



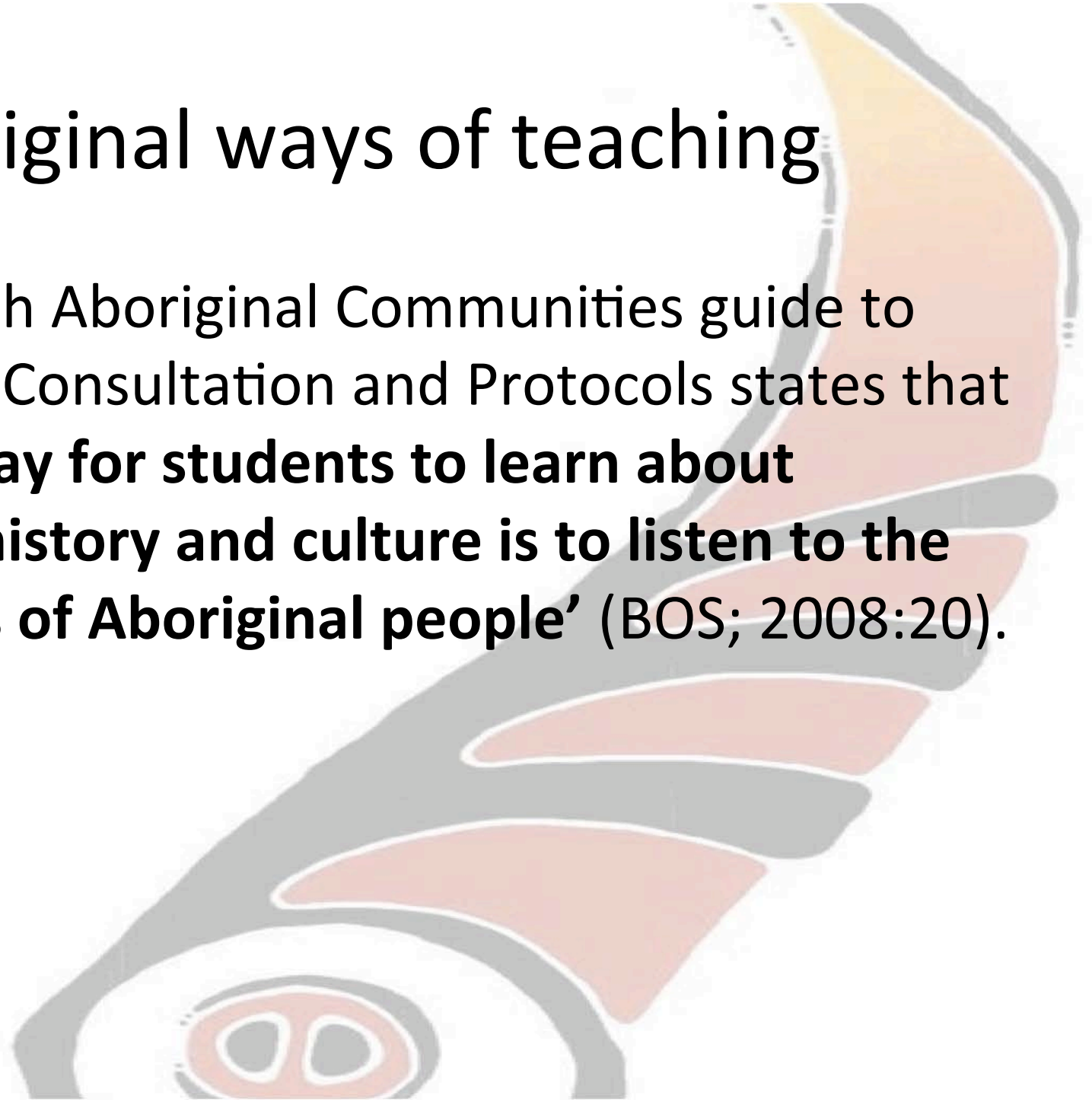
Learning our Way: hands on experience

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Aboriginal ways of teaching

- Working with Aboriginal Communities guide to Community Consultation and Protocols states that **‘The best way for students to learn about Aboriginal history and culture is to listen to the experiences of Aboriginal people’** (BOS; 2008:20).



