li> <li>• Clarity and Expression: Clear quality of expression. Correct grammar, punctuation and spelling.</li> </ul>

- Referencing: Evidence referenced using Harvard style and documented through correct use of citation, quotations and bibliography. In this course, an additional referencing requirement is for page numbers for all citations not just for direct quotes.

## 7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

Location:	Directed study hours for location:
Sippy Downs	1 x 2 hours lecture per week (weeks 1-13) and 1 x 1hour tutorial per week (weeks 1-12).
Online	1 x 2 hours on-line lecture materials and activities per week (weeks 1-13) and 1 x 1hour on-line tutorial session per week (as per schedule on Blackboard).

## 8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

### 8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Information regarding prescribed texts or other associated resources will be made available on the BlackBoard site prior to commencement of study.

### 8.2 Specific requirements

On-line students are not required to attend campus. Students need a PC ([https://usc.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1371](https://usc.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1371)) and access to the Internet to complete this course.

## 9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

## 10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

### 10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work

to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

## 10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements

### Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
- c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

## 10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

## 10.4 Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to [Student Hub](#).

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)

## 10.5 Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:

<http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

## 10.6 General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie

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- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

**Tel:** +61 7 5430 2890

**Email:** [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)