SOCS2200: Social Analysis: Key Perspectives in the Social Sciences
10 Units
Semester 1, 2008

COURSE OUTLINE

Callaghan Co-ordinator: Dr Allen George
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Email: Allen.George@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: Mon. 10am – 11am (Callaghan)
Tues. 4pm – 5pm (Ourimbah)
Wed. 11am – 1pm (Callaghan)
And by appointment

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 1 - 2008
CTS Download Date: 30-1-08
Course Overview
Description:
This course is a prescribed course for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Science. It is open to other students as an elective.

In this course students examine key topics and perspectives in the social sciences, relevant to social science careers. Theory and contemporary research on social class and inequality, social capital, gender, the state and social policy, bureaucracy and work, and the welfare state are covered.

Course Objectives:
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of a range of social theories and research relevant to the Social Sciences.
2. Critically appraise and discuss the relevant literature.
3. Communicate understanding of social theories and debates in written and oral forms.
4. Apply the insights of social theory to professional practice in the Social Sciences, particularly in the areas of social research, social policy and program management.

Course Content:
Theories of social class (Marx and Weber); the "end of class" debate; the experience of social inequality.
1. Bureaucracy (Weber's model); deskilling and work; the McDonaldization thesis.
2. The 'capitalist state'; the welfare state, globalisation and economic rationalism.
3. Governmentality and normalisation.
4. Social capital; the theory of declining social capital; the engineering of social capital.
5. Gender; the materialist-feminist model; gender in work and domestic life today; gender inequality and social services.

Modes of Delivery:
Internal Mode

Teaching Methods:
Lecture
Tutorial

Assumed Knowledge:
20 units of approved Social Science courses at 1000 level.

Course Requisites:   Assessment Items:
Essays / Written Assignments 2500 words; 50%; due week 9.
Examination: Take Home 2000 words; 40%; due week 14.
Presentations - Individual 500 words; 10%; due throughout semester.

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

**Online copy submission to Turnitin**
In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of all assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website, which has been established for this course.

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.

**Please Note:**
For this 10 unit course, students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort and study in the semester as total load in the semester. This includes contact and non-contact hours, reading, collecting project materials both as texts and online, and writing.

**Course Timetable:**

**Callaghan Campus:** Semester 1 - 2008
- Lecture: Monday 11.00 AM – 12 Noon [PG08]
- Tutorials: Monday 1.00 PM – 2.00 PM [V109]
  or Monday 2.00 PM – 3.00 PM [V102]
  or Monday 3.00 PM – 4.00 PM [V102]
  or Monday 4.00 PM – 5.00 PM [V102]

**Central Coast:** Semester 1 - 2008
- Lecture: Tuesday 12.00 Noon – 1.00 PM [O_CN2:1.04]
- Tutorial: Tuesday 2.00 PM – 3.00 PM [O_CN2:1.12]
  or Tuesday 3.00 PM – 4.00 PM [O_CN2:1.12]

**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 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.

**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 (2.5-3 cm) 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 and do not bind into a folder).
- **University Assessment Item Coversheet:** All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet available at: 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/)

**Assignment 1: Individual Presentations**
Words: 500
Weight: 10%
Due: Throughout semester

**Assignment 2: Essay**
Words: 2500
Weight: 50%
Due: **Week 9**

**Assignment 3: Take Home Examination**
Words: 2000
Weight: 40%
Due: **Week 14**

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.

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

**Special Circumstances**

Students wishing to apply for Special Circumstances or Extension of Time should apply online. Refer - *‘Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment*
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.

Refer - ‘Information for Student Representatives on Committees’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/committees/student_reps/index.html
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

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 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 lodged no later than 10 working days before the date of the examination.
Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. Students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer in the first instance.

**Changing your Enrolment**

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

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  

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.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to  

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/changingenrolment.html

**Textbook:**

The **required text** for this course is:


This book is available for purchase at the United Campus Bookshop (Callaghan Campus), and the Co-Op Bookshop (Ourimbah Campus). Copies are also available on Short Loans.

**Online Tutorial Registration:**

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system:


Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

**Studentmail and Blackboard:** [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://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.

Assignments in Detail

Assignment 1: Individual Presentation
Words: 500
Weight: 10%
Due: Throughout semester
Submission: In-class and Turnitin

Instructions:
All students will make an oral presentation of approximately 10 minutes in length during the tutorial time. Following the oral presentation, a 500 word written paper (references must be in a list at the end but are not included in the word count) will be given to the lecturer. Presentation dates and times will be determined during the tutorial in the second week of semester and commence in Week Three.

Task:
In her introduction, Woodward (2003) identifies a number of key factors that help structure individual and social domains. These include class, gender, race and ethnicity, place and disability. Drawing on one or more of these social factors, critically analyse and evaluate a recent social, cultural, political or economic issue covered in the Australian print media (newspaper or magazine).

In your analysis clearly identify the social factors or determinants you are examining and explain their impact on the social issue by drawing on the themes, perspectives, theories, and concepts explored in the course lectures, tutorials and readings. How do these social factors help elucidate our understanding of the issue? What are the wider social implications of your analysis?

Assignment 2: Essay
Words: 2500
Weight: 50%
Due: Week 9, Friday 2 May
Submission: Student HUB by 5.00 pm and Turnitin

Choose only ONE (1) of the following topics. Clearly identify the topic question you are examining.

Topic 1
Donna Haraway (cited in Woodward 2003:36) argues:

Late twentieth century machines have made thoroughly ambiguous the difference between natural and artificial, mind and body, self-developing and eternally designed, and the many other distinctions that used to apply to organisms and machines.
What does Haraway mean by this and what evidence is there to support her argument? What are the implications vis-à-vis issues of social, political or cultural identities? Your critical analysis and evaluation should be situated within the Australian context or perspective. In addition to the articles you have found you should also utilise the required readings included in this course. You may find theoretical insights in the readings from *Weeks 2-7*, especially Woodward (2003) Chapter 2.

