

**SOCIOLOGY
&
ANTHROPOLOGY**

**HONOURS
and
MA PRELIMINARY
COURSE**

2009

**Dr Trevor Hogan & Dr Raelene Wilding
Honours Convenors**

STAFF 2009

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Compulsory Core Course: Key Issues in Social Theory and Research

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INTRODUCTION

The Honours program is a challenging one. It consists of a thesis and course work. The thesis looms largest, psychologically speaking, but the course work components that you take in 1st Semester are important in their own right. It is not intended that they directly connect with your thesis. They will nonetheless provide perspectives and insights that you can use to help you with researching and writing it. A research seminar in 2nd Semester will assist you to locate your own research within sociological and anthropological traditions as well as to a variety of current postgraduate and staff projects. It will also provide a forum for reporting upon and getting feedback upon the progress of your thesis.

The program taken as a whole demands that you do your best to perform to a high – an *honours* — standard within the time available. It is not a program to be undertaken lightly. It can be difficult and stressful, something which students do not always appreciate until it is too late. It should also be stimulating and even exciting – the culmination of your intellectual journey as an undergraduate. It permits you to explore ideas and issues as never before — not only because you are granted the autonomy to do so, but because you are mixing with your most able peers and entering into dialogue with them. As competitive as the year is (at least for those seeking scholarships), nothing is more valuable than what can be learnt from adopting a spirit of scholarly collegiality and co-operation. The key to success at Honours is the right attitude and proper preparation — as well as hard work.

The thesis is weighted at 50%, and its satisfactory completion is a condition of successfully completing the program. The coursework assessment weighting is Key Issues in Social Theory and Research – 25%, Elective unit – 25%.

Note that each component is compulsory, as is attendance at all classes.

In outline, the program is as follows:

- **Compulsory first half unit:**
Key Issues in Social Theory and Research (3-4 hours)
This is the core unit designed to bring students together to explore and discuss key themes as well as share ideas and interests.
- **Elective** (3 hours)
A number of Electives are available in any year. You take *one* Elective. A meeting of potential 2009 Honours students and those teaching in the 2009 program has been scheduled for **11.00am Friday 28th November (MARB 488)**. Your first contact when selecting an Elective should be the person teaching that Elective. Electives will include units taught by members of the Sociology and Anthropology Program, and units (which by virtue of teaching staff or subject matter) are considered joint Sociology/Anthropology and Politics units. All are available to students in the Sociology/Anthropology Honours Program as are other Politics Electives (for these see the Politics Honours Convenor or Handbook) by arrangement with the Sociology/Anthropology Convenor.

- **Internships**

In exceptional circumstances, as an alternative to an Elective, you may be permitted to arrange an Internship. For this component of the program, you will work for a limited period with one of a number of organisations identified by the School. In the past these have included such organisations as Community-Aid Abroad, Plan International, Brotherhood of St Laurence, CRA and CSIRO. This work will vary according to the type of organisation and its needs — in some cases the Internship may be over the summer period before the start of the academic year, in others it will involve spending one or two days a week with the host organisation during 1st Semester. The work involved will be the subject of negotiation between the School and host organisation. It will involve the preparation of a report of around 5000 words on some aspect of the work of the organisation, or the organisation itself. Assessment will be the ultimate responsibility of academic staff at La Trobe, but may involve input from the host organisation.

- **Compulsory 2nd Semester research seminar:**

Problems and Paradigms — Research and Writing (3 hours)

This unit will provide an opportunity for you to:

- explicitly locate your thesis work within social science research paradigms and traditions, and in relation to current issues;
- present work-in-progress and discuss it in a supportive seminar context;
- identify specific concerns to do with theory, methodology, thesis construction and examination;
- participate in scholarly inquiry beyond your immediate research concerns; and
- canvas options for life after Honours, including a research career.

Performance in the seminar is not assessed, no written work is required, but attendance is compulsory.

- The program of study for a normal full time student is as follows:

December-February	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester
Pre Thesis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrange supervisor • formulate topic • consider research design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Issues in Social Theory and Research • Elective (or Internship) • Thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problems and Paradigms • Thesis

- Taken over two years, the program of study becomes:

- **Year 1: Compulsory Core course and Elective (or Internship), Thesis research;**
- **Year 2: Thesis / Problems and Paradigms.**

ADMISSION AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Prerequisites:

Entry into the Honours year is by application at the end of the student's third year of study. Students normally considered for admission to Honours will be those who have "A" or upper band "B" passes (upper band = 75-79%), with an upper B average in units of Sociology or Anthropology up to a total of 130 credit points. Prospective Honours students are encouraged to take additional Sociology or Anthropology units beyond the minimum requirements, and to include SOC3PSS Practising Social Sciences in their major.

