



MONASH
University



MONASH
College

Unit Guide

Diploma of Arts

Monash College

Table of Contents

Overview	3
MCD1280 – Art and Design Theory A	6
MCD1350 – Media Studies A: Australian Screen Culture	7
MCD1360 – Media Studies B: Mass Communication and the Modern World	8
MCD1520 – Introduction to Academic Communication	9
MCD1540 – Intercultural Business Communication	11
MCD1560 – Introduction to Journalism	13
MCD1580 – Introduction to Psychology	14
MCD1590 – The Modern World	15
MCD1690 – Introductory Economics	16
MCD1730 – Foundations of 3D	17
MCD6010 – Academic Writing	18
MCD6020 – Media and Culture	19
MCD6040 – Professional Writing	20
MCD6050 – Communications and Society	21
MCD6080 – Foundations in Psychology	22
MCD6120 – Introduction to Sociology	23
MCD6140 – The Individual and Society	24
MCD6150 – Media Challenges	25
MCD6160 – Communicating in the Digital Era	26
MCD6170 – Introduction to Psychological Inquiry	27
MCD6180 – Introduction to International Relations	28
MCD6190 – Geopolitical Security in the Indo-Pacific	29

Overview

The Monash College Diploma of Arts offers specialist preparation for direct entry into the second year of an Arts undergraduate degree at Monash University.

Students explore and analyse social and political issues, language and the way social sciences, history and communication shape the world. The Diploma of Arts teaches about the world we live in and the people or networks within it and challenges students to produce solutions to problems.

There are two entry points into the Diploma of Arts - Part One and Part Two - with the entry point for each applicant determined by their academic background and English language level.

Diploma of Arts Course Outcomes

On completion of the Diploma of Arts, students should be able to demonstrate the following skills and knowledge and their application:

1. Knowledge of technical and theoretical issues in a variety of Arts theory and technical and language skills with depth in some areas.
2. Identify and communicate advice in a variety of Arts disciplines to address problems in accord with management requirements.
3. Utilise technical skills to demonstrate understanding and problem solving in relation to Arts issues involving diverse stakeholders.
4. With depth in some areas, critically apply theoretical and technical skills to solve problems in relation to a range of Arts disciplines.
5. Manage work priorities and coordinate the work of others in accord with parameters set by management.

Monash College Diplomas Graduate Attributes

All Monash College courses will develop the following graduate attributes:

- Communication - demonstrated by effective communication in a variety of contexts
- Collaboration - demonstrated by working positively with others to achieve common goals
- Social and Cultural Engagement - demonstrated by respect for diversity and recognition of ethical responsibilities, including towards knowledge creation and academic integrity
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving - demonstrated by the ability to analyse, evaluate and synthesise information to solve problems and innovate
- Independent Learning - demonstrated by the initiative, reflective practice and resilience necessary for self-directed learning, and possession of the foundational discipline knowledge and skills appropriate to commence their destination studies
- Academic Skills - demonstrated by understanding and appropriate application of scholarly practices and standards

DIPLOMA PART 1			
Unit Code	Unit Name	Unit EFTSL¹	Credit Point²
MCD1350	Media Studies A: Australian Screen Culture	0.125	6
MCD1360	Media Studies B: Mass Communication and the Modern World	0.125	6
MCD1520	Introduction to Academic Communication	0.125	6
MCD1540	Intercultural Business Communication	0.125	6
MCD1560	Introduction to Journalism	0.125	6
MCD1580	Introduction to Psychology	0.125	6
MCD1590	The Modern World	0.125	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Choose one Elective from below:</i> 			
MCD1280	Art and Design Theory A	0.125	6
MCD1690	Introductory Economics	0.125	6
MCD1730	Foundations of 3D	0.125	6
DIPLOMA PART 2 – SOCIOLOGY STREAM			
Unit Code	Unit Name	Unit EFTSL¹	Credit Point²
MCD6010	Academic Writing	0.125	6
MCD6020	Media and Culture	0.125	6
MCD6040	Professional Writing	0.125	6
MCD6050	Communications and Society	0.125	6
MCD6120	Introduction to Sociology	0.125	6
MCD6140	The Individual and Society	0.125	6
MCD6180	Introduction to International Relations	0.125	6
MCD6190	Geopolitical Security in the Indo Pacific	0.125	6
DIPLOMA PART 2 - PSYCHOLOGY STREAM			
Unit Code	Unit Name	Unit EFTSL¹	Credit Point²
MCD6010	Academic Writing	0.125	6
MCD6020	Media and Culture	0.125	6
MCD6040	Professional Writing	0.125	6
MCD6050	Communications and Society	0.125	6
MCD6080	Foundations in Psychology	0.125	6
MCD6170	Introduction to Psychological Inquiry	0.125	6

