COURSE OUTLINE

ART100 Communicating Your World: Research and Communication in HASS

School: School of Law and Society

2026 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast UniSC Moreton Bay	BLENDED LEARNING	Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.
Online	ONLINE	You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to unisc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course is designed to equip students with the research and communication skills that are fundamental to the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) disciplines, and to introduce students to underlying rhetorical and ethical issues that must be considered when producing effective and credible work in academic and professional settings. This course serves as an introduction to the kinds of research and communication commonly utilised across HASS disciplines, as well as vital skills such as critical thinking, argumentation, and digital and data literacy. Students will be encouraged to consider issues such as audience, tone, genre, and purpose.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Online learning materials (e.g. videos, readings, activities, discussion board)	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Weekly in-person tutorial/workshop	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE			
Learning materials – Online learning materials (e.g. videos, readings, activities, discussion board)	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Weekly online tutorial/workshop	2hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Communication in HASS:

- Basics (tone/voice, audience, genre, disciplinarity, style)
- Communicating in the 21st century digital age: multiliteracy, cultural literacy, data literacy, digital literacy
- Ethical, effective, and persuasive communication
- Types of HASS academic 'products' (e.g. essays, reports, reflective pieces, oral presentations) and their application in the wider world
- Group work and collaboration (teamwork, negotiation and compromise, managing and mentoring)

Research in HASS:

- Basics (how to read / how to watch / how to listen / how to ask)
- Building an argument (structure, sign-posting, hypotheses)
- Supporting an argument (evidence analysis/synthesis, quoting and paraphrasing, referencing)
- Ethical, effective, and persuasive research
- Evaluating and critiquing the research of others

Meaning, Intention, and Ethics in HASS:

- What does miscommunication look/sound like, and why is it dangerous?
- What does 'ethical' communication and personal expression look/sound like, and how is this changing in the 21st century?

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	GRADUATE QUALITIES Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Demonstrate understanding of academic research and communication conventions, ethical scholarship, and the standards and expectations of tertiary learning.	Knowledgeable Empowered Ethical Engaged
2 Develop the ability to locate, analyse and synthesise relevant scholarly sources across a range of analog and digital settings and/or mediums.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered Information literacy
3 Demonstrate an ability to communicate humanities-related concepts to professional and academic audiences across a range of written formats.	Creative and critical thinker Empowered Engaged Communication Information literacy
4 Recognise, articulate and evaluate the key components of a sound academic argument, including the appropriate and ethical use of evidence	Knowledgeable Empowered Ethical Communication Problem solving
5 Demonstrate an understanding of a range of literacies / skillsets of relevance to HASS, including information/data literacy, audiovisual literacy, data literacy, and intercultural competence.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered Ethical Engaged Communication Applying technologies Information literacy

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the UniSC Glossary of terms for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

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5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

5.5. Microcredential Information

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	25%	5 quizzes worth 5 marks each.	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Written Piece	Individual	30%	A written piece of 1000 words (excluding references and Reference List).	Week 7	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Written Piece	Individual	45%	Two pieces of writing totalling 1,700 words (excluding references and Reference List).	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Quiz/zes

GOAL:	To demonstrate research and communication knowledge and skills gained through active participation in ART100 tutorial activities, online learning, and engagement in set readings.
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	Submit: Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10. Five fortnightly online quizzes beginning in Week 2. Students will complete five (5) short online quizzes throughout the trimester. Each quiz will be worth five (5) marks and will comprise a combination of short-answer and multiple-choice questions. Quiz content relates to online learning, active participation in tutorial discussions, and set readings from the previous fortnight. Students may refer to learning materials and the set readings while undertaking the quizzes, but should not use Google or any generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT). Each quiz will be active for two weeks only; students can complete each quiz at any point during the two-week period it is active. Quiz responses must demonstrate active participation in tutorial discussions, academic integrity, using appropriate academic language and formatting. All primary and secondary sources must be referenced. The referencing style used should be Harvard, APA, or Chicago 17A.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Breadth and Depth of Knowledge	1 4
2	Interpretation	1 2 4 5
3	Communication	3
4	Academic Standards	1 3 4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 2: Academic Writing Exercise

