THTR11126 *Origins of Theatre*
Term 2 - 2026

Profile information current as at 12/11/2026 11:20 am

All details in this unit profile for THTR11126 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student).The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview
In this unit you will study the original storytelling practices of First Nations Peoples through to the development of more formal theatre practices of the ancient Greeks and Romans. You will examine the rites, rituals, legends and myths of the first storytellers in communicating ideas and ideals, education the masses and even manipulating the public discourse. You will apply and adapt these ancient ideas and practices in a presentation designed to communicate a social message to a modern audience.

Details
Career Level: *Undergraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 1*
Credit Points: *6*
Student Contribution Band: *8*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.125*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites
Students who have completed THTR13124 Theatre Studies 3: Mask, Myth and Ritual cannot enrol in this unit.
Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2026
- Mackay
- Online

Attendance Requirements
All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website
This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

Regional Campuses
Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

Metropolitan Campuses
Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. First People's story (Report)
Weighting: 25%
2. Ancient Greek or Roman story (Report)
Weighting: 25%
3. Proposal for Presentation (Written Assessment)
Weighting: 15%
4. Presentation (Presentation)
Weighting: 35%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the University's Grades and Results Policy for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.
You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Academic Progression Policy and Procedure
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the CQUniversity Policy site.

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from staff feedback

Feedback
The assessment tasks are scaffolded so that feedback on each task helps students develop the following task

Recommendation
Maintain this scaffolding approach to assessments in this unit

Feedback from student focus groups

Feedback
Students share their work in the final assessment through peer review

Recommendation
Peer reviewing enable students to appreciate and learn from each other's research. Students learn about more topics than the one they have individually researched for the assessment task

Feedback from Student and staff feedback

Feedback
Students appreciate support in academic writing

Recommendation
Maintain the Academic Learning Centre workshops in class in the first weeks of the course to introduce students to this support service.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

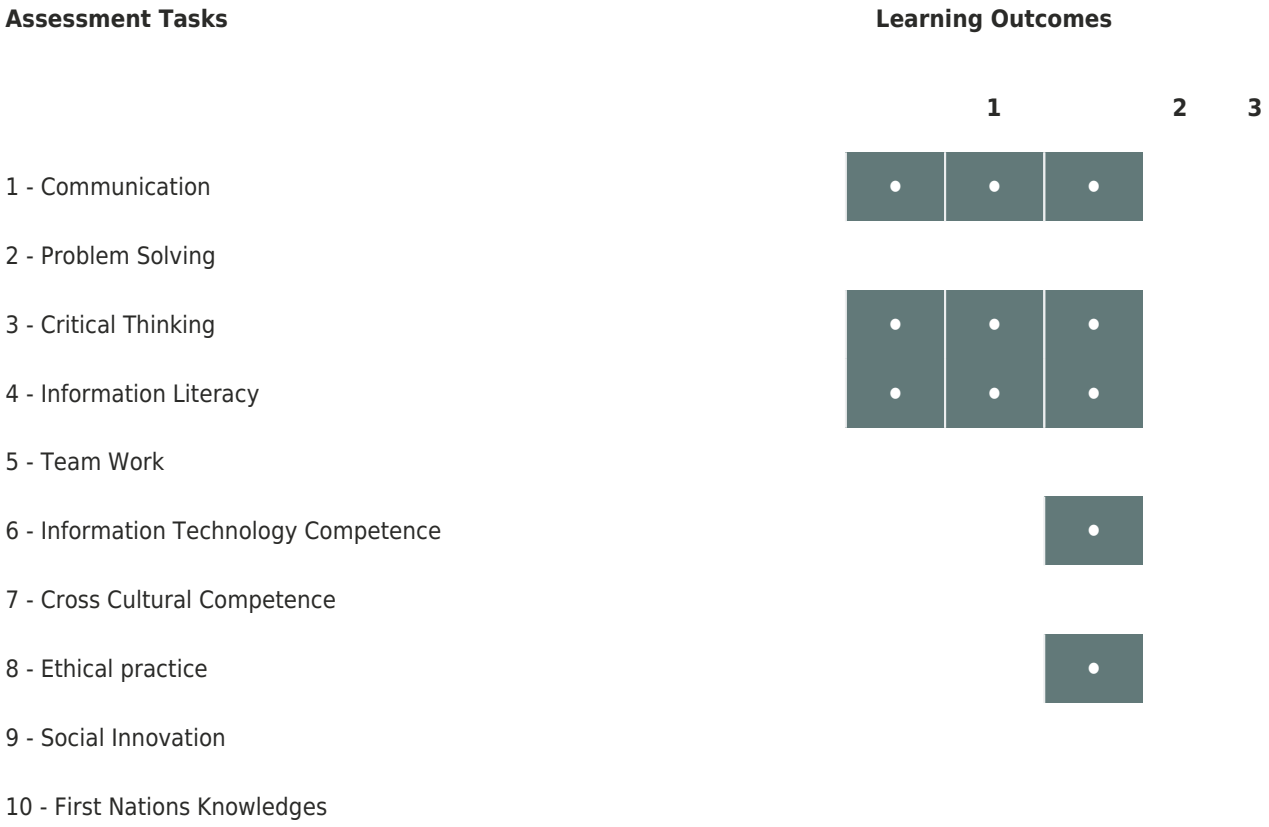
1. Identify the devices used in First Nations Peoples' storytelling and in ancient Greek and Roman theatre
2. Articulate the distinction between the purpose of storytelling for First Nations Peoples and the purpose of theatre in ancient Greek and Roman times
3. Apply devices used in storytelling by First Nations Peoples or in ancient Greek and Roman theatre for communication of contemporary issues.

N/A

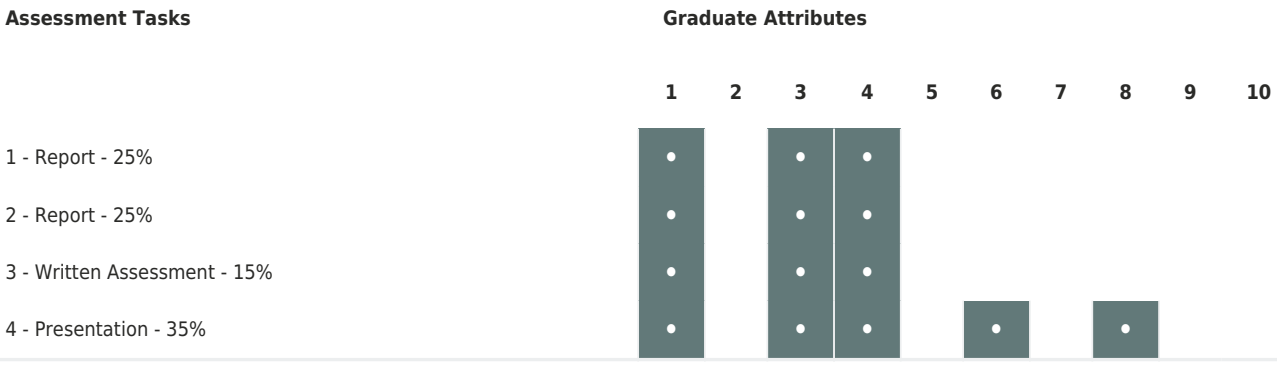
Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

— N/A Level • Introductory Level • Intermediate Level • Graduate Level ◦ Professional Level ◦ Advanced Level

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes



Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Microsoft Teams

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Linda Lorenza Unit Coordinator
l.lorenza@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 13 Jul 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Stories	online resources	

Week 2 - 20 Jul 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
First People's Stories	online resources	

Week 3 - 27 Jul 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Greek and Roman theatre	online resources	

Week 4 - 03 Aug 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Greek and Roman theatre	online resources	First People's story Due: Week 4 Monday (3 Aug 2026) 11:59 pm AEST

Week 5 - 10 Aug 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Storytelling devices		

Week 6 - 17 Aug 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Storytelling devices	online resources	Ancient Greek or Roman story Due: Week 6 Monday (17 Aug 2026) 11:59 pm AEST

Vacation Week - 24 Aug 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 7 - 31 Aug 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Stealing devices - contemporary theatre	online resources	Proposal for Presentation Due: Week 7 Monday (31 Aug 2026) 11:59 pm AEST

Week 8 - 07 Sep 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Stealing devices - contemporary theatre	online resources	

Week 9 - 14 Sep 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Stealing devices - contemporary theatre	online resources	

Week 10 - 21 Sep 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
in class presentations		In class presentations of Assessment 4 Presentation Due: Week 10 Monday (21 Sept 2026) 11:59 pm AEST

Week 11 - 28 Sep 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No classes		

Week 12 - 05 Oct 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No classes		No classes

Exam Week - 12 Oct 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Vacation/Exam Week - 19 Oct 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Report

Assessment Title
First People's story

Task Description
Compose a 1000 word report. Identify a First Peoples Story, its purpose and the devices used in its communication.