MCD6180	Introduction to International Relations	0.125	6
MCD6190	Geopolitical Security in the Indo Pacific	0.125	6
DIPLOMA PART 2 - MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION STREAM			
Unit Code	Unit Name	Unit EFTSL¹	Credit Point²
MCD6010	Academic Writing	0.125	6
MCD6020	Media and Culture	0.125	6
MCD6040	Professional Writing	0.125	6
MCD6050	Communications and Society	0.125	6
MCD6150	Media Challenges	0.125	6
MCD6160	Communicating in the Digital Era	0.125	6
MCD6180	Introduction to International Relations	0.125	6
MCD6190	Geopolitical Security in the Indo Pacific	0.125	6

1. EFTSL: Effective Full-time Student Load. Each part of the Diploma is equivalent to one year of full-time study. Monash College Diplomas are delivered in an accelerated mode, so you can study more than a standard full-time load in a year.
2. Most Monash units are 6 credit points. To complete a full Monash College Diploma, you must pass 96 credit points; if you start in Part 2 you must pass 48 credit points. Credit points in Part 2 units count towards the first year of your Monash University degree.

MCD1280 – Art and Design Theory A

Description

This unit is an introduction to the formal analysis of Western painting from the 15th to 19th centuries. Students will develop the skills to discern the connection between formal properties and historical contexts in two-dimensional artworks. This will include the study of:

1. Space and form illusion.
2. Narrative construction.
3. Organisation of subject matter.
4. Technical methods and terms.
5. Visual themes and tropes.
6. Processes of abstraction.
7. Historical contexts.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students are expected in spoken and written form to:

1. Interpret the use of visual elements and design principles.
2. Relay the composition of subject matter in a formal manner.
3. Relate underlying messages and various critics interpretations.
4. Evaluate techniques and abstractions in tandem with their historical contexts.
5. Describe the characteristics of different periods, schools and individuals.
6. Compare and contrast different artworks from a historical vantage point.
7. Comment on the influence of art critics.

Assessment

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: In-Class Writing Tasks	10%
A2: Class Presentation	30%
A3: Essay Draft	30%
A4: Final Essay	30%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1350 – Media Studies A: Australian Screen Culture

Description

How is Australian identity and nationality constructed through the film and television industry? Has Australian cinema asserted a specific and identifiable national industry? What are the characteristics of Australian screen culture? What are some of the national myths and archetypes that define Australia in terms of race and gender? What texts feature most prominently in the Australian screen landscape? How does the Australian film and television industry operate in relation to other national and global cinema practices? These are the major questions that will be explored as we take a fascinating journey through some iconic Australian screen productions.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Employ techniques to generate ideas, research a topic and structure argumentation in an academic essay format.
2. Have developed techniques of argumentation and providing supporting evidence and examples.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact that practices of representation on the Australian screen has on the ways we perceive ourselves individually and as a nation.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which industrial factors can influence film content.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of a variety of film elements and how they convey or construct meaning.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of how Australian screen practices operate in relation to other global screen based industries.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Weekly Quizzes	10%
A2: Communication & Collaboration	10%
A3: Textual Analysis	20%
A4: Film Festival Strategy	20%
A5: Student Led Seminar	10%
A6: Research Essay	30%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1360 – Media Studies B: Mass Communication and the Modern World

Description

The aim of this course is for students to learn how information and communication media have developed over time.

