Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 2 - 2008
CTS Download Date: 15th May 2008

Faculty of Education and Arts
School of Humanities & Social Science
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/

Newcastle Campus
University Drive,
Callaghan 2308
Room: MC127 McMullin Building
Phone: 4921 5213
Office hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm
Fax: +61 21 6933
Email: Humanities-SocialScience@newcastle.edu.au
Web: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/

CULT3240 - POPULAR CULTURE AND SOCIETY
Semester 2, 2008

Course Co-ordinator: Dr Kelli Fuery
Room: GP2-15
Ph: 0249216064
Fax: 0249216933
Email: Kelli.Fuery@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: Thursdays 11-12pm

Semester 2 - 2008
Unit Weighting 10
Teaching Methods Lecture
Tutorial

Brief Course Description
This course will engage with the major theories of popular culture, media and society, as well as introduce various artistic and theoretical practices that form the landscape of contemporary culture. We look at aspects and ideologies of popular culture that include topics such as postmodernism, feminism; identity and sexuality; net activism and new technologies; media, television and film analysis. We explore theories that examine the basic issues of popular culture; some examples include power and surveillance, gender and ethnicity, private/public spheres and censorship.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Tutorial for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term

Course Texts

Course Objectives
This course explores the relationships between popular culture and society; it assists students in developing the skills that will enable them to:

1. Analyse the influence of new technologies on concepts of identity, gender, race and the body;
2. Relate concepts, such as race, gender, ideology, pleasure, activism to popular culture and illustrate their significance;

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3. Construct a critical argument regarding the issues surrounding popular culture;
4. Apply theory critically in written assessment to analyse a case study;
5. Work well as part of a group;
6. Self-evaluate time management and preparation skills.

Course Content
The course involves:
1. An overview of the many competing theories, methods, concepts and policies surrounding popular culture.
2. Examining a series of case studies from different media and discussing critical issues such as ethics, politics, histories, etc.
3. Questioning the importance of the notion of ‘pleasure and play’ in relation to the formation and experience of popular culture.
4. Evaluating the impact of new technology on popular culture and positions of spectatorship and usage.

Assessment Items
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>2,000 words 30%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>3,000 words 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>Group project - in class verbal presentation, 30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assumed Knowledge
60 credit points at 2000 Level

Callaghan Campus Timetable
CULT3240
POPULAR CULTURE AND SOCIETY
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 – 2008
Lecture and Tutorial Tuesday 14:00 - 15:00 [GP1-1]
or Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00 [GP2-20]
or Tuesday 11:00 - 12:00 [GP2-16]
or Tuesday 13:00 - 14:00 [V105]

Plagiarism
University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one’s own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

• copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
• using another’s ideas without due acknowledgment;
• working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -


The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University
may -
- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items

Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641.

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- Requests for Special Consideration must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.

- Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.

- Requests for Rescheduling Exams must be received no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. In the first instance, students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

Changing your Enrolment

The census dates below are the last dates to withdraw without academic penalty. For onshore students, withdrawal on or before the census date means no financial penalty.

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2008
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2008
For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2008
For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2008 - For Trimester 3 courses: 22 September 2008
Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students

https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

Faculty Information

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia.

The Student Hubs are located at:

Callaghan campus
• Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Union Building
• Hunter Hub: Student Services Centre, Hunter side of campus

Faculty website

Faculty of Education and Arts

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/

Contact details

Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie – Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

The Dean of Students
Resolution Precinct
Phone: 02 4921 5806 -
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Alteration of this Course Outline

No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au
As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students

CULT3240 – POPULAR CULTURE

Important Additional Information

Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date. Late assignments will be subject to the penalties described below.

All assessment must be submitted as hard copy.

Hard copy submission:

- **Type your assignments:** All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker’s comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
- **Word length**: The word limit of all assessment items should be strictly followed – 10% above or below is acceptable, otherwise penalties may apply.
- **Proof read your work** because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.
- **Staple the pages** of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).
- **University Assessment Item Coversheet**: All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet available at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/)
- **By arrangement with the relevant lecturer, assignments may be submitted at any Student Hub located at**:
  - Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan
  - Level 2, Student Services Centre, Callaghan
  - Ground Floor, University House, City
  - Opposite Café Central, Ourimbah
- **Date-stamping assignments**: All students must date-stamp their own assignments using the machine provided at each Student Hub. If mailing an assignment, this should be address to the relevant School. Mailed assignments are accepted from the date posted, confirmed by a Post Office date-stamp; they are also date-stamped upon receipt by Schools.

