



**MACQUARIE CHRISTIAN STUDIES INSTITUTE
APPROVED UNIT OUTLINE**

1. Unit Code and Title:

MCSI 290 and 390 (IN439) Christian Studies: Special Topic

2. Credit Points:

3 credit points at advanced level

3. Name of Unit Convener and Key Teacher/s:

Dr Neil Holm, Dip Teach (CSU), BA (UNE), PhD (Oregon)
Academic Director and Senior Lecturer in Education Studies and Christian
Formation, Macquarie Christian Studies Institute

Key teachers of this unit will change according to each Special Topic

4. Unit Description / Calendar Entry:

This unit may be presented in either of two modes.

In individual mode at the 300 level. Students **MUST** consult with the convener before enrolment. In consultation with the unit convener, students will be assigned a staff supervisor who will guide them through a program of study in a specific area of Christian Studies of particular interest to the student.

In class mode at 200 or 300 level. MCSI staff will offer a unit of study that will vary from time to time and will reflect the research interest of staff.

5. Alignment with the MCSI Vision:

MCSI is committed to the development of thoughtful Christian perspectives on contemporary society, and to integrative analysis of specific academic disciplines. This unit seeks to promote both of these objectives by undertaking systematic, scholarly reflection on the relationship between theology and the social, cultural, historical, technological, scientific, professional, spiritual, or moral dimensions of life.

6. Pre-requisites / Co-requisites / Exclusions:

MCSI 290: 12 credit points (or permission by Academic Director)

MCSI 390: 36 credit points

The unit convener will ensure that appropriate pre-requisites / co-requisites / exclusions are specified for this unit whenever it is offered.

7. Unit Objectives:

The unit convenor will ensure that appropriate objectives are written for this unit. These objectives will be spread across the cognitive domain that ranges from knowledge through comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, to evaluation.

8. Unit Content /Lecture Topics

Unit content and topics will vary according to the Special Topic under consideration.

9. Assessment:

MCSI 290

1. Written paper of at least 2,000 words or seminar presentation and submission of PowerPoint pack and other supporting material that totals 2,000 words.
2. Research essay 3,000 words

MCSI 390

1. Written paper of at least 2,000 words or seminar presentation and submission of PowerPoint pack and other supporting material that totals 2,000 words
2. Research essay 4,000 words

For some Special Topics the Academic Director may approve other forms of assessment of equivalent rigour.

10. Details of Presentation:

This unit may be offered in standard format of 3 hours class contact per week over 13 weeks.

It may also be offered in *intensive* format. Intensive format involves 36-39 hours of class contact spread over 6 days or longer.

In both formats, teaching will include lectures, presentations, student-led case studies, tutorials, reading and reflection exercises, and audio/video components.

When this unit is presented in intensive format, students will be given adequate time to reflect on the material presented in class before submitting major assignments. For instance, when the weeklong intensive format is used students will normally be allowed up to 8 weeks to submit their assignments.

Learning activities for this unit will vary according to the topic and the mode. They may include issue-oriented case studies, debates, quizzes, guest speakers and video extracts, small group dialogue for at least one out of a three hour period, extensive reviews of the literature, a component of field work or other practical work.

It may also be offered in *individual* format. MCSI staff will assign readings and other learning activities for students to complete individually. Students will meet with academic staff regularly to review progress and discuss future directions.

11. Bibliography:

11.1 Required Texts and Additional Reading

Will vary for each unit