Hands on experience through course work

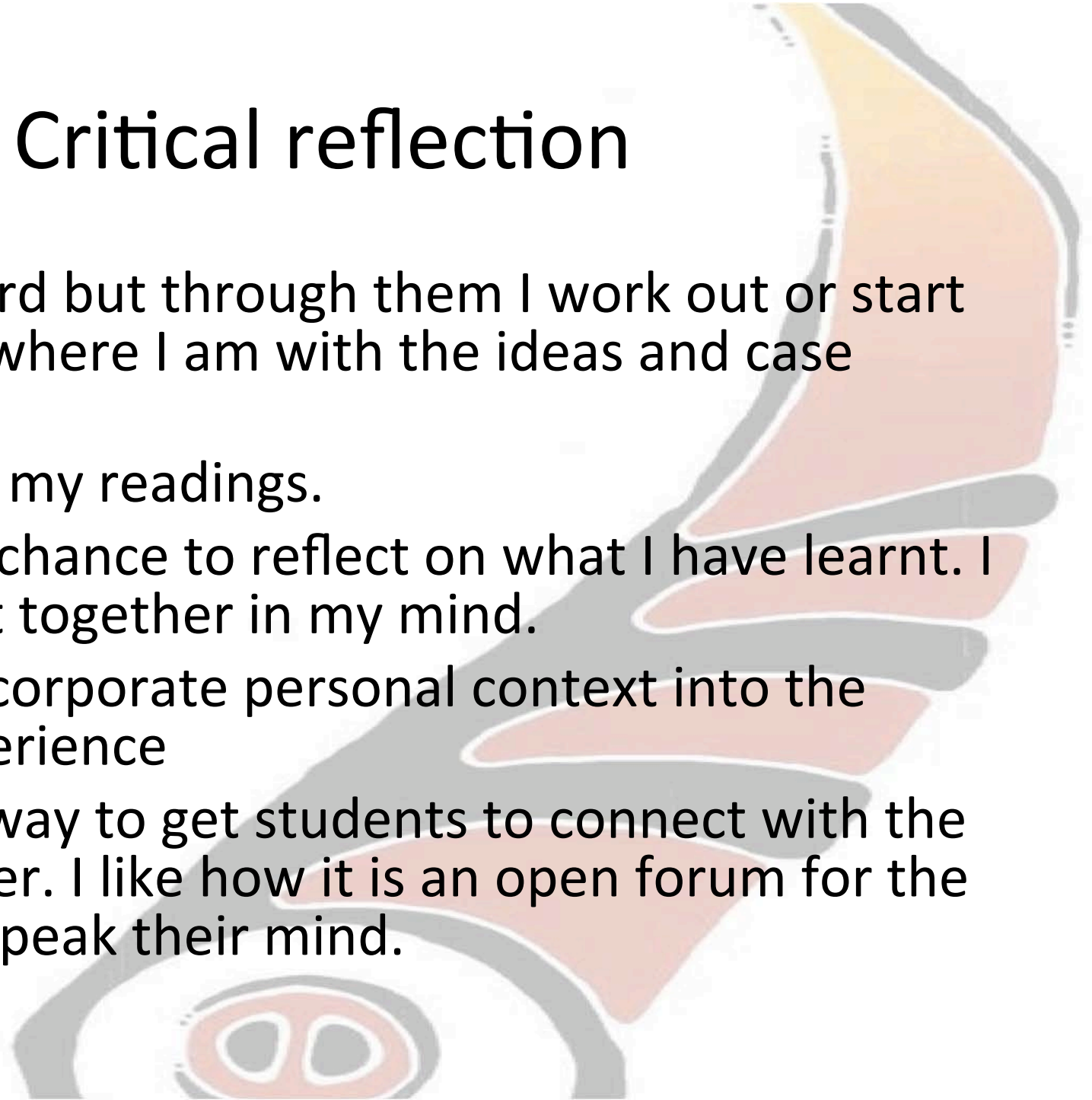
- Indigenous Cultural Heritage Management
- Undergraduate

- Indigenous research methodologies
- Masters course



Critical reflection

- These are hard but through them I work out or start to work out where I am with the ideas and case studies.
- Made me do my readings.
- It gave me a chance to reflect on what I have learnt. I like putting it together in my mind.
- Helpful to incorporate personal context into the learning experience
- Really good way to get students to connect with the subject matter. I like how it is an open forum for the students to speak their mind.