**NB: Not all of these services may apply to the Port Macquarie Campus.**

- **Do not fax or email assignments**: Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse.
- **Keep a copy of all assignments**: It is the student’s responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in electronic and hard copy formats.

**Online copy submission to Turnitin**

In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of the following assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website available @ [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

Essay 1
Essay 2

Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing. Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

**Penalties for Late Assignments**

Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the **reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark** for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty. Assessment items submitted **more than ten days** after the due date will be awarded **zero marks**.

**Special Circumstances**

Students wishing to apply for Special Circumstances or Extension of Time should apply online. Refer - ‘Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items - Procedure 000641’ available @ [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

**No Assignment Re-submission**

Students who have failed an assignment are not permitted to revise and resubmit it in this course. However, students are always welcome to contact their Tutor, Lecturer or Course Coordinator to make a consultation time to receive individual feedback on their assignments.

**Re-marks & Moderations**

A student may only request a re-mark of an assessment item before the final result - in the course to which the assessment item contributes - has been posted. If a final result in the course has been posted, the
student must apply under ‘Procedures for Appeal Against a Final Result’ (Refer - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/).

Students concerned at the mark given for an assessment item should first discuss the matter with the Course Coordinator. If subsequently requesting a re-mark, students should be aware that as a result of a re-mark the original mark may be increased or reduced. The case for a re-mark should be outlined in writing and submitted to the Course Coordinator, who determines whether a re-mark should be granted, taking into consideration all of the following:

1. whether the student had discussed the matter with the Course Coordinator
2. the case put forward by the student for a re-mark
3. the weighting of the assessment item and its potential impact on the student’s final mark or grade
4. the time required to undertake the re-mark
5. the number of original markers, that is,
   a) whether there was a single marker, or
   b) if there was more than one marker whether there was agreement or disagreement on the marks awarded.

A re-mark may also be initiated at the request of the Course Coordinator, the Head of School, the School Assessment Committee, the Faculty Progress and Appeals Committee or the Pro Vice-Chancellor. Re-marks may be undertaken by:

1. the original marker; or
2. an alternate internal marker; or
3. an alternate external marker (usually as a consequence of a grievance procedure).

Moderation may be applied when there is a major discrepancy (or perceived discrepancy) between:

1. the content of the course as against the content or nature of the assessment item(s)
2. the content or nature of the assessment item(s) as against those set out in the Course Outline
3. the marks given by a particular examiner and those given by another in the same course
4. the results in a particular course and the results in other courses undertaken by the same students.

For further detail on this University policy refer - ‘Re-marks and Moderations - Procedure 000769’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html

Return of Assignments

Students can collect assignments from a nominated Student Hub during office hours. Students will be informed during class which Hub to go to and the earliest date that assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.

Preferred Referencing Style

In this course, it is recommended that you use the use the Harvard in-text referencing system (similar to the APA system) for referencing sources of information used in assignments. Inadequate or incorrect reference to the work of others may be viewed as plagiarism and result in reduced marks or failure.

An in-text citation names the author of the source, gives the date of publication, and for a direct quote includes a page number, in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetised by authors’ last names (or by titles for works without authors). For further information on referencing and general study skills refer - ‘Infoskills’ available @ www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorials/infoskills/index.html

Student Representatives

Student Representatives are a major channel of communication between students and the School. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on School websites.
Student Communication

Students should discuss any course related matters with their Tutor, Lecturer, or Course Coordinator in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

Essential Online Information for Students

Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services is available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/currentstudents/index.html
CULT 3240 - POPULAR CULTURE

