

# Course Outline (Higher Education)

<b>School:</b>	School of Arts
<b>Course Title:</b>	OURSELVES IN GROUPS: ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES, SOCIETIES AND CULTURES
<b>Course ID:</b>	BASSS2006
<b>Credit Points:</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b>	Nil
<b>Co-requisite(s):</b>	Nil
<b>Exclusion(s):</b>	Nil
<b>ASCED Code:</b>	090399

## Description of the Course :

This course explores cultural diversity in Australia and our regional neighbours. It will examine the idea of cultures and societies and how these have been shaped by geography and history in our region. It introduces diverse communities and cultures including communities with different cultural and religious backgrounds, sexual orientations, and various level of abilities/disabilities. The course makes connections between cultures with varying social environments, perceptions of self, communication and behaviours. It develops student skills in effective intercultural communication. In addition, the course explores strategies for, and practical approaches to, working within diverse cultural environments.

**Grade Scheme:** Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

## Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

**Placement Component:** No

**Supplementary Assessment:** Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks..

## Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Level</b>						
Introductory						
Intermediate			✓			
Advanced						

## Learning Outcomes:

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## Knowledge:

- K1.** Acquire an understanding of diverse Australian communities and their cultures
- K2.** Explore the principal theories of communication and intercultural communication
- K3.** Recognise and understand the impact of life journey/experiences, language and culture on individuals and the way people communicate
- K4.** Examine in-depth the impact of language and culture on diversity of behaviour and communication
- K5.** Establish a sound foundation of cultural awareness from which to approach the issues posed by working in contexts of cultural diversity or internationally.

## Skills:

- S1.** Think critically to evaluate different theories in cross-cultural perspectives
- S2.** Apply theories to the analysis of cross-cultural cases
- S3.** Analyse intercultural communication situations and design appropriate strategies
- S4.** Communicate effectively in oral and written form in intercultural settings.

## Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply intercultural knowledge and communication skills to engage in effective communication with people from diverse communities and cultural backgrounds
- A2.** Work effectively with people from diverse community and cultural backgrounds in multicultural Australia and the globalised world.

## Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Language (verbal/body), behaviour and communication
- Clashes and Coexistence in a multicultural society
- Governments and Ideologies in Australia and our region
- Religion and Spirituality in Australia and our region
- Collectivist and Individualist cultures and societies and the development of self in these cultures
- Principles of intercultural communication and working in diverse cultural environments
- Naming and critiquing the concept of Australia" and what is Australian"
- Understandings of Gender/Sex and Sexuality in Australia and our region
- Different understandings of law and crime in Australia and our region
- History of Australian multiculturalism and our relationships in our region
- Cultural expressions through creative arts
- Different educational approaches by culture and society
- Theories of intercultural and interfaith engagement
- Disability.

## Values:

- V1.** Develop an open mind, appreciation of different world views and a thirst for continuous learning
- V2.** Appreciate relationships between culture, values, beliefs, perceptions of self, behaviours and communication styles
- V3.** Enhance engaged citizenship in multicultural Australia
- V4.** Have an appreciation of and respect for the complexity of Indigenous Australian culture

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- V5.** Acknowledge and understand differences in community, values, beliefs, perceptions of self, behaviours and communication styles between collective and individualist oriented cultures.

## Graduate Attributes:

FedUni graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Knowledge, skills and competence	Students will continuously develop skills in intercultural awareness and communication.	High
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Students will build on their skills through continuous learning, intercultural communication, independent thinking, initiative and managing cultural diversity.	High
Capable, flexible and work ready	Students will develop new skills in the critical analysis of cultures that prepare for their work in diverse community and cultural environment.	High
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Students will work to gain the skills and confidence needed to understand diversity of Australian society and be able to engage effectively as well informed citizens.	Medium

## Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K4, S1, S4, A2	Explore and research the major features of one Australian non-main stream community.	Oral presentation	20-35%
K2, K3, S2, S3, S4, A1, A2	Written communication using relevant intercultural communication principles and cross-cultural theories. - 1-3 pieces of intercultural written communication including letters, e-mails, etc. - Explanation of rationale behind the writing/communication.	Written folio	10-25%
K1, K5, S1, S2, S3, A2	Acquire fundamental knowledge of intercultural communication and working in a cross-cultural environment.	Test	25-35%
K1, K4, K5, S1, A1, A2	Completion of class activity tasks; written reflection on topics, set readings and audio/visual material, as well as active participation in class/Moodle discussions.	Class and/or online preparation and participation	20-30%

## Adopted Reference Style:

Australian