Sociology subjects will normally include:

- Introductory Sociology or Anthropology (30 credit points);
- 20 credit points of subjects classified as social theory (for students after 2001, completion of Current Issues in Sociology (SOC2CIS/SOC3CIS));
- 20 credit points of subjects classified as Research Methods;
- Any other units up to a total of 130 credit points in Sociology.

Anthropology subjects will normally include:

- Introductory Anthropology or Sociology (30 credit points);
- ANT2MQA OR ANT3MQA and ANT2CIA/ANT3CIA;
- Any other units up to a total of 130 credit points in Anthropology.

Applications from other students will be considered on their merits. Applicants must have met the requirements of a pass degree.

Duration:

The program is designed to be taken full-time in one year. It may also be taken part-time in two years, where appropriate. You should give proper consideration to this in advance. If you have multiple outside commitments, which includes working more than 10-15 hours per week, you should seriously consider enrolling part-time. It will not normally be possible for students to convert from full-time to part-time (or vice versa) during the course of the academic year. *It cannot be emphasised too strongly that a full-time Honours work load really is full-time and that your commitment to study must take precedence over your commitment to work.*

HOW TO APPLY

• Honours

You do not need to know your results for final year subjects prior to lodging your application. Application forms are available from the Sociology/Anthropology General Office, Room 411, Social Sciences Building. A form may be sent to you – please contact Ms Bronwyn Bardsley: telephone: 9479 2690 or email b.bardsley@latrobe.edu.au. Completed applications should be submitted as soon as possible to: Honours Secretary, School of Social Sciences, Room 411, Social Sciences Building, La Trobe University, Victoria, 3086. *If you are from a University other than La Trobe*, you must apply through the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, which will provide application forms that you return to the Faculty.

- **MA Preliminary**

The purpose of this course is to provide a means of entry into postgraduate studies in Sociology and Anthropology for graduates with a good pass degree in Sociology, Anthropology or kindred disciplines. Depending on the content of their degree, a candidate for the MA Preliminary may be required to obtain good marks in selected Sociology or Anthropology undergraduate subjects before being admitted. Applications from students without Sociology or Anthropology backgrounds, or whose main language is not English will be considered at the discretion of the Committee. The application process is the same as for Honours students.

- **Closing date for all applications: 14th November.**

ADMISSION

All applications are considered on their merits by the Honours Committee. Offers are made conditional on the availability of appropriate thesis supervision. There is no quota. Applicants will be informed by mail of the outcome in early December.

ENROLMENT

Successful applicants will receive a letter from the Faculty which checks all applicants for eligibility, i.e., completion of all requirements for the BA. The letter will contain information about the date and place of enrolment. **This letter must be retained for presentation to the enrolment officer.** Note that you enrol for Year 4 Honours or the MA (Prelim). *You do not have to specify specific subjects.*

INTRODUCTORY MEETINGS

Successful applicants must attend a meeting commencing at **11.00am Friday 28th November (MARB 488)** at which the program will be outlined in more detail, and so that students can meet each other and the Honours teaching staff. Arrangements will be made for individual consultation with students on the same or the following day, where likely topic areas for thesis work can be discussed, and contact with likely supervisors arranged.

If you are submitting your thesis in 2009, you must attend a whole day meeting on the preparation of your thesis topic scheduled to start at **10.00am Tuesday 24th February 2009 (MARB 488)**, i.e., the week prior to the start of semester. You should come to this seminar with a one-page preliminary prospectus which features:

- a provisional thesis title;
- the name of your proposed supervisor;
- a paragraph outlining the issues to be addressed in the thesis;
- a paragraph indicating how the issues are to be addressed;
- a paragraph summarising your research plan.

GRADING SYSTEM AND CRITERIA

Final results are given for the year as a whole and are expressed in the following terms:

80-100%	First Class Honours	(H1)
70-79%	Second Class Honours Division A	(H2A)
60-69%	Second Class Honours Division B	(H2B)
50-59%	Third Class Honours	(H3)
0-49%	Honours Degree not awarded	(N)

All work submitted is routinely second-marked.