**OR**

**Topic 2**
Critically analyse and evaluate the notion of *equality*, taking into consideration the differing aims and effects of programs and strategies that seek equal *access* and equal *outcomes*. What are the implications vis-à-vis issues of identity, citizenship, disability, gender, race and ethnicity (you do not have to cover all these social categories)? Your critical analysis and evaluation should be situated within the Australian context or perspective. In addition to the articles you have found you should also utilise the required readings included in this course. You may find theoretical insights in the readings from *Weeks 2-7*, especially Woodward (2003) Chapter 3.

**OR**

**Topic 3**
Zygmunt Bauman (cited in Woodward 2003:92) argues:

> The distinctive mark of the consumer society and its consumerist culture is not... consumption as such; not even the elevated and fast rising volume of consumption. What sets the members of consumer society apart from their ancestors is the emancipation of consumption from its past instrumentality that used to draw its limits – the demise of ‘norms’ and the new plasticity of ‘needs’, setting consumption free from functional bonds and absolving it from the need to justify itself by reference to anything but its own pleasurability.

What does Bauman mean by this and what evidence is there to support his argument? Your critical analysis and evaluation should be situated within the Australian context or perspective. In addition to the articles you have found you should also utilise the required readings included in this course. You may find theoretical insights in the readings from *Weeks 2-7*, especially Woodward (2003) Chapter 4.

**Assignment 3: Take Home Examination**
Words: 2000
Weight: 40%
Due: *Week 14, Friday 6 June*
Submission: Student HUB by 5.00 pm and Turnitin
This take home examination will be posted on Blackboard in Week 12 on Monday May 19 at 9.00 am. A hard copy will be provided in lecture/tutorial.

Marking Guide

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading guide</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<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 to 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>
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<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>
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<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>
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<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>
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<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>
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## SOCS2200: Social Analysis

### Lecture Topic and Assessment at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week beginning</th>
<th>Lecture Topic &amp; Assessment at a Glance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>February 18</td>
<td><em>Introduction and Course Overview</em></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>February 25</td>
<td><em>Issues of Identity</em></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>March 3</td>
<td><em>Identity Politics</em></td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>March 10</td>
<td><em>Introducing Citizenship</em></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td><em>Equality and Australian Social Citizenship</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>March 24</td>
<td><em>Easter Break (no classes for this course)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td><em>Buying and Selling</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>April 7</td>
<td><em>Consumers and Consumption</em></td>
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<td><strong>Mid Semester Break</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>April 28</td>
<td><em>Place and Race</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>NB: Essay due Friday 2 May</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td><em>Australia and Multiculturalism</em></td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td><em>Introducing Globalization</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td><em>Australia, Globalization and Citizenship</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>May 26</td>
<td><em>Social Science and the Big Issues</em></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>No lecture or tutorial readings</td>
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<td><strong>NB: Take Home Exam due Friday 6 June</strong></td>
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**Examination period:** Tuesday 10 June to Friday 27 June 2008
SOCS2200: Social Analysis

Lecture Program and Tutorial Readings

The **required text** for this course is:


**Week 1** (18 February)

*Introduction and Course Overview*

**Required reading**


**Recommended readings**


**Week 2 (25 February)**

*Issues of Identity*

**Required reading**

**Recommended readings**


Week 3 (3 March)

Identity Politics

Required reading

(Access this reading through Socs2200 Short Loans – electronic download)

Recommended readings


Week 4 (10 March)

Introducing Citizenship

Required reading

Recommended readings


**Week 5 (17 March)**

**Equality and Australian Social Citizenship**

**Required reading**


(Access this reading through Socs2200 Short Loans – electronic download)

**Recommended readings**


**Week 6 (24 March)**
Easter Break. No classes this week.

**Week 7 (31 March)**

**Buying and Selling**

**Required reading**

**Recommended readings**


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**Week 8 (7 April)**

**Consumers and Consumption**

**Required reading**


(Available in SOCS2200 Short loans – electronic download)

**Recommended readings**


*** Mid-Semester Recess: Monday 14 April to Friday 25 April 2008 ***

**NB: Essay Due: Week 9 Friday 4 April, 2008**

**Week 9 (28 April)**

*Place and Race*

**Required reading**


**Recommended readings**


**Week 10 (5 May)**

*Australia and Multiculturalism*
**Required readings**


(Access this reading through SOCS2200 Short Loans – electronic download)

**Recommended readings**


**Week 11 (12 May)**

*Introducing Globalization*

**Required reading**

Recommended readings


Week 12 (19 May)
Australia, Globalization and Citizenship

Required reading

(Access this reading through SOCS2200 Short Loans – electronic download)

Recommended readings


**Week 13 (26 May)**  
**Social Science and the Big Issues**

**Required reading**  

**Recommended readings**  


**Week 14 (2 June)**

No lecture or tutorial readings

**Note: Take Home Examination due Week 14 Friday 6 June**

**Further Reading on Social Inequality:**


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**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 on campus.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

**Callaghan campus**

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

**City Precinct**

- City Hub & Information Common: University House, ground floor in combination with an Information Common for the City Precinct

**Ourimbah campus**

- Ourimbah Hub: Administration Building

**Faculty websites**

**Faculty of Business and Law**


**Faculty of Education and Arts**

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

**Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/

**Faculty of Health**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/

**Faculty of Science and Information Technology**

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/

**Contact details**

Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
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.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards

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