



MONASH
University



MONASH
College

Unit Guide

Diploma of Arts

Monash College

Table of Contents

Overview	3
MCD1360 – Media Studies B: Mass Communication and the Modern World	6
MCD1460 – Visual Arts	7
MCD1490 – Principles of Design	8
MCD1500 – Introduction to Design Thinking	9
MCD1520 – Introduction to Academic Communication	10
MCD1540 – Intercultural Business Communication	12
MCD1580 – Introduction to Psychology (not offered in T3-2026)	14
MCD1590 – The Modern World	15
MCD1720 – Media, Visual Culture and Communication	16
MCD1740 – AI and the Digital World	17
MCD6010 – Academic Writing	19
MCD6020 – Media and Culture	20
MCD6040 – Professional Writing	21
MCD6050 – Communications and Society	22
MCD6080 – Foundations in Psychology	23
MCD6120 – Introduction to Sociology	24
MCD6140 – The Individual and Society	25
MCD6150 – Media Challenges	26
MCD6160 – Communicating in the Digital Era	27
MCD6170 – Introduction to Psychological Inquiry	28
MCD6180 – Introduction to International Relations	29
MCD6190 – Geopolitical Security in the Indo-Pacific	30

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 EFTSL ¹	Credit Point ²
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
MCD1580	Introduction to Psychology	0.125	6
MCD1590	The Modern World	0.125	6
MCD1720	Media, Visual Culture and Communication	0.125	6
MCD1740	AI and the Digital World	0.125	6
• Choose one Elective from below:			
MCD1460	Visual Arts	0.125	6
MCD1490	Principles of Design	0.125	6
MCD1500	Introduction to Design Thinking	0.125	6
DIPLOMA PART 2 – SOCIOLOGY STREAM			
Unit Code	Unit Name	Unit EFTSL ¹	Credit Point ²
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 EFTSL ¹	Credit Point ²
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.

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.

MCD1460 – Visual Arts

Description

Students are introduced to the basic elements and principles of firstly 2D followed by 3D visual art; exploring these in specialized art studios via a range of media and techniques. Students learn observational and analytical strategies to develop and refine their visual art practice. Through excursions to art gallery spaces, students reflect on and strengthen their visual ideas across diverse forms, exhibiting their final work in a way that engages with both site and spectators.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning outcomes

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

- To demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements and principles of 2D and 3D Visual Art using a range of media and techniques.
- Use Visual Art tools and strategies to critique one's own visual projects and identify constructive ways to rework them.
- Effectively rework visual projects in response to critique.
- Communicate ideas related to Visual Art clearly and effectively through verbal, written, and visual means.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: 2D Folio + EAT	25%
A2: 3D Folio	15%
A3: Art Exhibit + OAT	35%
A4: Final Folio	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.

MCD1490 – Principles of Design

Description

Students will explore both two-dimensional and three-dimensional design principles through a series of practical and theoretical exercises, fostering a comprehensive understanding of design elements, art and design techniques, and applications. This course aims to develop students' creative and technical skills, preparing them to tackle complex design challenges with confidence and proficiency.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of key design terminology and fundamental design
2. principles and elements to create cohesive and aesthetically pleasing designs.
3. Research and analyse historical and contemporary design practices to inform the design
4. process.
5. Develop both 2D and 3D design projects using sustainable materials, art and design
6. techniques, including sketching and model making, along with industry-standard software.
7. Explore and apply ethical research methods, sustainable practices, and social responsibility
8. in design projects.
1. Present and communicate design ideas clearly and persuasively through verbal, written,
9. and visual means.
2. Collaborate effectively in a group design project by communicating and sharing
10. responsibilities to achieve common goals.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Monochromatic Identity	15%
A2: Early Assessment Task	5%
A3: This is Me	25%
A4: Sculptural Expressions	25%
A5: Ponte di Pasta	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.



MCD1500 – Introduction to Design Thinking

- To be Updated

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: Listening and Reading Quiz	5%
A2: Socratic Seminar	20%
A3: Reflection Journal	15%
A4: Research Task Draft	15%
A5: Research Task Final	25%
A6: 3 Minute Thesis	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

11. Demonstrate understanding of culture, communication and the issues involved in intercultural communication.
12. Understand the important relationship between language and culture.
13. Define, describe and analyse the cultural values, norms, attitudes and behaviours that influence and impact on business in a globalised world.
14. Apply intercultural communication skills and understanding of cultural issues involved in dealing with individuals from diverse cultures.
15. Conduct independent research related to intercultural theories and intercultural business.
16. Understand the need to think critically and assess the credibility of sources when conducting academic and business research.
17. Learn to work in groups effectively in research, sharing of ideas and completing tasks.
18. 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 - Error Identification Test	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.



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.

MCD1580 – Introduction to Psychology (not offered in T3-2026)

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	30%
A3: Socratic Seminar	30%
A4: 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.



MCD1720 – Media, Visual Culture and Communication

- To be Updated

MCD1740 – AI and the Digital World

Description

This unit introduces students to artificial intelligence, digital technologies and cybersecurity. Students explore how AI is changing study, communication, workplaces and society, while developing the practical digital skills needed for university and future careers. The unit focuses on the responsible and effective use of AI tools for learning, productivity, collaboration, research, communication and problem-solving. Students will use Google Workspace tools, including Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Sites, Gemini and cloud-based collaboration systems, to complete practical academic and workplace-style tasks. Students will also examine cybersafety, digital ethics, online identity, misinformation, privacy and the social impact of emerging technologies. Foundational Computer logic will be explored through simple coding software that demonstrates logic, automation and data processes. The unit also emphasises the human skills required in an AI-enabled world, including critical thinking, creativity, communication, ethical judgement, collaboration, adaptability and reflection.

Prerequisites

Nil

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain fundamental computer system concepts, including files, folders, storage, permissions and basic network operations, to support effective use of digital technologies in an academic context.
2. Use Google Workspace applications to create, organise, communicate, collaborate and manage information effectively within shared digital workspaces.
3. Use AI tools to design, develop, test and debug simple automated solutions that integrate with Google Workspace applications.
4. Apply effective prompting strategies to generate, refine and evaluate responses from artificial intelligence tools.
5. Use artificial intelligence tools critically, responsibly, ethically and securely to support productivity, programming, data analysis and problem-solving while maintaining academic integrity.
6. Apply computational thinking and fundamental programming concepts to develop simple solutions using an appropriate introductory programming environment.
7. Identify and evaluate common cybersecurity threats, privacy risks and unsafe online practices, and apply appropriate controls to protect devices, accounts and information.
8. Present and communicate ideas and concepts related to digital literacy clearly and effectively through verbal, written, and visual formats.

Assessments

Assessment Task	Weight
A1: Competency Weekly Tasks	20%
A2: AI Learning Portfolio	10%
A3: Google Workspace Project	25%
A4: Cybersafety Awareness Campaign	25%
A5: Coding and Automation Project	20%

Requirements to Pass the Unit

3. 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.



MCD1740 – AI and the Digital World *CONTINUED*

Mode of study

MCD1740 uses a flipped classroom approach which supports students in learning to be independent learners. This unit is taught face-to-face. Students are required to review workshop and tutorial materials prior to coming to class.

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: Perusal 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: Socratic Seminar	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:

4. Investigate the Indo-Pacific as a contested geopolitical territorial and maritime space.
5. Identify and contextualise the core conventional and human security challenges in the Indo-Pacific in the 21st century.
6. 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.
7. 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.