

# Course Outline

**School / Portfolio:** Faculty of Education and Arts

**Course Title:** SAMSS SELECTED TOPICS IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

**Course ID:** ATSGC4807

**Credit Points:** 30.00

**Prerequisite(s):** (A Bachelor of Arts program with a sequence in the relevant discipline with Distinction average)

**Co-requisite(s):** Nil

**Exclusion(s):** Nil

**ASCED Code:** 090399

**Program Level:**

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

**Knowledge:**

- K1.** Appraise processes and practices in independent research in at least one major field within their disciplines;
- K2.** Evaluate methodologies appropriate to the discipline;
- K3.** Investigate relevant theoretical approaches relevant to the discipline and research topic;
- K4.** Appraise and evaluate advanced concepts within at least one major field in their discipline.

**Skills:**

- S1.** Construct scholarly responses to selected research questions;
- S2.** Collect, analyse and interpret data (where and as applicable to a discipline);
- S3.** Critically evaluate research material and project design;
- S4.** Identify and access relevant literature on the selected field of study

**Application of knowledge and skills:**

- A1.** Conduct independent research;
- A2.** Construct theoretical and methodological frameworks in responding to selected research questions;
- A3.** Synthesise information from a variety of sources and present this in academic writing;

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## Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Systems of government
- Authoritarianism
- Democracy
- Political Institutions and legitimacy
- Participation, Opposition and Civil Society
- Elections and Electoral Systems
- Political Parties
- Nation building and nationalism
- Conflict and war
- Failed and fragile states

## Values and Graduate Attributes:

### Values:

- Commitment to high standards of scholarly research, critical analysis, communication of knowledge and ideas, and presentation of research that students require for further work in academic research, or to produce research and project work of a high standard in other contexts;
- V1.** and ideas, and presentation of research that students require for further work in academic research, or to produce research and project work of a high standard in other contexts;
- V2.** An ethical approach to research, both in gathering and in presenting original research, and in making use of critical and secondary sources;
- V3.** Collegial cooperation through participation in seminars and a Faculty research culture as well as working with a supervisor.

### Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students develop their abilities to identify and understand the roles of relevant processes, structures, values and actors	High
Self Reliance	Students develop skills in independent research and analysis	Medium
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage with political values, ideas, concepts, debates and perspectives as influences upon relationships within society	High
Social Responsibility	Students develop their understanding of social and political institutions in supporting social order and promoting citizens' rights	High

## Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K3, K4, S2, S4, A1, A2	Research topic selected in consultation with Course Coordinator	Minor Essay	25-35%
K1, K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, S3, S4, A1, A2, A3	Major research essay in response to selected topic	Major Essay	45-55%
K2, K4, S3, S4, A3, A4	Selected postings in disciplinary based online discussion	Online discussion postings	15-25%

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## Adopted Reference Style:

APA