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING HONOURS GRADES

1st CLASS HONOURS

Displays outstanding ability to identify an intellectual problem and develop a coherent, well-organised argument about, or interpretation of, that problem. The work also demonstrates independence of thought, evidenced in a capacity to defend, criticise or adjudicate among arguments. It also probably shows high technical standards of research, presentation and writing.

IIA

Displays a capacity to develop a coherent argument about a complex subject and evidence of having extensively explored sources about that subject. Writing, organisation and presentation demonstrate understanding of, and ability to use, the techniques and conventions of scholarship.

IIB

Displays an adequate capacity to organise and structure material. Qualities of writing and presentation may be lower than for IIA work.

III

Displays an adequate capacity to gather and reproduce material. Qualities of organisation, writing and presentation may be lower than for IIB work.

H1 BAND DESCRIPTORS

95 plus

Outstanding achievement equivalent to the best scholarship in the academic field. Some material publishable. Awarded once in every 25 years. Exhibits rare interpretive and analytic insight.

90-94

Truly exceptional. Publishable in a quality refereed journal (with perhaps minor revision). Makes an original contribution to knowledge. Exceptional grasp of current critical and theoretical approaches to topic, and of research methodology. Exhibits rare interpretive subtlety. Extremely well written. Awarded once in every 10 years.

85-89

Outstanding work of a quality well above average for the Honours 1 grade. Has potential for publication in a quality refereed journal, with revision. Substantially original *where that is an appropriate expectation in the discipline*. Strong grasp of current critical and theoretical approaches to topic and of research methodology. Exhibits great interpretive subtlety. Very well written.

80-84

Accomplished work which demonstrates some capacity for originality and sound research potential. Sure grasp of current critical and theoretical approaches to the topic and of sustained research methodology. Exhibits some interpretative subtlety and genuine research capacity reflected in the level of analytic insight. Well written.

DEADLINES, EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

- You should consult each Convenor to establish his or her policy regarding course work deadlines, but these will not be permitted to intrude into 2nd Semester;
- A course work extension must be sought from the Convenor of that subject;
- Administration of thesis deadlines (as listed under **Thesis Requirements** below) is the responsibility of the Honours Convenor. These extensions must be approved by the Honours Committee, but you should first discuss the matter with the Honours Convenor as well as your supervisor.
- The routine procedure for someone whose life has been badly disrupted by a medical, personal or family crisis is to fill out an **Application for Special Consideration Form**, available from the **Student Centre**.
- Deadlines must be adhered to, especially if you wish to avoid penalties — all the more so if you are applying for a postgraduate scholarship (a late thesis will render you ineligible to apply in 2009). Work will not be “chased up” by staff. It is your responsibility to adhere to these conditions.

SUPERVISION

Your supervisor is your personal advisor and critic. She/he should assist you to define your topic and recommend relevant textual and other sources, as well as read and criticise drafts of your thesis. If you need to seek ethics approval for your thesis project, she/he should advise and assist you throughout the process. Choosing your supervisor carefully is thus of critical importance to the enjoyment and success of your Honours program.

It is your responsibility to find a supervisor. To help you, a copy of the ‘Research Interests of Staff Members’ is available on p.9. More information on staff is available on the ‘staff directory’ list on the Anthropology or Sociology web sites: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/anthropology/> or <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/sociology/>

The Honours Convenor may also be able to suggest possible supervisors to you. Staff members who are going to be overseas for a substantial part of the year are inappropriate as supervisors of Honours theses, even if willing in principle to do so.

You should seek out a supervisor by mid-December 2008, in order to begin work toward your thesis *before* the commencement of classes in 2009.

Prior to submitting your thesis, you are responsible for:

- maintaining *regular* contact with your supervisor;
- producing requested proposals, chapter and thesis drafts;
- submitting a *complete* draft **by 1st October at the latest**.

The responsibilities of staff include:

- returning written work as soon as possible with written comments;
- responding both to form and to content;
- correcting and editing drafts, but illustratively, not exhaustively;
- identifying problems and possibilities, including limits to what is *feasible*;
- encouraging a clear sense of purpose, beginning with the fact that your thesis should have an aim, an argument and an approach.

