

Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Arts
Course Title:	ELITES, POWER AND POLITICS
Course ID:	SOSCI1005
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	Nil
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	090103

Description of the Course :

This course introduces students to key concepts of politics, power and the elites through an initial exploration of their own community, building to sociological and political understandings in a broader context. Students will begin to develop some basic ethnographic research skills through observing how issues of politics and power play out in their own social settings and then use this knowledge to build an increasingly larger more sophisticated model of politics power and elites at a societal level.

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:

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input 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"/>

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Identify and explain key sociological theories of power, politics and the elite
- K2.** Engage with key theoretical models of power and politics
- K3.** Examine the influence of elites on social and political landscapes
- K4.** Recognise how research and observation can lead to theory building

Skills:

- S1.** Theorise power and politics based on observation of the local
- S2.** Utilise research observations to begin to theorise power and politics
- S3.** Summarise key issues of politics, power and elites to enhance critical sociological understandings
- S4.** Critique current social and political issues, at global, national and local levels on the basis of understanding politics, power and the activity and interest of elites

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Express models of power and politics at a local level through mapping or network diagrams
- A2.** Utilise and integrate understandings of power, politics and the elites to critique media representations of issues at global, national and local levels
- A3.** Build a reflexive understanding of where the self sits within the social and political context

Course Content:

The workshops will focus on three key areas of activity:

Topics may include:

- Developing a local understanding of issues of power, politics and elites based on observation, experience and research
- Building a broader theoretical understanding of power, politics and the elite using local discussion and analysis as a basis
- Consolidating this through analysis of issues at a global, national and local level

Values:

- V1.** Appreciate that local situations can form a legitimate basis for understanding sociological concepts
- V2.** Recognise the importance of developing a critical lens
- V3.** Understand the positioning of self in understanding sociological concepts

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University FedUni graduate attributes (GA) are entrenched in the Higher Education Graduate Attributes Policy (LT1228). FedUni graduates develop these graduate attributes through their engagement in explicit learning and teaching and assessment tasks that are embedded in all FedUni programs. Graduate attribute attainment typically follows an incremental development process mapped through program progression. **One or more graduate attributes must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni course, and all attributes must be directly assessed in each program**

Graduate attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of GAs in the course			
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Code A. Direct B. Indirect N/A Not addressed	Assessment task (AT#)	Code A. Certain B. Likely C. Possible N/A Not likely
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	K1-K4, S1-S4, A1-A3	A	AT1-4	A
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	K4, S2	B	AT2	C
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K1, K3, K4, S2, S4, A2, A3	A	AT2-4	B
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	K1, S1, S2, S3, A1	B	AT1-4	B
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	K1, K3, S2, S3, S4	B	AT2	C

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-K4, S1-S4, A1-A3	Participation in workshop / seminar activity including discussion, reflection, research and group work.	Workshop participation and a summary of personal and group learning in each session	15-20%
K1-K4, S1-S3, A1	Develop diagrammatic representations of formal and informal understandings of power, politics and the elites within a community through mappings or network diagrams.	Mapping / network diagrams	25-35%

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-K3, S3, S4, A2	Analyse media articles relating to a global, national/state and local issue and develop a report on representations of power, politics and the elites. The report may be presented in a number of formats.	Report	25-35%
K1-K4, S1-S4, A3	Write a reflective essay exploring understandings of power politics and the elites based on observation, local fieldwork, theoretical work and personal reflection.	Reflective essay	20-30%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA