



# Race, Culture, Indigeneity and the Politics of Disadvantage

A two-day short course presented by the McCaughey Centre, Melbourne School of Population Health, University of Melbourne and the Centre for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University.

October 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2012

Or

New second date: October 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 2012

- Are you interested in the political context of Indigenous disadvantage?
- Are you ever confused or frustrated by the complexity of Indigenous affairs?
- Would you benefit from a range of theoretical tools that would help you negotiate complex issues?

Indigenous affairs presents a complex and challenging work environment. Most non-indigenous people working in Indigenous affairs hope to empower Indigenous communities to solve their own problems. However, they often worry they may be imposing solutions on communities and repeating the mistakes of the past.

Cultural competence courses offer non-Indigenous people a way to resolve these fears, but these courses can sometimes cause as many problems as they solve. Rather than focusing on Indigenous culture, this course aims to change the way participants think about Indigenous affairs.

Drawing on scholarship from a range of disciplines, the course explores how cultural and racial identities are formed and how knowledge about Indigenous disadvantage is constructed over time. These skills are the building blocks of *reflexive anti-racism*.

Using interactive exercises, case studies and small group work, theories and debates are illustrated with real-life problems and a variety of print and electronic resources. Through building reflexive anti-racism, non-indigenous people can more effectively promote positive change in Indigenous affairs.

## Who should attend

This course has been designed as a professional development activity for those in research, policy or service delivery roles within Indigenous health, social work, education, community development and related areas.

---

**Date:** Monday October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012

**Venue:** Graduate House, University of Melbourne

**Cost:** \$660 (including GST). Registration required by **September 26<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**Presenters:** Dr Yin Paradies, Senior Research Fellow, University of Melbourne.  
BSc NTU, MMedStats Newcastle, MPH UC Berkeley, PhD Melb

<http://www.sph.unimelb.edu.au/about/allstaff/paradies>

Dr Emma Kowal, ARC Senior Research Fellow, University of Melbourne.  
MBBS Melb, BA(Hons) Melb, Grad Cert ATSI Studies NTU, PhD Melb

<http://ssps.unimelb.edu.au/about/staff/profiles/kowal/>

**Contact:** To register for the course please contact Hannah Reich:

E-mail: [hsreich@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:hsreich@unimelb.edu.au)

***Maximum of 24 places – early bookings essential***

*“I felt my existing knowledge was really consolidated with the new knowledge I gained. I also felt energised to continue forward...I would strongly encourage any colleagues to attend this course.”*

*“It changed my perspective enormously, and I think it was a very positive change... I think it should probably be mandatory for anyone working in the area of Indigenous service delivery.”*

(Comments from past course participants)