

SOTH40002 Imagined Societies

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	4 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2014. Standard
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 2-hour seminar per week for 12 weeks. Total Time Commitment: Total of 120 hours
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Students enrolling in this subject must have completed a Bachelor of Arts degree or equivalent.
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
Contact:	Dr John Cash (http://www.pasi.unimelb.edu.au/social-theory/staff/cash/) johndc@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:johndc@unimelb.edu.au%20)
Subject Overview:	This subject critically engages with questions regarding the place of subjectivity in the organisation of social and political relations, at both the theoretical and empirical levels. It investigates the ways in which discourses and subjectivities interact. Through critical engagement with such theorists as Freud, Klein, Lacan, Castoriadis, Kristeva, Butler, Zizek, Fanon, Nandy, Beck, Bauman, Giddens and Habermas, the subject highlights the place of the imaginary and the unconscious in the formation of ideologies and subjectivities. Through postcolonial theory issues of colonial and postcolonial identities are explored. Students completing this subject should possess knowledge of some major contemporary debates regarding the formation and organisation of subjectivities, an understanding of the centrality of subjectivity to the organisation of social and political relations, an awareness of the difficulties associated with analysing subjectivities in late or postmodernity, and an acquaintance with attempts to bring contemporary theories of subjectivity to the study of empirical cases.
Learning Outcomes:	Students who successfully complete this subject will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # possess knowledge of some major contemporary debates regarding the formation, structure and organisation of subjectivities; # possess an understanding of the centrality of subjectivity to the organisation of social and political relations; # possess an awareness of some contemporary approaches to the study of political subjectivities including ethnicity, race and gender; # possess an awareness of the difficulties associated with analysing subjectivities in high or post-modernity; # possess an acquaintance with some attempts to bring contemporary theories of subjectivity to the study of empirical cases, be these individuals, institutions, groups or societies.
Assessment:	An oral presentation of a 600 word seminar paper (10%) due during the semester, a research essay of 4400 words (80%) due during the examination period, class participation and contribution (10%). Hurdle Requirement: Students are required to attend a minimum of 75% of classes in order to qualify to have their written work assessed. Regular participation in class is required. Assessment submitted late without an approved extension will be penalised at 10% per working day. In-class tasks missed without approval will not be marked. All pieces of written work must be submitted to pass this subject.

Prescribed Texts:	Readings to be advised by the subject coordinator at the beginning of semester.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	On completion of this subject students should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # develop skills in written and oral communication; # conduct independent research; # make appropriate use of primary and secondary sources in mounting an argument; # form defensible judgements based on a critical evaluation of conflicting arguments.
Related Course(s):	Master of Arts in Social Theory (Advanced Seminars and Shorter Thesis)
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Anthropology Anthropology & Social Theory Gender Studies Social Theory Social Theory Social Theory