When selecting a supervisor, you should establish the ground rules that will operate between you. Different students and supervisors work in different ways, and it is important to agree on mutually compatible arrangements. You should, for example, establish how often you are to meet — e.g., weekly or fortnightly — whether at a set time or more flexibly. You should also find out what your supervisor's expectations are. Does she/he, for example, want you periodically to prepare a short written report, submit draft chapters individually according to a set timetable, or would s/he prefer some other arrangement?

Different supervisors will have different expectations and impose varying demands, but *writing should begin early*. A *complete draft* — i.e., complete with Abstract, Title Page, Statement of Authorship, Table of Contents and Bibliography — must be *submitted to your supervisor* in September, i.e., by the **1st October deadline**. You need to remember that the **final submission deadline** is a mere one month later, at **5.00pm Friday 30th October**, and that the revision and re-writing of your first draft is likely to be as important to the success of your thesis as it can be time-consuming and stressful.

You may be reluctant to consult with your supervisor when you don't think that you have much to say or have no written work completed, but supervisory consultations in these circumstances can be particularly valuable as a way of overcoming blockages and identifying difficulties.

It is *most* important that you inform your supervisor *without delay* of any problems you are experiencing. If these are of a personal nature that you would prefer not to discuss with your supervisor, you would still be well advised to inform him or her that you are having them. If you are experiencing problems of a personal nature for which you are not already receiving confidential counselling, your supervisor may advise you to do so; in certain circumstances, s/he may even be able to assist in arranging for you to do so.

While your supervisor is your primary advisor, you should feel free to consult with others in the School who may be able to help you with your work. It is reasonable, however, to inform your supervisor about this, not least because other members of staff are potential examiners who may then be excluded from being examiners.

Any problems arising in relation to supervision should first be discussed with the Honours Convenor.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR SUPERVISION IN 2009 AND TOPIC AREAS
(This list is subject to amendment depending upon which staff are on leave)

STAFF MEMBER	TOPIC AREAS
Dr Haydn Aarons (Mildura)	Cultural consumption; religion; the social impact of climate change; the sociology of rural and regional Australia
Professor Peter Beilharz	Social theory (especially critical theory); Socialism and labour movements; Specific areas: intellectual history; cultural traffic between Australia and the centres
Mr Trevor Budge (Bendigo)	Land use planning and regional development, historical development of urban areas, rural and small town planning, community consultation, urban – rural fringe and preservation of agricultural land, historical development of ‘settler societies’, planning and development in Sri Lanka
Mr Andrew Butt (Bendigo)	Land use planning and regional development, planning theory and practice, regional development theory and techniques, approaches to planning research and practice, cultural activity in urban regeneration, and rural planning
Professor John Carroll	Sociology of culture
Dr Sue Davies	Critical criminology; law and order; socio-legal history; punishment and penalty; sexuality and the law; crime, law and culture
Dr Carolyn D’Cruz	Identity and diversity (including class, sex/gender, sexuality, ethnicity); continental philosophy; life writing; censorship; theory and practice; democracy; representation; semiotics
Dr Mary Jo Fortuna (Shepparton)	Social theory; contemporary social issues; gender studies; structures and relationships within women’s religious communities
Dr Brian Furze (Wodonga)	Development – issues of sustainability in particular; rural sociology; the environment; India and Nepal; Australia and China
Professor Sandy Gifford	Medical anthropology, public health and refugee studies
Mr Gerry Gill (Bendigo)	Large-scale social change and patterns of civilization; the relationship between landscape and society; conflict between Indigenous and European societies on the pastoral frontier in Victoria during the 1830s and 1840s
Assoc. Prof. Alberto Gomes	Anthropology of development and globalisation; modernity and identity; ecology and environmentalism; indigenous peoples; South and Southeast Asia, especially India and Malaysia
Dr Nicola Henry	Human rights and social justice; discrimination; violence against women; war crimes, genocide and post conflict justice; democracy and accountability; counter terrorism
Dr Trevor Hogan	Social theory; cities; religion; area studies: comparative and historical sociology of Australia and Asia-Pacific regions
Assoc. Prof. Helen Lee (on leave 1 st semester)	South Pacific, especially Western Polynesia: a broad range of topics; migration and cultural identity; transnationalism; childhood and youth; anthropology and cyberspace; kinship-related topics: ‘Indigenous anthropologists’
Dr Tania Lewis	Consumer culture and branding; ‘alternative’, ethical and eco-lifestyles; sociology of media and new technologies; international and comparative approaches to media; social and cultural theory
Dr Ray Madden	Critique of the concept of culture; anthropology at home; Aboriginal issues in south-east Australia and applied anthropology
Dr Anthony Moran	Risk management; Australian political culture; Indigenous politics; multiculturalism; globalisation