Tuesdays: Lecture 2-3pm
Tutorials at 10, 11 and 1pm
SEMESTER 2 2008
Dr. Kelli Fuery
Kelli.Fuery@newcastle.edu.au
Weekly Schedule - At a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week Commencing</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>21/07/2008</td>
<td>What is ‘popular culture’? Group project organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>28/07/2008</td>
<td>Pleasure – formations of cultural pleasures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>04/08/2008</td>
<td>Taste, class &amp; judgement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>11/08/2008</td>
<td>Culture as mass deception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>18/08/2008</td>
<td>Forms of Pop 1: Literature – Patrick Süskind’s <em>Perfume</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>25/08/2008</td>
<td>Forms of Pop 2: Film – The Blockbuster <em>Pulp Fiction</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>01/09/2008</td>
<td>New Media / New Popular Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>08/09/2008</td>
<td>Simulacra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>15/09/2008</td>
<td>Popular as spectacle: exploring power in specularity</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>22/09/2008</td>
<td>Sexuality and Gender in popular culture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29/09/2008</td>
<td><strong>Semester Recess: Monday 29 September to Friday 10 October 2008</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>06/10/2008</td>
<td><strong>Semester Recess:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>13/10/2008</td>
<td>On the popular self – narcissistic technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>20/10/2008</td>
<td>Sub culture vs. popular culture: television</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>27/10/2008</td>
<td>Group presentation day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>03/11/2008</td>
<td>Essay week</td>
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</tbody>
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**Examination period:** Monday 10 November to Friday 28 November 2008

NB: Tutorials begin first week

Mid Semester Break 29th Sept to 13th Oct
Course Week by Week

Week 1 - What is ‘popular culture’? Group project organization
Reading: None
This week we discuss our own ideas of popular culture and examine the relationship and construction of ‘popular’ and ‘culture’ and their interrelationship.
We also discuss the assessment of group presentation and its guidelines.

Week 2 - Pleasure – formations of cultural pleasures
Reading: Excerpts from:

Week 3 - Taste, class & judgement

Additional readings


Week 4 - Culture as mass deception

Additional Reading
Week 5 - Forms of Pop 1: Literature - *Perfume*
Reading:

Week 6 - Forms of Pop 2: Film – The Blockbuster
Reading: TBA
Screening:
*Pulp Fiction* (dir. Quentin Tarantino)

Week 7 - New Media / New Popular Culture?
Reading:

Week 8 - Simulacra
Reading:


Week 9 - Popular as spectacle: exploring power in specularity
Reading:

Week 10 - Sexuality and Gender in popular culture
Reading:

Mid Semester Break 29th Sept to 13th Oct

Week 11 - On the popular self – narcissistic technologies
Reading:


Week 12 - Sub culture vs. popular culture: television as case study
Reading:

Week 13 - No lecture Group presentation day 10-3pm

Week 14 - Essay week
Assessment Guidelines

Assessment 1:

Essay 1 – 2000 words

Using one of the titles below, you will be asked to write a 2000 word essay to be handed into a student hub. This essay must be typed, double spaced, fully referenced and include evidence of wide reading and academic research. You are free to use references that are in the course reader but should source other references from the library.

Make sure that when using references that they are integrated with your own argument. Try not to ‘shopping list’ authors or theories. They need to illustrate, support or substantiate your own arguments/claims.

Chose one question from the following:

1. “The social body constrains the way the physical body is perceived.” (Mary Douglas) Consider how normative notions of femininity/masculinity are either reinforced or challenged in one or two different cultural texts (eg. Magazines, soap operas).

2. Is taste purely a matter of choice? In your answer refer to two examples from popular culture. These can include paper, image, or sound.

Assessment 2:

Using one of the titles below, you will be asked to write a 2500-3000 word essay to be handed into a student hub. This essay must be typed, double spaced, fully referenced and include evidence of wide reading and academic research. You are free to use references that are in the course reader but should source other references from the library.

Make sure that when using references that they are integrated with your own argument. Try not to ‘shopping list’ authors or theories. They need to illustrate, support or substantiate your own arguments/claims.

Chose one question from the following:

1. ‘New media have shifted the parameters of popular culture’

Critically explore the formation of identity within either an online community (this can be anything from regular contribution to a mailing list; a presence in a virtual environment such Second Life; myspace; facebook; or participation in an online art installation, or the creation of a video on youtube. You will need to illustrate and document your contribution to the community you choose and relate it to the issues of popular culture that we have addressed in class.

You should aim to cover at least two of the following themes: power and surveillance, sexuality, identity, activism, technology and its relationship to the body.