Introduction:
Identify an example of the telling of a First Peoples Story.
Write the synopsis of the story in your own words citing the original source.
Identify the devices used in its communication in your chosen example.

Discussion:
Discuss the significance of the story, considering when it was communicated, to whom and for what purpose.

Conclusion:
Restate the story you have selected and why it is important; restate the key devices used in the telling of the story you have chosen; make a call to action as to why stories such as this should continue to be told.

Referencing:
Identify all references using APA 7th style in in-text citations and correct reference list formatting.
Be careful to write in your own words, do not copy text from other sources. Remember to use correct punctuation, grammar and capital letters for proper nouns.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence agents (Gen AI)
Within this assessment, the use of Microsoft Copilot, Chat GPT or other Gen AI agents is as follows:

- You must not use AI at any point during the assessment. You must demonstrate your core skills and knowledge. Any misuse or lack of disclosure regarding the use of AI tools will be considered a breach of academic integrity.

WORD COUNT 1500 words

WORD COUNT FOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:
The word count is considered from the first word of the introduction to the last word of the conclusion. It excludes the cover page, abstract, contents page, reference page and appendices. It includes in-text references and direct quotations.

Assessment Due Date
Week 4 Monday (3 Aug 2026) 11:59 pm AEST
written report

Return Date to Students
Week 5 Friday (14 Aug 2026)

Weighting
25%

Assessment Criteria
- Clear introduction and conclusion (10%)
- Accuracy of information and depth of treatment of the topic (25%)
- Detailed discussion on the primary source examples selected (25%)
- Ability to write clearly and logically (15%)
- Correct spelling, grammar, punctuation and clear lay-out (10%)
- Correct use of APA style for the in-text referencing and reference list (15%)

Referencing Style
American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
online via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed
- Identify the devices used in First Nations Peoples' storytelling and in ancient Greek and Roman theatre
- Articulate the distinction between the purpose of storytelling for First Nations Peoples and the purpose of theatre in ancient Greek and Roman times

Graduate Attributes
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

2 Report

Assessment Title
Ancient Greek or Roman story

Task Description
Compose a 1000 word report. Identify an ancient Greek or Roman Story, its purpose and the devices used in its communication.

Introduction:
- Identify an example on YouTube, a film or other live performance of a story told in ancient Greek or Roman theatre
- Write the synopsis of the story in your own words citing the original source.
- Identify the devices used in the presentation of the example you have chosen.

Discussion:
- Discuss the significance of the story, considering when it was communicated, to whom and for what purpose.

Conclusion:
- Restate the story you have selected and why it is important; restate the key devices used in the telling of the story you have chosen; make a call to action as to why stories such as this should continue to be told.

Referencing:
- Identify all references using APA 7th style in in-text citations and correct reference list formatting.
- Be careful to write in your own words, do not copy text from other sources. Remember to use correct punctuation, grammar and capital letters for proper nouns.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence agents (Gen AI)
Within this assessment, the use of Microsoft Copilot, Chat GPT or other Gen AI agents is as follows:
- You must not use AI at any point during the assessment. You must demonstrate your core skills and knowledge. Any misuse or lack of disclosure regarding the use of AI tools will be considered a breach of academic integrity.

WORD COUNT 1500 words

WORD COUNT FOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:
The word count is considered from the first word of the introduction to the last word of the conclusion. It excludes the cover page, abstract, contents page, reference page and appendices. It includes in-text references and direct quotations.

Assessment Due Date
Week 6 Monday (17 Aug 2026) 11:59 pm AEST
written report

Return Date to Students
Week 7 Friday (4 Sept 2026)

Weighting
25%

Assessment Criteria
- Clear and connected introduction and conclusion (10%)
- Accuracy of information and depth of treatment of the topic (25%)
- Detailed discussion on the primary source examples selected (25%)
- Ability to write clearly and logically (15%)
- Correct spelling, grammar, punctuation and clear lay-out (10%)
- Correct use of APA style for the in-text referencing and reference list (15%)

Referencing Style
American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
online via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed
- Identify the devices used in First Nations Peoples' storytelling and in ancient Greek and Roman theatre
- Articulate the distinction between the purpose of storytelling for First Nations Peoples and the purpose of theatre in ancient Greek and Roman times

