



UNIT GUIDE

MINS1305

Reading Cultures

Unit Lecturer:

Rev. Lu Senituli.

Semester:

Semester 2, 2018

Adelaide College of Divinity

<http://www.acd.edu.au/>

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Introduction

This intensive unit examines issues at the interface between Australian society and ministry. It will enable students to analyse ministry and ministers within a sociological context, and to develop the skills to evaluate critically the intersection between social context and the ministry process. Three major themes will be discussed: the interface between sociology and ministry; the social dynamics of church communities; and churches interacting with Australian society.

Unit coordinator & lecturer details:

Name: Rev. Lu Senituli

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Phone: Office: 3273 4433 Mobile: 0402 300 012

Details of other relevant staff

Role: Manager of Student Services

Name: Janet Nibbs

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Day and Time of Lecture

Monday 27th – Friday 31st AUGUST – INTENSIVE-

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Lectures

Monday 27th – Friday 31st

Session 1: 9 – 10

Session 2: 10:45 – 12:45

Session 3: 1:15 – 2:30

Session 4: 2:50 – 4:00

Expectations of students

Students are required to complete all required readings, and view assigned video clips etc, and to attend and participate in the intensive. Students are also required to successfully complete each assessment item in order to pass this unit.

Consultation statement

Outside of class hours, the best way to be in contact with Lu Senituli is through email – this will ensure the most prompt and thorough reply.

Unit syllabus/aims

This unit will analyse the concepts of culture and worldview from a Christian perspective and show their importance for contextual theology and appropriate ministry and mission practices. It will enable students to develop greater sensitivity to ways of viewing the world that are different to their own and provide students with some basic tools to understand and appreciate the influence of their own culture and worldview to their approach to theology and ministry.

Unit Learning Outcomes

- Explain the need for an understanding of culture and context when engaging in mission and ministry.
- Identify different cultural forms within Christianity and the meanings behind them.
- Engage in an ethnographic analysis of a different cultural group and identify ways in which the culture and worldview of this group may influence engagement in ministry to, with and from that worldview.

Timetable

	Monday August 27th	Tuesday August 28th	Wednesday August 29th	Thursday August 30th	Friday August 31st
Session 1 9- 10:20 (80 mins)	Course Introduction + Sociology and Ministry	Discourse on the “Australian Identity”	Sociological study Ministry context Ministry Praxis	Cultural Observations: The “tip of the Ice-Berg”	Conversation model of theological reflection
Morning Tea 10:20-10:45					
Session 2 10:45-12:35 (100 mins)	Beginning with our own vantage points + Exploring the landscape-Fist peoples and “unfinished business”	Forces shaping Australian Society: Multicultural Pluralism Multi-faith Post-Modernity	“Australian Popular culture”	Modern family, Gender and Identity	Reassessing community Insights from Community development
Lunch 12:35 - 1:15					
Session 3 1:15-2:30 (75 mins)	Key Historical and Political moments	Gospel and Society	Emerging new socio-cultural narratives	Youth culture Social media Media platforms	Story telling: Yarning and Weaving narratives
Afternoon Tea 2:30-2:50					
Session 4 2:50-4:00 (70 mins)	Multiculturalism: “Unity in Diversity”	Models for Mission/Ministry in this place	“The Third Way” socio-cultural and theological engagements	Faith discourse Christianity Islam Dialogue	Peer reflections and observations

Requirements to complete unit

This is an intensive unit which requires attendance of five days of lectures.

It will be important to participate in class discussions and further clarification of key principles.

Students are therefore required to attend and participate in weekly lectures. Students are also required to successfully complete each assessment item in order to pass this unit.

Assessment guidelines / details / expectations

Item #	Type of Assessment:	Weighting	Due date:
1	Journal	30%	Friday September 7 th Friday September 14 th Friday September 21
2	Research Project	35%	Friday October 12 th
3	Case Study Project	35%	Friday October 26 th

Assessment Item 1: Journal 30%

This journal is in three parts of 500 words each (total 1500 words).

Journal A: My vantage point: The initial lens through which we read culture. (Due Friday September 7)

Explore and describe your own landscape. What are the historical, genealogical, cultural, religious, economic, social and geographical factors that contribute to your identity and thus the lens through which you view your world? Briefly describe how you see these influencing the way you live and how you minister to others. (Post-graduate students are expected to demonstrate a level of cultural-perception and self-awareness that reflects their higher learning).

Journal B: How do others see the world and seek to live in it? (Due Friday September 14)

Read a chapter from a book or an article on the bibliography. Your lecturer will indicate which resources you should choose from. Note two to three things it is teaching you about reading cultures/sociology for ministry (dig below the surface). Are these new ideas for you? Familiar? What might this reading be asking you to be, do or change? (Post-graduate students are expected to demonstrate a level of insight and analysis that reflects their higher learning).

Journal C: How do I see things now? (Due Friday September 21)

Look over what you have been learning in this course and note and discuss one point of challenge, one point of encouragement, and one thing you will think or live out differently from now on as a result of this course. For each indicate the degree to which class conversation has precipitated it, perhaps mentioning particular classes, conversations, people and/or resources.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting %
Clear communication of ideas, correct use of English grammar, spelling, paragraphing and referencing etc..	10
Ability to identify and explore key factors at the interface of culture/society and life/ministry.	25
Discussion and analysis of issues arising from the interface of culture/society and their implications.	25
Breadth and quality of engagement with sources outside of the classroom environment.	20
Degree of self-perception and openness to engage in learning process	20

Assessment Item 2: Research Project 35%

The equivalent of 1700 words. **(Due Friday October 12)**

CHOOSE ONE of the following projects:

Research Project one - walk the streets of your neighbourhood. Reflect on the social demographics of your area and sociological insights and the implications for ministry. Critically consider Sociological study, Ministry context and Ministry Praxis that would arise from within your own local area. Provide a contextual theological reflection on how the local church could engage with the cultural milieu of your community.

Research Project two - Produce a creative work that says something about the culture(s) of your community. You could do this by creating a visual image, writing a poem or a song, or by writing a short story etc. (500 words). You then are required to have a conversation with 2 people about what this creative work means to them. You might ask them - What words, feelings, stories does this creative work evoke? Why is there resonance for you? Does anything jar? Why? How well has the community been captured in this creative work?

In light of these interviews, you are required to write a 1000 word thought piece, answering the following:

- a) In what ways does this creative provide a window into society today?
- b) What challenges does this creative work present in relation to the practice of Christian ministry? Reference the interview responses in your work.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting %
Clear communication of ideas, correct use of English grammar, spelling, paragraphing and referencing etc..	10
Ability to identify and explore key factors at the interface of culture/society and life/ministry.	25
Discussion and analysis of issues arising from the interface of culture/society, and life/ministry, and their implications.	25
Breadth and quality of engagement with sources outside of the classroom environment - including evidence of research undertaken, and creative thoughtfulness in processing and evaluating findings.	20
Ability to understand ministry from a sociological perspective	20

Assessment Item 3: Case Study Project 35%

The equivalent of 1300 words. **(Due Friday October 26)**

CHOOSE ONE of the following two options:

Project One: Choose a location in the Brisbane area (within 15 min drive from college). Look at different intersection points that this location has with the Christian narrative. Utilising what you have learned from this intensive, what are the geographical, historical, social, cultural, religious, economic, political, age, gender particularities of this place? Is there a Biblical story/ passage that resonates with this location? How does the history of First Peoples intersect with contemporary experience?

Project Two: Choose a local community and prepare a “reading cultures/sociology for ministry” project paper on it. Identify the implications for the life and ministry of their church going forward. In your case study you need to:

- a) outline the key sociological factors you see at play in the context.
- b) name their implications for ministry.
- c) suggest one ministry metaphor that might be fruitfully applied in this context.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting %
Clear communication of ideas, (correct use of English grammar, spelling, paragraphing and referencing etc..)	10
Ability to identify and explore key factors at the interface of culture/society and life/ministry.	25
Discussion and analysis of issues arising from the interface of culture/society, and life/ministry, and their implications.	25
Breadth and quality of engagement with sources outside of the classroom environment - including evidence of research undertaken, and creative thoughtfulness in processing and evaluating findings.	20
Ability to understand ministry from a sociological perspective	20

Schedule of Grades

Pass Level (P) 50-64

Credit (CR) 65-74

Distinction (DN) 75-84

High Distinction (HD) 85-100

Fail (F) 1-49

Generic Grade Descriptors (facilitator will supply specific rubric for assignments)

	High Distinction	Distinction	Credit	Pass	Fail
General description	Outstanding or exceptional work in terms of understanding, interpretation and presentation	A very high standard of work which demonstrates originality and insight	Demonstrates a high level of understanding and presentation and a degree of originality and insight	Satisfies the minimum requirements	Fails to satisfy the minimum requirements
Reading	Strong evidence of independent reading beyond suggested texts and materials	Evidence of reading beyond suggested texts and materials	Thorough understanding of suggested texts and materials	Evidence of having read suggested texts and materials	Very little evidence of having read any of the suggested texts and materials
Knowledge of topic	Demonstrates insight, awareness and understanding of deeper and more subtle aspects of the topic. Ability to consider topic in the broader context of the discipline	Evidence of an awareness and understanding of deeper and more subtle aspects of the topic	Sound knowledge of principles and concepts	Knowledge of principles and concepts at least adequate to communicate intelligently in the topic and to serve as a basis for further study	Scant knowledge of principles and concepts
Articulation of argument	Demonstrates imagination or flair. Demonstrates originality and independent thought	Evidence of imagination or flair. Evidence of originality and independent thought	Well-reasoned argument based on broad evidence	Sound argument based on evidence	Very little evidence of ability to construct coherent argument
Analytical and evaluative skills	Highly developed analytical and evaluative skills	Clear evidence of analytical and evaluative skills	Evidence of analytical and evaluative skills	Some evidence of analytical and evaluative skills	Very little evidence of analytical and evaluative skills
Problem solving	Ability to solve very challenging problems	Ability to solve non-routine problems	Ability to use and apply fundamental concepts and skills	Adequate problem-solving skills	Very little evidence of problem-solving skills
Expression and presentation appropriate to the discipline	Highly developed skills in expression and presentation. Accurate and consistent acknowledgement of sources	Well developed skills in expression and presentation. Accurate and consistent acknowledgement of sources	Good skills in expression and presentation. Accurate and consistent acknowledgement of sources.	Adequate skills in expression and presentation	Rudimentary skills in expression and presentation. Inaccurate and/or inconsistent acknowledgement of sources.

Academic Integrity

It is expected that all students maintain academic integrity in all their work. As defined by the ACD handbook, academic integrity means that all work which is presented is produced by the student alone, with all sources and collaboration fully acknowledged. Any failure to meet the requirements of academic integrity in any form of academic work will be regarded as a breach of the requirements of academic integrity and, depending on the circumstances and the nature of the breach, consequences including penalties may be expected to follow. Breaches of academic integrity may include plagiarism, collusion, fabrication, falsification, double submission of work and misconduct in examinations. Please refer to https://www.acd.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/ACD_PLAGIARISM_POLICY.pdf

ACD Online

The Adelaide College of Divinity uses the Modular Object-Orientated Dynamic Learning Environment (MOODLE) as its eLearning Management System (LMS) or Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). We call this system ACD Online. See:

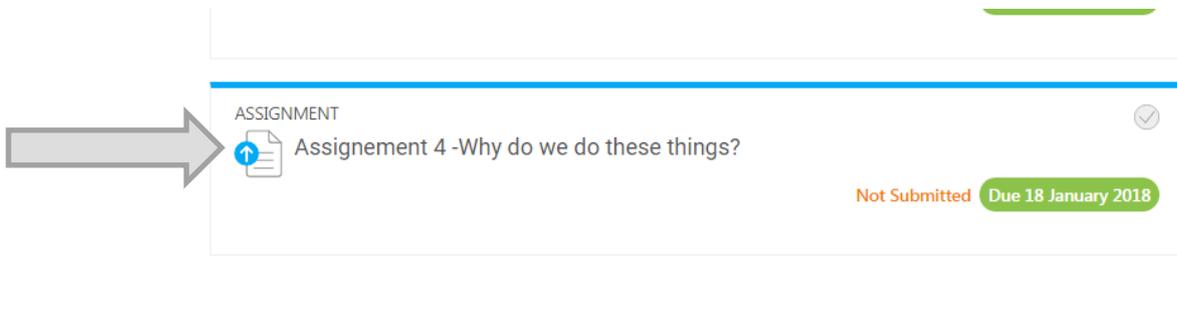
Set readings and extra materials to aid your learning are included on ACD-Online. It is expected that you engage with this material regularly, and that all pre-reading has been done. A link to recordings of the lectures will be available after the class (allow 1-2 days)

<https://courses.acd.edu.au/>

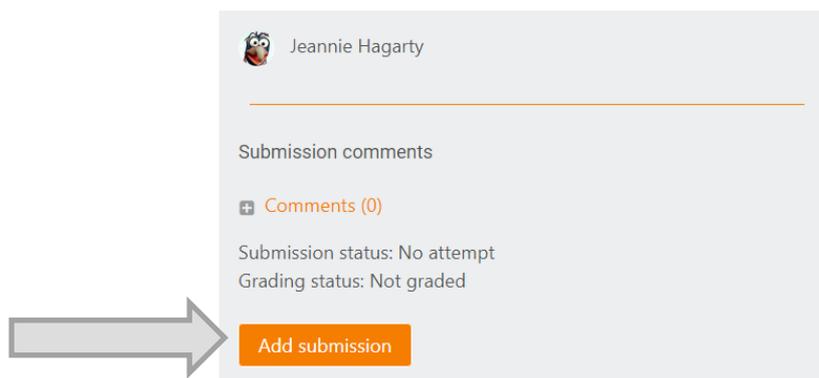
You will be required to submit your assignments for marking via ACD Online.

To upload your assignment, complete the following steps:

1. Click on the link of the assignment you are wanting to upload to.



2. Press the 'Add Submission' button



3. Either 'drag or drop' your file to the dotted box or click on the file submission icon to navigate to your file. You will also be required to tick the box next to the Plagiarism Policy Statement.



4. While your file is uploading you will see an orange progress bar.

File submissions



Assignment 2.docx:



Save changes

Cancel

5. Once your file changes to look like this, press the 'Save Changes' button

File submissions



Assignment
2.docx

Save changes

Cancel

6. Once it has been submitted the screen will look like this.

 Jeannie Hagarty

File submissions

 Assignment 2.docx

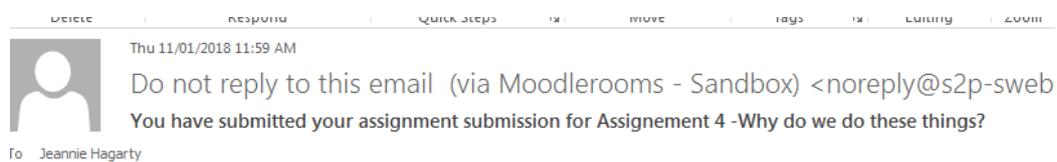
Submission comments

 Comments (0)

✓ Submission status: Submitted for grading
Grading status: Not graded
Last modified: Thursday, 11 January 2018, 12:28 PM

[Edit submission](#)

7. Once your assignment has been submitted you will receive an email letting you know that the system has received it.



[testcourse1](#) ->[Assignment](#) ->[Assignment 4 -Why do we do these things?](#)

You have submitted an assignment submission for 'Assignment 4 -Why do we do these things?'.
You can see the status of your [assignment submission](#).

If you have any issues please contact Student Services via the helpdesk college.divinity@flinders.edu.au or on 08 8416 8400.

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