This unit analyses the key components of mass communication studies theory, and examines how information and communications media have developed over time. The unit explores barriers to communication, as well as the ways in which different communication media and messages have impacted on different social and cultural groups. Through the completion of prescribed readings, class discussion, oral presentations and written essays, students will acquire the knowledge, concepts, and analytical skills which will prepare them for further study in the area of Media, Communication Studies and Journalism in Part Two of the Diploma of Arts.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Understand how mass communication has developed throughout history and the important events each form of mass media has shaped
2. Understand the concept of 'audience' related to the developing communication technologies
3. Examine the notion of power in the media, and the ways in which communication tactics and tools have been used historically both by the media, and by those in power, to influence public opinion
4. Analyse the practical tools of media production, such as television
5. Analyse the importance of new and emerging communication technologies in society such as digital media.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weighting
A1: Shortform Video	15%
A2: Mid-trimester Quiz	35%
A3: Documentary Film Pitch	15%
A4: Documentary Project	35%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1520 – Introduction to Academic Communication

Description

This course develops students' English language proficiency and academic communication skills to support their adaptation to university expectations and conventions. It scaffolds students to build foundations in three focus areas: academic skills, behaviours, and values, while developing academic language skills and knowledge. The unit introduces the language, texts, and conventions specific to Humanities, Business, and Science programs, and emphasises the value of diverse perspectives offered by different disciplines and their contributions to solving contemporary societal issues. Learning and assessment activities are designed to foster both independent and collaborative learning approaches, guiding students to enhance their abilities in reading, listening, writing and speaking as well as critical thinking, and researching in technologically-advancing academic contexts.

This unit will support students in building effective learning strategies using a range of thinking skills, learning approaches and assessment responses.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diplomas Part 1.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Critically analyse academic texts to identify key arguments, evidence, and methodologies
2. Accurately interpret and critically evaluate spoken academic content and verbal instructions in academic settings
3. Participate in academic discussions, demonstrating active listening, critical thinking, intercultural understanding and the ability to articulate and sustain viewpoints
4. Deliver a clear, well-organised presentation on an academic topic, presenting and justifying arguments using supporting evidence and examples
5. Write a clear, well-structured academic text, following academic conventions, including structure, register, signposting and discipline-specific referencing conventions
6. Demonstrate critical, analytical and evaluative skills via selecting, synthesising and critically analysing a range of academic sources
7. Employ discipline-specific vocabulary and discourse to convey ideas effectively
8. Use digital and generative AI tools critically and responsibly to support academic production and communication
9. Collaborate effectively in academic and group settings by communicating respectfully, actively listening, and contributing relevant ideas to achieve shared academic goals.

MCD1520 – Introduction to Academic Communication *CONTINUED*

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Socratic Seminar	25%
A2: Research Task Draft	10%
A3: Research Task Final	25%
A4: 3 Minute Thesis	20%
A5: Collaboration & Communication	20%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1540 – Intercultural Business Communication

Description

This unit aims to assist you in developing strategies for effectively communicating and negotiating with individuals from other cultures. Businesses today operate in a culturally diverse environment. This unit has been designed to develop your understanding of culture and its impact on business. We will examine the impact of culture on values, norms, attitudes and behaviours, including patterns of communication. In this unit, you will learn effective ways to research cultures and communication styles in order to prepare for intercultural encounters as a student and in work. This unit will provide an opportunity to apply understanding of cultural and ethical issues to realistic business situations.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Business, Part 1B.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate understanding of culture, communication and the issues involved in intercultural communication.
2. Understand the important relationship between language and culture.
3. Define, describe and analyse the cultural values, norms, attitudes and behaviours that influence and impact on business in a globalised world.
4. Apply intercultural communication skills and understanding of cultural issues involved in dealing with individuals from diverse cultures.
5. Conduct independent research related to intercultural theories and intercultural business.
6. Understand the need to think critically and assess the credibility of sources when conducting academic and business research.
7. Learn to work in groups effectively in research, sharing of ideas and completing tasks.
8. Demonstrate ability to plan, prepare and present ideas in a manner appropriate to the academic and business worlds.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Tutorial Activities and Participation	20%
A2: Movie Analysis and Reflection	10%
A3: Cultural Video Interview and Presentation	20%
A4: Cultural Case Analysis	20%
A5: Cross-Cultural Training Program	20%
A6: End-of-term Test	10%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.
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MCD1540 – Intercultural Business Communication *CONTINUED*

Mode of study

This unit is taught face-to-face. Several tools are involved in the learning process, such as Google Suite tools, Peer-evaluation tools (*ITP Metrics, etc.*), Zoom, Moodle and responsible use of AI.

MCD1560 – Introduction to Journalism

Description

This subject provides you with an overview of the professional practice of news reporting. We will discuss the important role of news media in the democratic process and we will examine the ethical and professional standards involved in the process of news gathering and delivery.