Graduate Attributes
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

3 Written Assessment

Assessment Title
Proposal for Presentation

Task Description
This written assessment is the preparation for Assessment 4.
In Assessment 4 you will pre-record your presentation of a message to the public.
Your intention is to change the way the public thinks about an issue. You need to use devices we have learned about from First Nation People's storytelling and Greek and Roman theatre to deliver this message.
In this proposal for the presentation you must:

1. Identify the message, who it is for and why you believe it needs to be communicated.
2. Provide a synopsis or plot summary of the message.
3. Identify the communicative devices from First People's storytelling and ancient Greek and Roman theatre you will be using.
4. Explain why you have selected these devices.
5. Identify all references using APA 7th style.
6. Be careful to write in your own words, do not copy text from other sources. Remember to use correct punctuation, grammar and capital letters for proper nouns.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence agents (Gen AI)
Within this assessment, the use of Microsoft Copilot, Chat GPT or other Gen AI agents is as follows:
- You must not use AI at any point during the assessment. You must demonstrate your core skills and knowledge. Any misuse or lack of disclosure regarding the use of AI tools will be considered a breach of academic integrity.

WORD COUNT 1500 words

WORD COUNT FOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:
The word count is considered from the first word of the introduction to the last word of the conclusion. It excludes the cover page, abstract, contents page, reference page and appendices. It includes in-text references and direct quotations.

Assessment Due Date
Week 7 Monday (31 Aug 2026) 11:59 pm AEST
written proposal

Return Date to Students
Week 8 Friday (11 Sept 2026)

Weighting
15%

Assessment Criteria
- Identify the message, who it is for and why you believe it needs to be communicated. (20%)
- Provide a synopsis or plot summary of the message. (10%)
- Identify the communicative devices from First People's storytelling and ancient Greek and Roman theatre you will be using. (25%)
- Explain why you have selected these devices. (25%)
- Identify all references using APA 7th style. (10%)
- Be careful to write in your own words, do not copy text from other sources. Remember to use correct punctuation, grammar and capital letters for proper nouns. (10%)

Referencing Style
American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
online via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed
- Apply devices used in storytelling by First Nations Peoples or in ancient Greek and Roman theatre for communication of contemporary issues.

Graduate Attributes
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

4 Presentation

Assessment Title
Presentation

Task Description
Using your plan from Assessment 3 and the tutor's feedback you will pre-record your presentation of a message to the public.
Your intention is to change the way the public thinks about an issue using devices developed from communicative devices used in First Nation People's storytelling and ancient Greek and Roman theatre to deliver this message.
In this pre-recorded presentation you must
1. Present a clear message
2. Present the message in such a way that it is clear for whom it is intended
3. Incorporate communicative devices from First People's storytelling and ancient Greek and Roman theatre.
4. Include a credit screen or rolling credits which includes all references in APA7th style.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence agents (Gen AI)
Within this assessment, the use of Microsoft Copilot, Chat GPT or other Gen AI agents is as follows:
- You must not use AI at any point during the assessment. You must demonstrate your core skills and knowledge. Any misuse or lack of disclosure regarding the use of AI tools will be considered a breach of academic integrity.

Submission
Presentation Length: 3mins
- pre-recorded audiovisual presentation
- a credit screen or rolling credits containing your references in APA7 format OR a word document of your references in correct APA7 format.

Assessment Due Date

Week 10 Monday (21 Sept 2026) 11:59 pm AEST
pre-recorded presentation uploaded to Moodle

Return Date to Students
Week 12 Friday (9 Oct 2026)

Weighting
35%

Assessment Criteria
- Present a clear message (30%)
- Present the message in such a way that it is clear for whom it is intended (30%)
- Incorporate communicative devices from First People's storytelling and ancient Greek and Roman theatre (30%)
- Include a credit screen or rolling credits OR submit a separate word document which includes all references in APA7th style (10%)

Referencing Style
American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
in class presentation with upload of reference list to Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed
- Apply devices used in storytelling by First Nations Peoples or in ancient Greek and Roman theatre for communication of contemporary issues.

Graduate Attributes
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence
- Ethical practice

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure. This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the Academic Learning Centre (ALC) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?

Be Honest
If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own

Seek Help
If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)

Produce Original Work
Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem