Course Outline (Higher Education)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>AQF Level of Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
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Learning Outcomes:
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BASSS2006 OURSELVES IN GROUPS: ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES, SOCIETIES AND CULTURES

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

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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge, skills and competence</td>
<td>Students will continuously develop skills in intercultural awareness and communication.</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical, creative and enquiring learners</td>
<td>Students will build on their skills through continuous learning, intercultural communication, independent thinking, initiative and managing cultural diversity.</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capable, flexible and work ready</td>
<td>Students will develop new skills in the critical analysis of cultures that prepare for their work in diverse community and cultural environment.</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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Learning Task and Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Learning Tasks</th>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K1, K4, S1, S4, A2</td>
<td>Explore and research the major features of one Australian non-main stream community.</td>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>20-35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K2, K3, S2, S3, S4, A1, A2</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Written folio</td>
<td>10-25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K5, S1, S2, S3, A2</td>
<td>Acquire fundamental knowledge of intercultural communication and working in a cross-cultural environment.</td>
<td>Test</td>
<td>25-35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K4, K5, S1, A1, A2</td>
<td>Completion of class activity tasks; written reflection on topics, set readings and audio/visual material, as well as active participation in class/Moodle discussions.</td>
<td>Class and/or online preparation and participation</td>
<td>20-30%</td>
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Adopted Reference Style:

Australian