We will also consider the changes to journalism that have occurred as a result of technological developments and the introduction of new platforms and broadcast services. These developments have resulted in dramatic changes to the news media landscape and we will focus on what this means for journalism as an occupation and an act of participatory culture

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 1.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of journalism as a profession
2. Identify and define the purpose of different styles of journalistic writing
3. Understand how journalists use writing and interviewing techniques for different media
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the history and background of journalism in both Australian and international contexts.

On completion of this unit, students will have developed essential skills, so that they can:

1. Analyse a workplace context for journalists
2. Critically analyse spoken and written texts in a range of media genres
3. Research, write and present in a range of media genres
4. Develop strategies involved in journalistic writing.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Minor Essay	20%
A2: Folio of Journalistic Writing	25%
A3: Story Pitch (present 2 ideas for your Practical Task)	15%
A4: Journalism Practical Task and Log Book	30%
A5: Communication & Collaboration	10%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1580 – Introduction to Psychology

Description

This course provides students with an overview of the scope, nature, and methods of psychology. The concepts of personality, learning, biological psychology, forensic psychology, memory, psychology and scientific thinking, and research methods are introduced. Students will also learn the correct procedures for citing references and developing a reference list in accordance with the criteria outlined by the American Psychological Association.

Throughout this unit, students will gain an appreciation of psychology as a multifaceted discipline encompassing both scientific research and evidence based practice. Students will discover how the principles of psychology enhance our understanding of human behaviour and that these principles can be applied to many areas of study including; counselling psychology, business, biological sciences, human relations, politics, marketing and many more.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Understand the basic tenets of the foundations of psychology as a discipline.
2. Identify the main paradigms that underpin our understanding of behaviour and mental processes.
3. Access and evaluate scholarly materials; including texts & journals related to psychology.
4. Explain how psychology uses the scientific method to acquire knowledge in order to understand human behaviour.
5. Demonstrate critical analysis procedures & acquire basic knowledge of writing psychology – based research papers.
6. Demonstrate how course concepts apply to daily living.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Annotated Bibliography	15%
A2: Essay	25%
A3: Group Work Presentation	30%
A4: Weekly Online Quizzes	30%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1590 – The Modern World

Description

In this unit you will examine the relationships between historic and contemporary political, cultural and social forces. You will also engage in thinking about the myriad of problems confronting the modern world and how we can make sense of these problems in terms of conflicts between ideas. Through the study of this unit, you will develop effective critical thinking skills about how the modern world 'works' and about your own place, as individuals, in the modern world.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 1.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Explain key political, economic, religious and philosophical ideas or events and evaluate their influence on the development of the modern world, using relevant historical and contemporary examples.
2. Analyse how at least two key ideas or events from the past have either endured or evolved over time, and explain their impact on modern society to their peers.
3. Reflect critically on their position in the modern world by applying course concepts to analyse how culture, technology, or society influences and shapes their values and actions.
4. Communicate effectively in academic settings by presenting clear ideas supported by relevant evidence or examples and participating actively in discussions.
5. Write clear and well structured academic texts that apply academic conventions including appropriate organisation and language, use of evidence to support arguments, and acknowledgment of others' ideas through accurate referencing.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Weekly Reading Quiz	15%
A2: Current Issues in Modernity Presentation	20%
A3: Reflective Writing Task	15%
A4: Socratic Seminar	25%
A5: Extended Response	25%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD1690 – Introductory Economics

Description

The purpose of this unit is to identify and explain the basic concepts of GDP, business cycles, inflation, unemployment, supply, demand and markets, thereby acquainting students with the basic vocabulary of economics. The roles played by the government, consumers, producers and the cost of production will be explained. A particular emphasis in this unit is to provide students with an introduction of basic issues of both introductory Micro and Macroeconomics.

This unit is taken by part 1 Diploma of Business students.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

1. Define Economics and understand the economic problem of scarcity
2. Understand and apply the theory of the macro economy, with emphasis on GDP, inflation and unemployment
3. Understand the concepts of demand and supply and the application of this theory
4. Explain the concepts of costs and revenues in the case of a single firm

Assessments

Students will be assessed on: An understanding of the body of Micro and Macroeconomic knowledge

The application of the skills of: Critical assessment, interpretation, analysis, evaluation

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Assessment (Group and Individual)	30%
A2: Individual Assessment (Part A and B)	30%
A3: Individual Assessment	10%
A4: Homework, Quiz, and In-class Activities	15%
A5: Tests	15%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

Mode of study

This unit is taught face-to-face. All assessments will be submitted through Turnitin. There is an online multiple-choice test which is a component in Task 2. The class tests will also be submitted via Turnitin.

