ARTS90002 Social Research and Reflexive Writing

Credit Points:	6.25
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2016, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s:
Time Commitment:	April, Parkville - Taught on campus.Contact Hours: 12 hours – 2 x 2hr seminars per day, over 3 days. Total Time Commitment: 85
	Hours
Prerequisites:	Admission into 101AA Ph.D Arts or DR-PHILART Doctor of Philosophy in Arts.
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
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 Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.
Coordinator:	Prof Ghassan Hage
Contact:	Email: ghage@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:ghage@unimelb.edu.au)
Subject Overview:	This subject will cover the following topics:
	1) Writing evidence: How does one write about the acquisition and accumulation of data? What are social and cultural realities? How crucial are notions of subjectivity, experience, enmeshment and perspective in making the social and the cultural different from the 'natural' or the 'physical'? Are there differences between social and cultural realities and can they be approached in the same way? How does one write about the different modes of relating to the world as a researcher and what are their ramifications on what one produces as accounts of reality?
	2) Writing analysis: How does one write an analysis of one's research experience? What does it mean to be rigorous when writing about data? What do explaining, deducing, providing proof, exemplifying mean as writing strategies in a PhD context.
	3) Writing Theory: How and why should one read theory? How does one integrate it in one's work? Evaluating the usefulness of a theoretical perspective? How to make theory speak to social and cultural realities and vice versa. What does critiquing means? How to think with a multiplicity of theories. How to develop one's own theories.
Learning Outcomes:	On successful completion of this subject, students should have:
	 # an ability to think through the underlying assumptions and the consequences of choosing words, phrases, concepts and theories when writing a PhD; # an ability to reflect upon their own research work in relation to the content of the module; and # enhanced engagement with leading-edge research in particular areas of the Humanities

Assessment:	1. One 2,500-word essay (100%), due two weeks after the end of the teaching period. Hurdle Requirement: Students are required to attend a minimum of 100% of classes in order to pass this subject.
Prescribed Texts:	None
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:	 The subjects will contribute, through teaching and discussion with academic staff and peers, to developing skills and capacities including those identified in the University-defined Graduate Attributes for the PhD, in particular: # the capacity to contextualise research within an international corpus of specialist knowledge; # an advanced ability to engage in critical reflection, synthesis and evaluation of research-based and scholarly literature; and # an advanced understanding of key disciplinary and multi-disciplinary norms and perspectives relevant to the field.
Links to further information:	http://arts.unimelb.edu.au/graduate-studies/research
Related Course(s):	Doctor of Philosophy - Arts