Dr John Morton	Aboriginal issues; Australian popular culture; Australian nationalism; anthropological theory; psychoanalysis
Dr Anastasia Powell	Violence against women; women's policy; gender; sexuality; youth; crime policy and legislative analysis
Assoc. Prof. Kerreen Reiger	Social policy and the state; family changes; the professions; sociology of reproduction and embodiment; feminist social theory and research; historical sociology
Dr Karl Smith	Social theory; subjectivity; action/agency; self-identity; religion; culture; modernity; everyday life; creativity, language and meaning
Mr Ian Tulloch (Bendigo)	Australian politics; industrial relations & politics of the environment; climate change
Ms Pam Wallace (Wodonga)	Sociology of work
Dr Raelene Wilding	Everyday life; Australian society; families; migration; ethnicity; gender; qualitative research methods.
Professor Evan Willis	Health; work; technology; occupations and technology. Also possible: Rural sociology, inequality, sport. More specific areas: New technologies in health care including 'new' genetics; issues around the growing polarisation of Australian society and its implications in various areas (not only health); occupational health and safety issues

THESIS REQUIREMENTS

The Honours Thesis must be no more than 15,000 words. Generally speaking, you should choose a topic in an area that you have previously studied. The problems associated with choosing, defining and developing a topic are reduced if you are working in a field where you are familiar with the basic literature and key issues. The next step entails shifting from a sense of the *field* to a specific *question* or *problem*. You should spend the summer choosing a topic and establishing its viability by reading widely in the area and discussing it with your supervisor and other staff members. It is also recommended that you read two or more theses over the summer to familiarise yourself with Honours-level standards and expectations.

You should have a preliminary thesis prospectus prepared for the meeting to be attended on **Tuesday 24th February**, and a detailed revised prospectus ready for submission on **Tuesday 14th April**.

You need to bear in mind that the thesis, while important, is only one component of the Honours program. Topics need to be defined in terms that allow for the constraints of time and limited resources. Remember always that modesty is a virtue, especially in fourth year. A piece that you want the world to remember you for is better kept for a postgraduate thesis. An Honours thesis can achieve a great deal, but it is important to view it as a first thesis, an apprenticeship.

It is *vital* that you view your thesis as only constituting *half* the Honours program. This is *especially important if you are hoping to secure a scholarship* because you will need to perform particularly well in *all* components in order to achieve a competitive result. The thesis requires constant attention, but the best possible thesis cannot compensate for second rate course work. Balancing the different requirements of the program is a real challenge.

Theses are assessed according to criteria which include:

- adequate formulation of the problem in relation to the relevant literature;
- appropriate and adequate exploration of the problem through substantive research and/or theoretical analysis;
- the formulation of a well-developed argument.

The thesis must be prepared according to the Harvard system, following the rules for the presentation of written work set out in Cootes, S. *Referencing: A Guide for Students* (a LASU publication) available from the Bookshop. It should be typed on A4 paper, double spaced with margins of 4cm on the left and 3cm on the right (the right hand margin does not have to be justified). The title page should follow the model provided below (see over).

The following statement should appear on the second page as well as any necessary acknowledgements:

This thesis is my own work containing, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no material published or written by another person except as referred to in the text.
(signed and dated)

The Table of Contents should be set out on the third page. It should include pagination for chapter headings, subheadings where relevant, tables, illustrations, appendices, bibliography. The synopsis should be on the fourth page.

You must submit two copies of your thesis to the **Honours Secretary** using loose-leaf folders that are available from the **General Office, SS 411**. You will have one copy of your thesis returned to you, together with the Readers' Reports. The other copy will be retained by the School. Honours year theses are currently held in the School, and are not deposited in the library for general access. They may be read within the School by interested visitors, but not photocopied. Once you have submitted your thesis, if you wish access to it to be restricted (for, say, one, two or three years) write a note to that effect and place it in one copy of your thesis when submitting it. Otherwise it will be assumed that you have no objection to the thesis being made available to be read.

MARKING

Your thesis will be examined by two readers. In cases of disagreement over a grade, a third examiner will be asked to assess the thesis. In certain cases, the supervisor may also be invited to submit a report.

Your Core and Elective essays are marked in the same manner. That is, each essay is marked by two readers. A third marker is called in only where an agreement cannot be reached between the first two markers.