MCD1730 – Foundations of 3D

Description

This unit is an introduction to the techniques, frameworks and processes comprising 3D modelling and 3D imaging. Foundations of 3D aims to give students an understanding of 3D modelling by developing skills in 3D model creation for a variety of contexts, including 3D prototyping, 3D visualisation and 3D modelling for games and animation. Students will communicate their knowledge of 3D theory through the production of designs that demonstrate geometrical modelling, texture mapping, virtual lighting techniques, camera positioning and rendering procedures.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students should be able to:

1. Evaluate and assess techniques used in the 3D creation process.
2. Research, evaluate and implement 3D geometry, 3D texturing and 3D rendering techniques.
3. Develop and modify 3D models and 3D environments.
4. Design, create and detail 3D models and 3D scenes for diverse media.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Assignment 1	20%
A2: Assignment 2	20%
A3: Assignment 3	30%
A4: Test 1	10%
A5: Test 2	10%
A6: Test 3	10%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6010 – Academic Writing

Description

Higher education studies in Australia require students to have the skills and knowledge to successfully complete academic writing tasks. In this unit you will acquire a solid foundation in academic writing principles, learning about how authors employ various language and rhetorical (persuasive) devices to develop arguments. You will develop research techniques, as well as skills related to referencing, quoting, and paraphrasing (to avoid plagiarism). Academic writing, drafting, editing and proof-reading skills will be developed.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 2 (Psychology and Human Behaviour streams).

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Identify and explain core attitudes, values and practices of academic culture and how academic writing reflects these.
2. Reflect critically on the differences between academic and opinion writing and apply this understanding in the composition of academic essays.
3. Utilise primary, secondary and tertiary sources in digital and print in their research.
4. Apply scholarly principles of paragraphing, referencing, quoting, and paraphrasing.
5. Recognise the use of fundamental concepts of grammar, punctuation, spelling, usage and style.
6. Self-edit and revise writing in an academic context
7. Engage in a discussion on academic writing principles, presenting and justifying reasons using supporting evidence and examples

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Quizzes	15%
A2: Analytical Exercise	15%
A3: Analytical Exercise	15%
A4 Part 1: Written Essay	30%
A4 Part 2: Interactive Oral Discussion	25%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6020 – Media and Culture

Description

In this unit, you will be introduced to the core concepts and schools of thought within media studies, including conducting a textual analysis. These are aligned with historical and contemporary examples of social, economic and political debates about media industries and audiences. You will also examine the way in which power and influence are exercised through media in cultural and social life.

We will also be considering to what extent new technology has changed the media landscape and the communication practices that dominate our everyday lives. We will explore how the media contributes to your sense of national identity, ethnicity, gender and sexuality, and to communities with which you identify.

We examine some of the theories that have dominated the field of media studies and how they try to explain the construction of ideology, the way audiences engage with the media and its impact or influence.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 2.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate an appreciation of the historical development of media industries.
2. Recognise and be able to apply available frameworks for critically understanding the relationship between media, culture and society.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the social, economic, political and cultural factors that shape the production, distribution and consumption of media.
4. Demonstrate an appreciation of the ways that the mass media contribute to understandings of the world.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Perusall Online Activities	20%
A2: Annotated Bibliography	20%
A3: Video Essay	25%
A4: Student Led Seminar	10%
A5: Case Study	25%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6040 – Professional Writing

Description

The unit introduces principles of professional writing, such as genre, style, rhetoric, register and persuasive discourse. It also emphasises the importance of understanding audiences when writing in business and governmental contexts. To develop your skills in non-academic writing, most of the tasks are practical, although they also require related academic knowledge. Writing well involves an awareness of language principles and the various contexts of professional writing.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Recognise, analyse and appraise different genres of professional writing.
2. Plan and design effective professional documents applying linguistic features such as register, style and rhetoric.
3. Identify expectations of communication for different professional audiences and contexts and apply these in written documents and presentations.
4. Use essential skills of English usage (grammar, spelling, punctuation and structure) in writing and editing documents.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Magazine Writing	25%
A2: Social Media Writing	25%
A3: Writing and Design Portfolio	10%
A4: Position Paper/Essay	40%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6050 – Communications and Society

Description

MCD6050 Communications and Society is a unit designed to give you insights into the way that contemporary media technologies shape the way that we act and communicate within contemporary society.

