

Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: TRUTH, POWER AND STRUCTURE: UNDERSTANDING HISTORY AND POLITICS

Course ID: ATSGC3797

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (Two Intermediate (Level 2000) History Courses)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 090305

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	✓	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Identify and explain the major theoretical approaches to historical and political research;
- K2.** Identify and explain specific methodological approaches to historical and political research;
- K3.** Examine contested explanations of past, present and future in historical research literature;
- K4.** Appraise diverse views of political studies;
- K5.** Recognise opportunities for research concerning historical and political debates;
- K6.** Appraise ethical considerations in historical and political research.

Skills:

- S1.** Formulate a viable research question;
- S2.** Locate and analyse primary and secondary sources for independent research;
- S3.** Express substantiated and reasoned advanced level arguments concerning historical and political research approaches;
- S4.** Develop a structured project for independent research;
- S5.** Critically analyse, utilise and integrate primary and secondary sources in research at advanced level.
- S6.** Utilise conventions in academic writing by providing correct citation, footnoting and bibliographic details.

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Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply advanced level critical thinking skills to key debates, concepts, and approaches to research in history and politics;
- A2.** Utilise and integrate advanced level scholarly knowledge of an array of historical and political research methods;
- A3.** Evaluate the importance of methodological considerations for academic research in history and politics;
- A4.** Present a sustained argument with a logical introduction and conclusion based largely on documentary sources.

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- History in the past
- History as a profession
- The development of political studies
- The benefits and parameters of research in history
- The benefits and parameters of research in politics
- Preserving the past
- Reading documents and using written sources
- Using non-textual sources
- Writing history and politics
- Understanding historical and political research methods
- Analytical devices for research in history and politics

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Develop understanding of the ways in which historical and political research contribute to knowledge and influence societies;
- V2.** Appreciate diverse academic approaches to history and politics disciplines;

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V3. Develop understanding of the role of the researcher as an positive social agent.

Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students develop their abilities to understand diverse approaches to research in history and politics	Medium
Self Reliance	Students develop skills in independent research, analysis and evaluations of methodological approaches	High
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage with historical and political research topics and develop their understanding of the social contexts of research	High
Social Responsibility	Students develop their understanding of ethical considerations in historical and political research and evaluate the responsibilities or researchers as social agents.	Medium

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K2, K5, K6 S1 A3	Research topic identification, construction of a research proposal and viability study for research design	Research Proposal	25-35%
K1, K2, K3 or K4, K6 S2, S3, S4, S6 A1, A2, A3	Research and writing skills, critical analysis, review of relevant literature, analysis of methodological approaches.	Literature Review and Methodological Critique	30-40%
K2, K3, K4 or K5, K6 S2, S3, S4, S5, S6 A1, A2, A3, A4	Research and writing skills, construction of an informed and substantiated argument at advanced level, using relevant documentary evidence.	Research Essay	35-45%

Adopted Reference Style:

Chicago