Title of Thesis

by

Name of Student

**Thesis submitted as partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of**

**Bachelor of Arts (Hons.)
or MA Preliminary**

**School of Social Sciences
La Trobe University**

Month Year

COURSE WORK

KEY ISSUES IN SOCIAL THEORY AND RESEARCH

(1st Semester)

Trevor Hogan & Raelene Wilding

Information to be advised.

CLASS TIME: Tuesday 10.00am - 3.00pm. MARB 488 (with a one-hour lunch break).

Class Requirement: one three-hour seminar per week.

Reading: to be advised.

PROBLEMS AND PARADIGMS: RESEARCH AND WRITING (2nd Semester)

Trevor Hogan & Raelene Wilding

This subject provides a context in which you can locate your thesis in relation to different theoretical, substantive and methodological traditions. Some of these traditions will be exemplified in presentations by staff and postgraduates of their research. The seminars will focus on the question of how sociological and anthropological work proceeds using a range of approaches for the collection, organisation and theorisation of evidence, as well as the communication of research findings. In addition, examiners will be invited to outline and discuss what they look for and expect in an Honours thesis. The Convenor will endeavour throughout to work with you and your fellow students to create an environment conducive to engaging and enjoyable intellectual exchange. While the focus will be on helping you to write a successful thesis, consideration will also be given to how this process serves as an apprenticeship for postgraduate research as well as having relevance to work in other professions.

Note that though no written work is required, attendance at these seminars and participation in seminar discussions is **compulsory**, and that this includes presentation of a thesis progress report.

CLASS TIME: Tuesday 10.00 am – 3.00 pm, MARB 488 (with a one-hour lunch break).

Class Requirement: one three-hour seminar per week.

GLOBALIZATION TO LOCALIZATION: RETHINKING THE DILEMMAS OF DISPLACEMENT, FLIGHT AND RESETTLEMENT

(1st Semester)

Sandy Gifford

One of the most pressing challenges to global and local well-being is the scale and complexity of the problem of refugees and other uprooted peoples. Conservatively, there are at present, at least 13 million refugees and asylum seekers, 22 million internally displaced persons, 35 million uprooted persons and over 100,000 involuntary repatriations. The majority of displaced persons are from resource poor countries and the key countries to which they flee are also resource poor countries. The push factors, or reasons for displacement are complex spanning from environmental degradation, civil unrest to the global politics of control over resources and persecution due to religious, cultural and sexual beliefs, identities and practices. Explanations of and solutions to the growing numbers of displaced persons are contentious. This subject will critically explore the different perspectives that inform the push factors underlying displacement, the contexts and experiences of flight, the search for a new “place” and the dilemmas relating to resettlement. The subject will explore at a global level, the ways in which the international community including the UNHCR addresses displacement, the issues involved in repatriation, local integration and resettlement, and the role of Australia in relation to issues of asylum and resettlement. Some of the questions to be explored include:

1. Who is a refugee? Who decides? What criteria should be applied to defining refugee status?
2. What constitutes “protection”?
3. How do we think about the tensions that arise between the right of an individual to seek asylum and the right of a state to its own sovereignty?
4. What does “harmonization” of refugee and asylum seeker policies mean? What are the implications?
5. How should the issue of internally displaced persons be approached within a global context?
6. What are the implications of displacement for development within a resettlement context?
7. Who are the winners and losers when it comes to different types of “solutions” to re-placing displaced persons?
8. What are the strengths and weaknesses of applying a universal human rights framework to the problem of displacement and resettlement?
9. Can cultural relativism be reconciled when it comes to deciding who is right and who is wrong? Can we even ask this question?

Refugee studies is an interdisciplinary inquiry and as such, the readings for this subject will draw on anthropology, international law, development studies, human rights, gender studies and sociology.

CLASS TIME: Wednesday 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm, MARB 488.

Class requirement: one two-hour seminar per week

Assessment: one 5,000 word essay

Class reading: A book of required readings will be available in the bookstore at the beginning of the semester.