2. Censorship and the Image
Discuss the ways in which the status of ‘popular’ and ‘high’ culture affects the perception of images. You should aim to cover at least two of the following: censorship, spectacle, public versus private, pleasure and freedom of speech.

3. Group Project:

As part of a small group you will be asked to lead a 15-20 minute presentation in the final two weeks of semester. Audio-visual facilities can be used – make sure all requirements are requested in enough time.

The project must be based on one of the topics from assessment two. Whilst your research and individual work can influence and form part of your presentation, it should not be the totality of it.

Helpful hints:

- Group contact details must be shared early on. These must be uploaded to the Blackboard discussion website for easy referral.
- Construct and adhere to your team charter. This will help organisation and maintain individual responsibility in group tasks.
- Delegate tasks fairly and evenly. Each member needs to be aware of their role and that tasks are equitable.
- Research is the core to a successful group presentation. Without a solid theoretical structure your presentation will appear thin and under prepared.
- Be realistic about your project. The stricter the focus, the more critical your project will be and the easier it will be to complete the project in the set time.
- Make sure to allow enough time for AV material if you are going to use it. It all needs to be included within the 15-20 mins.
- You will be presenting to the rest of the CULT3240 students, not just me. If you want them to respond to questions, leave enough time.
- You must demonstrate that you have engaged and critiqued theoretical material.

Group Work, Peer and/or Self-Assessment

1. The purpose and function of the group project is to enable you to develop skills that assist academic progression, such as time-management and interpersonal relations. Group Projects are a way of extending non subject-specific knowledge and abilities. This project reflects the learning outcomes numbers 4-6 specifically.

2. Group members will be randomly selected by the tutor in the first tutorial. If any student feels uncomfortable with their assigned group, they are able to seek an alternative group.

3. Group members are to design and implement a ‘team charter’. This will be discussed in the first tutorial where team charter templates will be disseminated. A team charter is a document that all participants agree on, that outlines their group guidelines and strategy for participation. This is a document that all students must agree on as it schedules group meetings and decided agreed upon solutions for possible group conflict. Some scenarios and suggested strategies will be discussed in the introductory class.
4. Individual feedback will be provided via email. Feedback will be made in line with assessment criteria as is outlined in the grid below.

5. The project will be assessed by in class presentations in the final 2 weeks of term.

6. Contributions from each group member will form the basis of the group work mark. The final presentation is only marked on an individual basis. There will be no final grade for the project alone. Students will be required to take part in the in-class presentation and marks will be awarded based on the content of their presentation. Marks are not awarded based on group performance.

7. Progress of group work will be monitored twice before in-class presentations with groups meeting with me at 2 x 30 mins consultations. At these meetings, students will be given the opportunity to discuss their progress, conflict or issues they wish to air. Alternatively, if students are not comfortable, individual and private consultations are also possible.

8. In the case where students feel as though a fellow student is underperforming, or if there is any conflict between students in a group, the first action is to consult the course coordinator who will discuss the situation.

Assessment Marking Criteria:

Your assessments and group project will be marked against this grading guide. Refer to it during the writing of each assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading guide</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49% or less</td>
<td>Fail (FF)</td>
<td>An unacceptable effort, including non-completion. The student has not understood the basic principles of the subject matter and/or has been unable express their understanding in a comprehensible way. Deficient in terms of answering the question, research, referencing and correct presentation (spelling, grammar etc). May include extensive plagiarism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% to 64%</td>
<td>Pass (P)</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a reasonable attempt to answer the question, shows some grasp of the basic principles of the subject matter and a basic knowledge of the required readings, is comprehensible, accurate and adequately referenced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65% to 74%</td>
<td>Credit (C)</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question, a capacity to integrate research into the discussion, and a critical appreciation of a range of different theoretical perspectives. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought. The work is coherent and accurate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75% to 84%</td>
<td>Distinction (D)</td>
<td>Evidence of substantial additional reading and/or research, and evidence of the ability to generalise from the theoretical content to develop an argument in an informed and original manner. The work is well organised, clearly expressed and shows a capacity for critical analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85% upwards</td>
<td>High Distinction (HD)</td>
<td>All of the above, plus a thorough understanding of the subject matter based on substantial additional reading and/or research. The work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion of the topic, particularly the theoretical issues involved, and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical analysis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>