Learning Outcomes
This course aims to give students a grounding in the various epistemological perspectives underpinning social science research so they understand how these perspectives influence research design, methodology, methods, data analysis and theory construction.

Objectives
1. Explain the difference between ontology and epistemology and their significance in research
2. Discuss and critique the various philosophical perspectives in social science research.
3. Explain how the various epistemological positions influence research design, the selection of appropriate analytical techniques, and theory construction.
4. Discuss the relevance of alternative epistemological approaches to social science research, including: pragmatism, process, practice, socio-material, linguistic, poststructural, narrative and phenomenological approaches.
5. Explain how research philosophy impacts the role of the researcher.
6. Understand the nature and importance of reflexive approaches to research.
7. Define and formulate research problems and questions
8. Understand how to design research based on a fit between epistemology, research design, methodology, methods, data collection and analysis.

Program Delivery:
Both didactic and experiential approaches will be used, including lecture, seminars, discussion and observation. Participants should read the required articles prior to each class.
## Course Syllabus

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>A selection of course readings</th>
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| **October 9th** | **Introduction to the Course**  
| November 20th | HOLIDAY – No Class | |
| November 27th | Student-Led Seminars: Postcolonial epistemology Indigenous epistemologies Intersectionality Community/relevance Collaborative epistemology | |
| December 4th | Epistemological Concerns and Research Design Ethics, accountability, subjects, reflexivity. | |
Additional References (Useful for the assignment – do not need to read for class):