When we communicate with others, the communication technologies that we choose to use influence the meaning of what we wish to say. Communication technologies shape what we can say, what we cannot say, and what we must say. This same principle applies to the films and television programs we watch, the music we listen to, the podcasts and radio broadcasts we listen to, the newspapers and books we read and the games we play. But the communication technologies themselves are also subject to influences that are political, social, cultural, and economic as well. These various forms of communication expand beyond the very literal messages of speech, audio-visual symbols and text, and extend to forms of non-linguistic communication, non-verbal forms of communication, as well as social effects that may not have a single source. By studying these different forms of communication between society and technology, we can start to understand how contemporary society shapes - and also is shaped by – communication technologies.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Possess a basic understanding of the field of communications.
2. Employ basic concepts in the study of communications.
3. Analyse the role of communications in processes of social and cultural change.
4. Apply communication analysis to everyday life.
5. Identify and explain the economic, technological, political and cultural influences of communications technologies.
6. Work collaboratively with peers to formulate and present solutions to hypothetical problems and debatable issues surrounding communications technologies

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Online Assessment	15%
A2: Tutorial Presentation	15%
A3: Weekly Classroom Activities	15%
A4: Podcast Project	25%
A5: Research Essay	30%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6080 – Foundations in Psychology

Description

This unit provides students with an introduction to the broad foundations of psychology as a scientific discipline. It begins with an exploration of psychology's historical origins. Then, a series of core psychological topics will be introduced: concepts of health, stress and coping will be considered along with the distinguishing features of abnormal psychology and the biological basis of behaviour.

The unit also introduces theories of learning, memory and development and familiarizes students with key aspects of Indigenous and cross-cultural psychology. Students will also be introduced to academic writing by reporting findings through reading journal articles.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Identify key historical and philosophical developments which have resulted in the modern discipline of psychology;
2. Identify and describe key concepts underlying biological, learning, developmental and cross-cultural psychology, stress and coping and abnormal psychology;
3. Apply the knowledge and concepts of biological, learning, developmental and cross-cultural psychology, stress and coping and abnormal psychology to assessable quizzes and critical thinking assignment;
4. Outline the need for an objective understanding of human behaviour;
5. Prepare written technical and scientific documentations and present key findings.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Group Debate Presentation	30%
A2: Argumentative Essay	40%
A3: Online Weekly Tests	30%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6120 – Introduction to Sociology

Description

Sociology is a rich and diverse discipline in the social sciences. Policy makers, politicians, the community sector, those in the media and creative industries – to name a few – draw on sociology understandings of social life to help them address social problems and understand the world. The unit introduces students to the concepts and approaches used by sociologists to analyse the contemporary social world. In particular, students will learn to apply sociological frameworks to the key debates and dilemmas we face in contemporary life and to examine various patterns of diversity, inequality and social change in society. This unit also considers the role that class, gender, age, culture, religion and other structural factors play in shaping the lives of everyday people in society.

This unit is taught in two ‘modules’ with the first one focused on **sociological foundations** and the other on gender.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts part 2 (Sociology stream).

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Identify and explain the key concepts and perspectives used in sociological analysis.
2. Critically reflect and analyse the structural factors that influence how people experience everyday life.
3. Locate and evaluate scholarly sociological sources.
4. Communicate ideas and arguments in a variety of formats.
5. Use evidence to construct coherent and organise written assignments on sociological topics.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: 3 Online Quizzes	30%
A2: Annotated Bibliography and Essay Plan	30%
A3: Research Essay	40%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6140 – The Individual and Society

Description

This unit is the second unit in sociology stream sequence, it builds on the skills and knowledge developed in the first unit Introduction to Sociology. It includes three important areas of sociological research and theoretical endeavor: Thinking Intersectionally, Sustainability and society & Families and relationships.

This is a core unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 2 (Sociology stream).

This unit aims to deepen your understanding of the relationship between individual and society, drawing on a wide range of sociological theories, concepts and research.