GOAL:	To demonstrate an ability to plan, research, communicate and edit an academic argument in a concise, constructive, and scholarly manner. To showcase learning from course content and active engagement in tutorial activities/discussions.
PRODUCT:	Written Piece
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	Students will produce a 1000-word (excluding references) scholarly written piece on a topic related to course content (a list of topics will be provided on Canvas at the start of the trimester). This written piece should be supported by at least eight appropriate academic sources, and should incorporate and demonstrate skills and concepts covered in course online learning materials and weekly tutorial activities/discussions from the first half of the trimester. More detailed instructions regarding the approach, process and structure of the written piece will be provided on Canvas at the start of the trimester and explained in detail during tutorial discussions. Active participation in tutorial activities is essential for this task. This task presents an opportunity for students to: Engage with and reflect upon foundational ideas or concepts of relevance to research and communication in HASS disciplines; Demonstrate an understanding of different kinds of literacies and their importance in HASS disciplines; Demonstrate written communication and critical thinking skills; and Demonstrate academic integrity through the accurate and appropriate use of scholarly material, conventions, and acknowledgement of sources (referencing). The written piece must demonstrate active participation in tutorial discussions, academic integrity, using appropriate academic language and formatting. All primary and secondary sources must be referenced. The referencing style used should be Harvard, APA, or Chicago 17A.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Breadth and Depth of Knowledge	1 4
2	Interpretation	1 2 3 4 5
3	Communication	3
4	Academic Standards	1 3 4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Applying technologies, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 3: Written Piece (Short Academic and Professional Articles)

GOAL:	To demonstrate an ability to communicate HASS concepts/ideas in a concise, effective manner across a range of academic and professional types of writing.
PRODUCT:	Written Piece
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	Submit: Week 12. Students will produce two pieces of writing informed by scholarly research undertaken on a topic related to course themes covered in the second half of the trimester (a list of topics will be provided on Canvas). The written pieces will constitute: - A 700-word article for an academic audience (Short Scholarly Essay or Article). - A 700-word article for a popular or professional audience (The Conversation). - A 300-word reflection on the research and writing process. The articles should demonstrate familiarity with the structure, language, and scholarly/professional conventions typical of the chosen type of written product. As such, the articles should demonstrate clarity and logic of writing style and argument, appropriate use of evidence/sources, and effective adoption of the structure and tone typical of the chosen type of written product. A list of possible article types/formats, as well as more detailed instructions relating to formatting and structure, will be provided on Canvas. This task presents an opportunity for students to: Demonstrate a familiarity with and proficiency in a range of different scholarly and professional written styles/products that are commonly used in HASS disciplines; Demonstrate the ability to research and construct a well-informed scholarly argument, supported by appropriate evidence; Demonstrate written communication and critical thinking skills; and Demonstrate academic integrity through the accurate and appropriate use of scholarly material, conventions, and acknowledgement of sources (referencing). The written pieces must demonstrate active participation in tutorial discussions, academic integrity, using appropriate academic language and formatting. All primary and secondary sources must be referenced. The referencing style used should be Harvard, APA, or Chicago 17A.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Breadth and Depth of Knowledge	1 2 4 5
2	Interpretation	1 3 4
3	Communication	1 3 4
4	Academic Standards	1 2 3 4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the online induction training for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:
(a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
(b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:
(a) One day: deduct 5%;
(b) Two days: deduct 10%;
(c) Three days: deduct 20%;
(d) Four days: deduct 40%;
(e) Five days: deduct 60%;
(f) Six days: deduct 80%;
(g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:
Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.5. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The Student Charter sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- UniSC Student Central
- UniSC Adelaide Student Central