



UNSW
SYDNEY

Australia's
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University



SOSS1001

Social Research and Society

Term Three // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Jung-Sook Lee	js.lee@unsw.edu.au	by appointment	Morven Brown 140	9385 2329

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

email: sooss@unsw.edu.au

phone: 02 9385 1807

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course introduces the methods and processes available to social scientists in researching in the social world. It explores the processes involved in locating and making sense of information used in the policy process and in generating new information through research. It introduces and examines a range of technologies to assess the use of information and provides skills in the use of such technologies and in the design, conduct and analysis of social research.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify, search for and appraise the quality and relevance of sources of information utilised in the research endeavour
2. Annotate, review and reference literature appropriate to research projects in the social sciences
3. Recognise key issues in research planning and design and selecting the appropriate methods for addressing particular research problems
4. Appreciate the limitations of social research

Teaching Strategies

Rationale:

In accordance with UNSW Learning and Teaching Guidelines, we expect to engage students in learning through structured hands-on activities premised on the belief that effective learning takes place when students are actively engaged in the learning process.

Teaching Strategies:

The learning outcomes will be addressed through lectures and tutorials. Students are expected to engage with the material and prepare for the tutorials and lectures in order to enhance their learning experience.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Literature review	40%	TBA	1,2
Research report	60%	TBA	1,2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Literature review

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1000

Details:

This assessment consists of a 1000 word synthesis of literature relevant to the topic of the course.

You will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS). The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to you at the start of the course so that you can work towards specified standards.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Research report

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2000

Details:

This assessment consists of a 2000 word research report that includes a literature review, method description, results presentation and description, discussion and conclusion based on the course research topic and data collected during the semester. You will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS). The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to you at the start of the course so that you can work towards specified standards.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
O Week: 8 September - 9 September	Online Activity	Working with Academic Integrity
Week 1: 14 September - 18 September	Lecture	What is social research?
	Tutorial	Introduction to research
Week 2: 21 September - 25 September	Lecture	Ethics and politics in research; Literature review
	Tutorial	Ethics and politics in research
Week 3: 28 September - 2 October	Lecture	Research strategies; Designs and methods
	Tutorial	Writing a literature review
	Online Activity	Self-evaluation
Week 4: 5 October - 9 October	Lecture	What is quantitative research?
	Tutorial	How to reference using Endnote
Week 5: 12 October - 16 October	Lecture	Survey research; Survey data analysis
	Tutorial	Collecting data
Week 6: 19 October - 23 October	Screening	No lecture or tutorial. Critical reading for writing 4: returning to the literature when writing a discussion
Week 7: 26 October - 30 October	Lecture	Secondary data analysis; Systematic observation; Content analysis
	Tutorial	Analysis of quantitative data
Week 8: 2 November - 6 November	Lecture	What is qualitative research?
	Tutorial	Graphing data; Interviewing
	Online Activity	Secondary data analysis
Week 9: 9 November - 13 November	Lecture	Interviews and focus groups
	Tutorial	Coding qualitative data
Week 10: 16 November - 20 November	Lecture	Participant observation and ethnography; Document analysis
	Tutorial	Report writing

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Book - Bryman, A. (2015) Social Research Methods (5th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University.

Recommended Resources

Website - Bryman companion site: <http://global.oup.com/uk/orc/sociology/brymansrm5e/>

Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically using, among other means, UNSW's MyExperience process. Informal feedback and class-generated feedback are also important. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback.

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 automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

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

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
- better manage your time

- 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/>

Image Credit

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CRICOS

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.