Prerequisites

MCD6120 – Introduction to Sociology

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. An understanding of the nature of social relationships and institutions; patterns of social diversity and inequality; and processes that underpin social change and stability.
2. Have an ability to apply sociological theories, concepts and evidence to sociological questions.
3. Have an ability to develop arguments by using evidence, evaluating competing explanations and drawing conclusions.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Public Communications Project Proposal	5%
A2: Quizzes	30%
A3: Public Communications Project	25%
A4: Research Essay	40%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6150 – Media Challenges

Description

This unit will introduce the key components of contemporary media challenges. We will address a range of questions to help us interrogate the nature of these challenges and the potential repercussions for cultural practices, social interactions, and political and/or economic circumstances. The aim here is to map out and analyse some key media challenges.

Some of the questions we will consider are: What do we mean by the term's "media" and "challenges"? What are the greatest media challenges of our time that we face globally? How and where do we get our news? Which media are used as crucial news sources? And what does it all mean? How do we articulate or describe these challenges? What theories and studies can assist us in understanding their dynamics? How do these challenges impact our everyday media communications? What are some of the ways that these challenges may be overcome?

This course aims to map out and analyse the very challenging circumstances that define a new age and era of media communications.

This is an elective unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 2.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Explain a contemporary global media challenge using interdisciplinary approaches
2. Manage, evaluate and interpret sources of information relevant to issues in the media
3. Communicate coherent and persuasive arguments both orally and in professional presentation formats
4. Utilise strategic and interdisciplinary thinking to analyse media challenges
5. Work independently and collaboratively with peers to investigate, analyse and report on a 'real-world' contemporary media challenge.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Online Activities	20%
A2: Student Led Seminar	10%
A3: Social Impact Presentation	20%
A4: Fact Checking Exercise	25%
A5: Poster Presentation: Analysis of Media Challenge	25%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6160 – Communicating in the Digital Era

Description

Digital media are rapidly becoming the atmosphere through which we move – literally, in the case of mobile phone signals; figuratively in the sense that our communications, our entertainment practices, our work lives, and our information seeking and sharing practices are increasingly migrating onto online platforms. Digital storytelling is now a crucial part of messaging across a diverse range of industries, from journalism, PR, marketing to non-profit administration and filmmaking.

This unit provides theoretical and practical knowledge of the evolving digital “grammar” of video production, broadcasting, news reporting, advertising, and social media, as an essential skill for media communication professionals of the future. This “hands on”, project-based unit provides students with a collaborative learning space where they can combine analytical skills in digital literacy with practical skills in media production to develop digital fluency.

This course aims to explore the ongoing popular discourses surrounding the emergence of digital media, but also to think about these in new and different ways, to put them in historical perspective, and, ultimately, to evaluate the claims with which we are inundated.

This is an elective unit in the Monash College Diploma of Arts, Part 2. This unit is recommended for students planning to complete the Bachelor of Media Communication or Bachelor of Arts (with a major or minor in Communications and Media studies) at Monash University.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the communicative role of specific digital media and different uses of digital storytelling;
2. Analyse key elements of a variety of digital communication;
3. Think critically about the legal and ethical issues of digital communication;
4. Work reflectively, independently and collaboratively with peers to develop and demonstrate technical proficiency and digital literacy skills;
5. Apply digital literacy skills to create a digital story that critically reflects on the evolving languages of digital communication.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Online Activities	10%
A2: Infographic Project	20%
A3: Blog Project	30%
A4: Film Project Pitch	10%
A5: Film Project & Exegesis	30%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6170 – Introduction to Psychological Inquiry

Description

"Introduction to Psychological Inquiry" provides a foundational exploration of the ways psychologists create knowledge about human behavior. This unit introduces you to the diverse methods used in psychological research, from experiments and surveys to case studies and observational techniques. You will gain an understanding of how these methods allow psychologists to investigate complex questions about behavior, cognition, emotion, and social interaction.

The course emphasizes critical evaluation, helping you recognize the strengths and weaknesses of different research approaches. Reflexivity will also be a key focus, encouraging you to reflect on your own assumptions, biases, and the broader social and cultural context in which psychological research takes place.

This course fosters an awareness of **ethical considerations**, such as informed consent, confidentiality, and the potential risks to participants in research. These elements will help you approach psychological inquiry with both skepticism and open-mindedness, equipping you with the tools to conduct and evaluate research thoughtfully and responsibly. By the end of the unit, you will be better prepared to engage in informed discussions about psychology and its methods.

