



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Indigenous Cultural Studies

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
HUS	7004	40976	1, 2005	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	KUMBN
Academic org:	KUMBNL
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	090311

STAFFING

Examiner: Stephen Hagan

RATIONALE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have occupied Australia for at least 60 000 years and during this time have developed rich, cultural diverse and complex families and societies. This course introduces and exposes students to the histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and societies through to a contemporary context. By completing this course students will gain a respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within Australia. This appreciation will lead to a greater awareness of the many races, cultures and languages within multi-cultural Australia. The modules of the course, taught in conjunction with the other Tertiary Preparation Program courses of HUS7001 - Introduction to Computing Basics, HUS7002 - Nguya Goolpanie? What Did You Say? Study Skills and HUS7003 - Imbala - Hearing to Understand: Thinking to Write will further enhance students' communication skills. This course will allow students to gain an appreciation and understanding of all Australian cultures and families by focusing upon their own family history and family genealogy.

SYNOPSIS

Using a process of self-paced instruction and research, the course follows a sequence of topics that focuses on Indigenous culture. A timeline approach, which follows Indigenous Australian lifestyles from creation, through invasion and contemporary issues, is adopted. The teaching strategy will be inclusive of culturally relevant instruction and perspectives that can only be beneficial to Indigenous Australian students. Hence, this enables students to feel more comfortable in addressing Indigenous and non-Indigenous viewpoints and histories.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. recognize the diversity of Indigenous Australian peoples and to conceptualise them as being the original occupants of this land;
2. express their identity in a context that reinforces their uniqueness cultural heritage with pride and dignity;

3. gain an understanding of traditional Indigenous Australian societies and families before the invasion of Australia;
4. appreciate the outcomes experienced by both Indigenous and non- Indigenous peoples during the invasion/contact period; and
5. develop an insight into the contemporary lifestyles, family structures and issues of Indigenous Australian peoples.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Spirituality and Creation	8.00
2.	Aspects of Traditional Aboriginal Society	7.00
3.	Aspects of Traditional Torres Strait Islander Society	7.00
4.	The Invasion Period	7.00
5.	Effects of Government Policies on Indigenous Peoples	7.00
6.	Family Histories (including an excursion to John Oxley Library)	7.00
7.	Discrimination and Racism	7.00
8.	Education and Employment	7.00
9.	Health, Housing and Welfare	7.00
10.	Media and the Arts	7.00
11.	Government Law and Policy Formation	7.00
12.	Cultural Heritage and Language Maintenance	7.00
13.	Native Title and Land Rights	7.00
14.	Reconciliation and Post Millennium	8.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

There is no set text for this course. A blank audio tape may need to be purchased for assessment purposes.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Video: Rainbow Serpent. Trade Routes, 60 mins. SBS The Islanders (1986), 60 ins. Film Australia The Fringe Dwellers (1986), 97 mins. Film Australia

Broome, R 1982, *Aboriginal Australians. Black Response to White Dominance*, Allen and Unwin, Sydney.

Finch, N 1997, *The Torres Strait Islanders. A portrait of a Unique Group of Australians*, Jacaranda Press, Milton, Queensland.

Singe, J 1989, *The Torres Strait Island. People and History*, University of Queensland, Brisbane.

Woolminton, J.ed 1988, *Aborigines in Colonial Society, 1788 - 1850*, University of New England, Armidale.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	40.00
Directed Study	30.00
Private Study	90.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ORAL PRESENTATION PROPOSAL	10.00	10.00	01 Apr 2005
ORAL PRESENTATION 15-20 MINS	40.00	40.00	20 May 2005
WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT 2000 WORDS	50.00	50.00	10 Jun 2005

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 To gain a passing grade students normally are required to complete and submit each assessment item within the course and obtain an overall result of 50% or more for the course assessment. Students whose results are not at a 50% or better standard may, at the discretion of the examiner, be invited to complete additional equivalent tasks to bring their results up to a passing grade. This would normally occur within the current or the following term.