This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
Unit Name: Independent English Study

Unit Code: EL396

Awards: Bachelor of Education (Secondary) - English teaching area
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary) - English major
This unit is able to be undertaken towards other CHC awards according to course rules and the meeting of prerequisite requirements, as applicable.

Core/Elective: Elective

Prerequisites: 40 credit points of 200-level English units

Mode: Internal

Delivery/Contact hrs:
- Class contact: 33 hours
- Engagement with unit materials: 44 hours
- Assignment preparation: 63 hours
- Total: 140 hours

Unit Rationale:
This unit is intended for students in the last year of their English major who wish to specialise in a topic of particular interest, such as a detailed study of a particular author. It is particularly valuable as an exercise in research for those who are intending to proceed to postgraduate studies in English. For this reason, it is expected that students enrolling in this unit will have displayed a high level of enthusiasm and achievement in previous English units, as well as an ability to conduct individual research by directed study.

Students planning to enrol in this unit should discuss their proposed project with the appropriate staff member before the end of the previous semester, so that supervision arrangements can be made. Where no suitable supervisor is available, or it is considered that there are insufficient resources for the satisfactory completion of the project, a student will not be allowed to proceed or will be re-directed into a different area of research. The subject matter of the research should be of appropriate intellectual rigour and scope, and where existing course-work units relate to the topic of research, the student will normally be expected to have completed those units as a prerequisite for the project. The study will be a guided study; and students will be expected to work closely with their supervisor and submit a provisional bibliography at the beginning of the study in order to prove access to sufficient resources, as well as a completed bibliography with the final research paper.

Students will be expected to submit a 500-word outline of the project including a rationale, a list of objectives and a plan for the completion of the project. The proposal and any amendments suggested by the supervisor will then be incorporated into a contract which both parties will sign, and which will include a list of dates for completion of the stages of the project and its final submission. Students will also present a seminar on their research topic to a gathering of staff and fellow students.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they have:

1. Developed the ability to plan and implement a strategy for research into a particular literary topic.
2. Discussed an appropriate range of texts with a high level of critical analysis and insight.
3. Critically reviewed existing literature on the topic.
4. Recognized and addressed specific difficulties of interpretation and methodological problems relating to the research topic.
5. Presented a cogent, lucid, well-written, properly referenced and informative piece of research within the prescribed time period.
6. Displayed a high level of application to study and the qualities of character necessary for individual academic research.
7. Written at an appropriate tertiary standard (with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation).
Content:

The content of the unit is a matter for individual negotiation between student and supervisor. It is the supervisor’s responsibility to ensure that the content is of sufficient intellectual rigour and adequate scope to achieve the objectives of the unit.

Set Text Requirements:

No set text

Recommended Readings:


Students will be expected to access a wide range of primary and secondary resources related to their particular topic. Students should consult regularly with their supervisors in regard to developing and expanding an appropriate range of sources.

Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Week Due</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar/Workshop (20-30 minutes; 2000 words)</td>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study Report (3000 words)</td>
<td>1-7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unit Overview:

This guided study is a preparation for English major students who intend to study English at the postgraduate level. It introduces them to an individually chosen project and to communication with an individual supervisor. It involves the formulation of a thesis proposal to be passed by the lecturer, outlining the objectives of the project, the methodology to be used, the time frame that the student envisages that he/she follows, and a provisional bibliography from which the student can work. From there, he/she produces a professionally written Research Project report.