Recommended readings:

Summer Reading (if you want to engage in some interesting books)

- Neumann, Klaus (2004). *Refuge Australia: Australia's Humanitarian Record*, University of New South Wales Press Ltd: Sydney
- Gourevitch, Philip (1998). *We wish to inform you that tomorrow we will be killed with our families: Stories from Rwanda*, Farrar, Straus & Giroux: New York.
- *Emma's War: Love, Betrayal and Death in the Sudan*, Harper Collins, London Marr,
- David & Wilkinson, Marian (2003). *Dark Victory*, Allen & Unwin, NSW, Australia.
- Chinua Achebe (2003) *Home and Exile*. USA, Random House.
- Peter Mares (2001) *Borderline: Australia's treatment of refugees and asylum seekers*. UNSW Press, NSW.
- David Corlett (2005) *Following them home: the fate of the returned asylum seekers*. Black Inc., Melbourne.
- Michael Dummett (2001) *On immigration and refugees*. Routledge, London and New York.
- Khaled Hosseini (2003) *The Kite Runner*. Bloomsbury Publishing, Great Britain.

Other Recommended Readings:

Allotey, P. (2003). *The Health of Refugees: Public health perspectives from crisis to settlement* Melbourne: Oxford University Press

Black, R., & Koser, K. (1999). *The end of the refugee cycle? Refugee participation & reconstruction*, New York: Berghahn Books

Brun, C. (2001). *Reterritorializing the Relationship between People and Place in Refugee Studies*. *Geografiska Annaler*, 83 B (2001)(1), 15-25.

Chimni, B.S. (2000). *Globalisation, humanitarianism and the erosion of refugee protection* pp. 1-23). Oxford: Refugee Studies Centre University of Oxford.

Crisp, J. (2003). *Refugee Protection in Regions of Origin: Potential and Challenges*, Migration Information Source.

Crisp, J. (2004). *The local integration and local settlement of refugees: a conceptual and historical analysis*. *New Issues in Refugee Research - UNHCR(Working paper No. 102)*, 1 - 8.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (2004). *A last resort? National Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention*.

Malkki, L.H. (1992). *National Geographic: Rooting of Peoples and the Territorialization of National Identity among Scholars and Refugees*. *Cultural Anthropology*, 7(1), 24-44.

Manne, R., & Corlett, D. (2004). *Sending Them Home: Refugees and the New Politics of Indifference*. *Quarterly Essay* (13).

Marr, D., & Wilkinson, M. (2003). *Dark Victory* Nyers, P. (2003). *Abject Cosmopolitanism: the politics of protection in the anti-deportation movement*. *Third World Quarterly*, 24(6), 1069-1093.

Taylor, S. (2000). *Do On-shore Asylum Seekers Have Economic and Social Right? Dealing with the Moral Contradiction of Liberal Democracy*. *Melbourne Journal of International Law*, 1, 70 - 96.

Thomas, M., & van Mierop, E.S. (2004). *Convention Plus: better protection for refugees? Forced Migration Review*(20), 36.

ORDINARY PEOPLE'S POLITICS: DOING QUALITATIVE POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

(1st Semester)

Anthony Moran

Political sociology is an important branch of the social sciences. Its methods are transdisciplinary, drawing upon sociology, political science, history and other areas of study. This course introduces students to political sociology in pursuit of studying Australian society. Since the 1980s Australians have experienced major changes in the settled assumptions on which their politics had been based for much of the twentieth century. Policy assumptions about the organisation of the economy and the work place, the role of government, and the basis of the Australian political community have all shifted considerably. Anthony Moran and Judith Brett recently completed an interview based project with 'Ordinary Australians' about their understanding of these changes, publishing in 2006 a book called *Ordinary People's Politics*.

The course has two aims:

1. To introduce students to methods in qualitative political sociology, in particular to the uses of the in-depth interview. Interview material collected in the 1980s, and more recently, will be used. Though we will consider the contribution of quantitative approaches, the emphasis will be upon qualitative and interpretive social research. As part of the assessment each student will design and conduct an interview, and will develop a brief profile. Some seminars will be devoted to analyzing students' interview transcripts.
2. To explore the ways in which recent political and social changes in Australia have been understood by sociologists, political scientists, historians, and 'ordinary people'. It will be assumed that students have some general familiarity with those changes. Themes to be explored could be: expectations of government, understandings of political community; cosmopolitanism, responses to diversity, settler-indigenous relations, models of power, cynicism towards and trust of political institutions and processes, political efficacy and social capital, economic and political equality.

CLASS TIME: Thursday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, MARB 488.

Class Requirement: one three-hour seminar per week.

Assessment: 1. Designing, conducting and interpreting an interview, 2,000 words;
2. One 3,500 word essay

Preliminary Reading:

Brett, Judith and Anthony Moran (2006) *Ordinary People's Politics: Australians talk about life, politics and the future of their country*, North Melbourne, Pluto Press Australia.

Kelly, Paul (1994) *The End of Certainty*, 2nd edition, St. Leonards: Allen & Unwin.

Mackay, Hugh (1993) *Reinventing Australia: The Mind and Mood of Australia in the 90s*, Sydney: Angus & Robertson.

Little, Graham (1989) *Speaking For Myself: Interviews With Notable Australians*, Melbourne: McPhee Gribble.

Peel, Mark (2003) *The Lowest Rung: Voices of Australian Poverty*, Port Melbourne: Cambridge University Press.

Pusey, Michael (2003) *The Experience of Middle Australia: The Dark Side of Economic Reform*, Melbourne: Cambridge University Press.

Sennett, Richard (1998) *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism*, New York: W.W. Norton.

Bellah, Robert, Richard Madsen, William Sullivan, Ann Swidler and Steven Tipton (1985) *Habits of the Heart: Individualism and Commitment in American Life*, Berkeley: University of California Press

Ethnographic Encounters with Race, Class, Gender and Violence (1st Semester) *Raymond Madden*

In this subject you will closely read two ethnographies, Goldstein's *Laughter out of Place* (2003) and Wacquant's *Body and Soul* (2004) (full bibliographic details below). These texts are gritty urban monographs dealing with the marginalized and disenfranchised. They take the particular insights of their ethnographic fields and use them to illuminate the larger issues of race, class, gender, violence, feminism, masculinity, humour and morality. In exploring such themes these texts dissolve the putative divide between anthropology and sociology and give us concrete examples of some of big ticket concepts that you will be tackling throughout your honour's course. What are the theoretical foundations of these two texts? What are the advantages and limitations of the ethnographic lens? What is it about these particular investigations we can apply to the larger world of ideas in anthropology and sociology? You are advised to read both texts over the summer break, and be ready to work through them systematically during the course of a 13 week semester made up of seminar-style conversations. You will be required to write a 5000 word critical essay that utilises these two texts; however the essay question and approach will be negotiated individually to enable you to focus on a theme or themes that interested you most from your reading of these texts.

CLASS TIME: Thursday 1.00pm – 4.00pm, MARB 488.

Class requirement: one three-hour seminar per week

Assessment: one 5,000 word essay, question and format to be negotiated individually

Reading:

Goldstein, D.M. (2003) *Laughter out of Place: Race Class, Violence and Sexuality in a Rio Shantytown*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Wacquant, L. (2004) *Body & Soul: Notebooks of an Apprentice Boxer*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Availability of texts: these titles will be placed on 3 hour closed reserve in the library ASAP, but also note, as of late November 2008, reasonably priced, second-hand paperbacks of these titles were available at www.amazon.com and www.abebooks.com

IMPORTANT DATES

2008	
14th November	Applications close. N.B. Applications from a University other than La Trobe must be made through the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Internal applicants apply direct to the Sociology and Anthropology Program, School of Social Sciences.
28 th November	General Introductory Meeting: 10.00 am – 12 pm (Martin Building, Room 488). Individual consultations with students: 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm.
December 2008-February 2009	Preliminary work on thesis (for students submitting in 2009) Finding a supervisor, formulating a topic, developing research design.
2009	
January (date to be confirmed at December meeting)	Enrolment (unless continuing in Honours, in which case you may re-enrol on the Web).
24 th February	Whole day meeting on formulating a thesis topic. Come with a one-page thesis proposition, including provisional title, a paragraph outlining the issues to be addressed in the thesis, a paragraph indicating how the issues are to be addressed and a paragraph summarising your provisional research plan.
1st Semester begins 2nd March	
3 rd March	First Key Issues in Social Theory and Research Seminar: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm, MARB 488 Electives start this week.
14 th April	Thesis Prospectus due.
Easter and Mid Semester Vacation: 10th April – 19th April	
May	Essay Consultations for Key Issues in Social Theory and Research
Mid-year Break: 5th June – 26th July	
28 th July	First meeting of Problems and Paradigms Seminar: 10.00 am – 2.00 pm, MARB 488.
1 st October	First draft of thesis with abstract, title page, statement of authorship, table of contents and bibliography to be presented to supervisor.
30 th October (4.00pm)	Two copies of thesis to be submitted (SS 411).