Prerequisites

MCD6080 – Foundations in Psychology

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students are expected to be able to:

1. Appraise the different theories of knowledge and the methods that are commonly used by psychologists;
2. Discuss the appropriate application of different theories of knowledge and research methods to various contexts and research questions;
3. Demonstrate self-awareness, reflexivity, oral and interpersonal communication skills;
4. Demonstrate cultural safety, ethical and critical thinking skills in appraising and applying psychological knowledge;
5. Effectively communicate psychological research to a range of audiences.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Reflective Journal Entry	20%
A2: Peer Feedback and Positionality Statement	40%
A3: Qualitative Research Report	30%
A4: Exit Interview	10%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6180 – Introduction to International Relations

Description

In this unit you will be introduced to key issues in International Relations (IR), from traditional preoccupations – such as international security, arms control, war and peacebuilding, and political violence and terrorism – to more recent concerns, including the climate crisis, migration, inequalities and development challenges. You will also be looking at the role of states and supra-state organisations, such as the United Nations; nations and nationalism; world order and global governance; and globalisation and the international political economy. You will engage with key IR concepts and theories to understand these issues, including Realism and Liberalism and critical theories, such as Feminism, Marxism, Postmodernism and Postcolonialism. You will draw from contemporary and historical events to further explore these issues and apply these theories.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

When you have completed this unit, you should be able to:

1. Recognise, interpret and analyse traditional and critical theoretical perspectives, and conventional and alternative concepts in the study of International Relations across its four subfields (security studies, international political economy, foreign policy and global governance).
2. Comprehend and engage constructively with current affairs, scholarly articles and books in the field of International Relations, and place them in an appropriate theoretical and empirical context.
3. Apply these theoretical perspectives and concepts to illuminate and examine a new or existing problem in the study of International Relations.
4. Communicate orally, and in writing, using clear and persuasive language appropriate for an international academic community.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Pre-Class Reading Quizzes	15%
A2: Oral Theory Presentation	15%
A3: Collaborative Tutorial Activities	20%
A4: Research Report	25%
A5: Research Report Presentation	25%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.

MCD6190 – Geopolitical Security in the Indo-Pacific

Description

This is a particularly complex time to study our region, particularly as the US and China engage in intense geostrategic competition in the South China Sea, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean region. What is striking about the 21st-century world is that the expansion of military power continues to rank as the major powers' chief objective. As a response to this, both regional powers and middle are rapidly modernising their forces and increasing their defence budgets, which are at their highest since the 1980s. States are devoting more resources to conventional and nuclear forces; and the global arms trade is burgeoning. But Indo-Pacific security is not only about arms races. It is not only one of the biggest sectors of the global economy, but it is also fraught with potential flashpoints. Both traditional and non-traditional security approaches influence regional actors' geostrategic conspectus. Energy security, food security, climate security and human security are central issues in the region. Economic competition, hegemony and uneven development all represent major challenges to the existing order in the Indo-Pacific. In response to these developments, state and regional actors, such as Australia with AUKUS, and ASEAN, with its ASEAN Community, are undertaking significant renovations of their armed forces and security policies and developing strategic partnerships with the aim of integrating their defence and industrial capabilities. We will analyse these issue areas in this unit.

Prerequisites

MCD6180 Introduction to International Relations

Learning Outcomes

When you have completed this unit, you should be able to:

1. Investigate the Indo-Pacific as a contested geopolitical territorial and maritime space.
2. Identify and contextualise the core conventional and human security challenges in the Indo-Pacific in the 21st century.
3. Apply the knowledge and literacy you have gained on Indo-Pacific regional organisations; bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral agreements and regional governance; flashpoints for conflict; and the perspectives of major regional actors, including Australia's growing role in the region, and apply these skills to specific issues and problems.
4. Apply international relations theories and perspectives to the major challenges in the region, through critical written and oral engagement with scholarly analysis and case-study material.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Reading Quizzes	20%
A2: Research Report	30%
A3: Oral Presentation	30%
A4: Collaborative Tutorial Activities	20%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

- In order to achieve a pass in this unit, you must achieve 50% or higher for your overall mark. If you receive a 49N grade, you will automatically be awarded a 48N result.