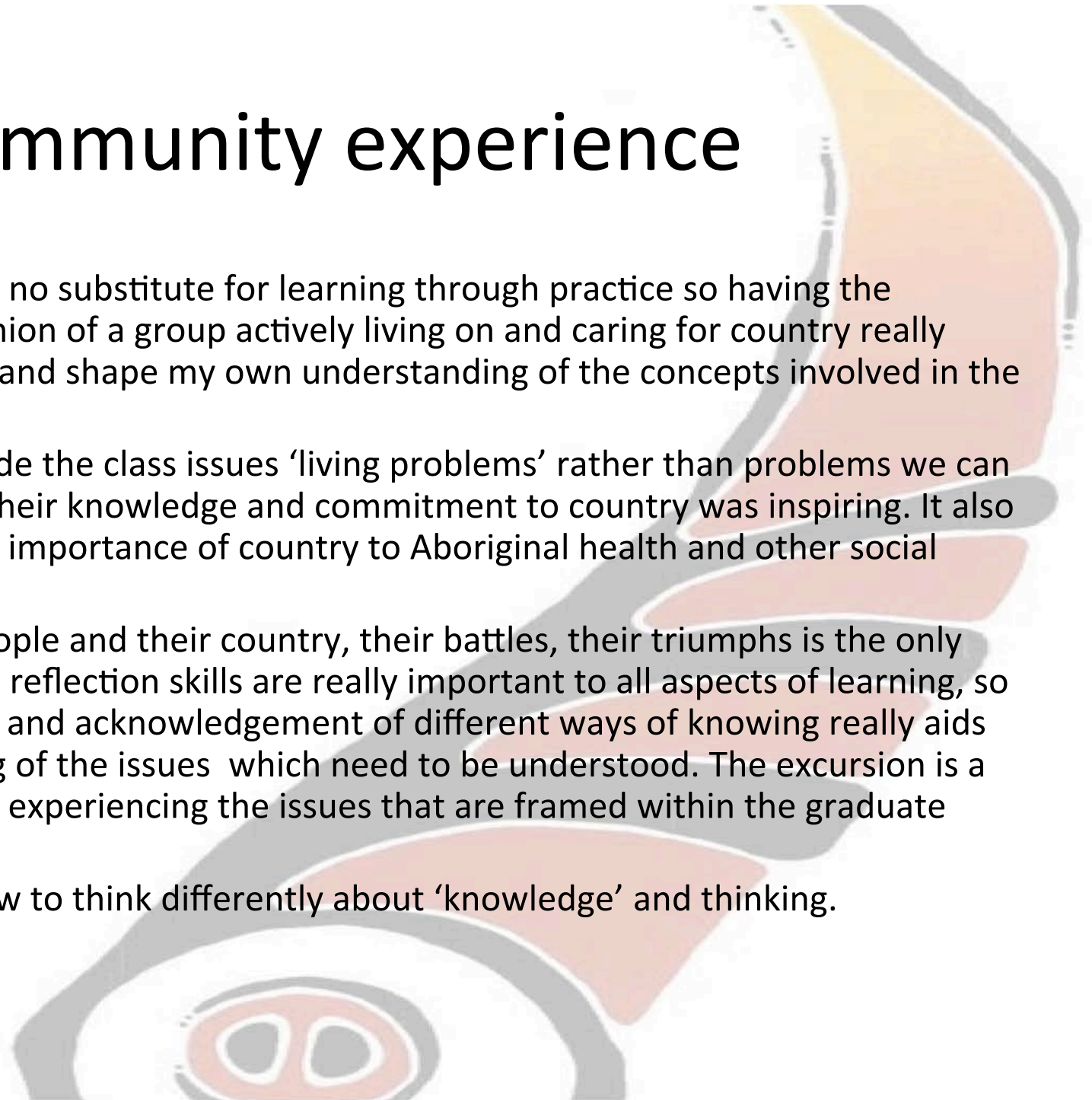


Indigenous Cultural Heritage

Is a course I developed within our Nura Gili undergraduate minor. It's focus is on ICHM and is run through a series of seminars and a field trip. The seminars are focused upon stimulating discussion from the students regarding content from both readings and Lecture input. The Field trip crystallizes the learning input developed through the seminars. And the course is concluded with a final seminar 2 weeks after the trip .

Community experience

- I really think there is no substitute for learning through practice so having the perspective and opinion of a group actively living on and caring for country really helped me examine and shape my own understanding of the concepts involved in the course.
- Really hit home. Made the class issues 'living problems' rather than problems we can only see on paper. Their knowledge and commitment to country was inspiring. It also strongly showed the importance of country to Aboriginal health and other social issues.
- To hear and feel people and their country, their battles, their triumphs is the only way to learn. Critical reflection skills are really important to all aspects of learning, so encouraging the use and acknowledgement of different ways of knowing really aids in the understanding of the issues which need to be understood. The excursion is a really holistic way of experiencing the issues that are framed within the graduate attributes
- It also taught me how to think differently about 'knowledge' and thinking.



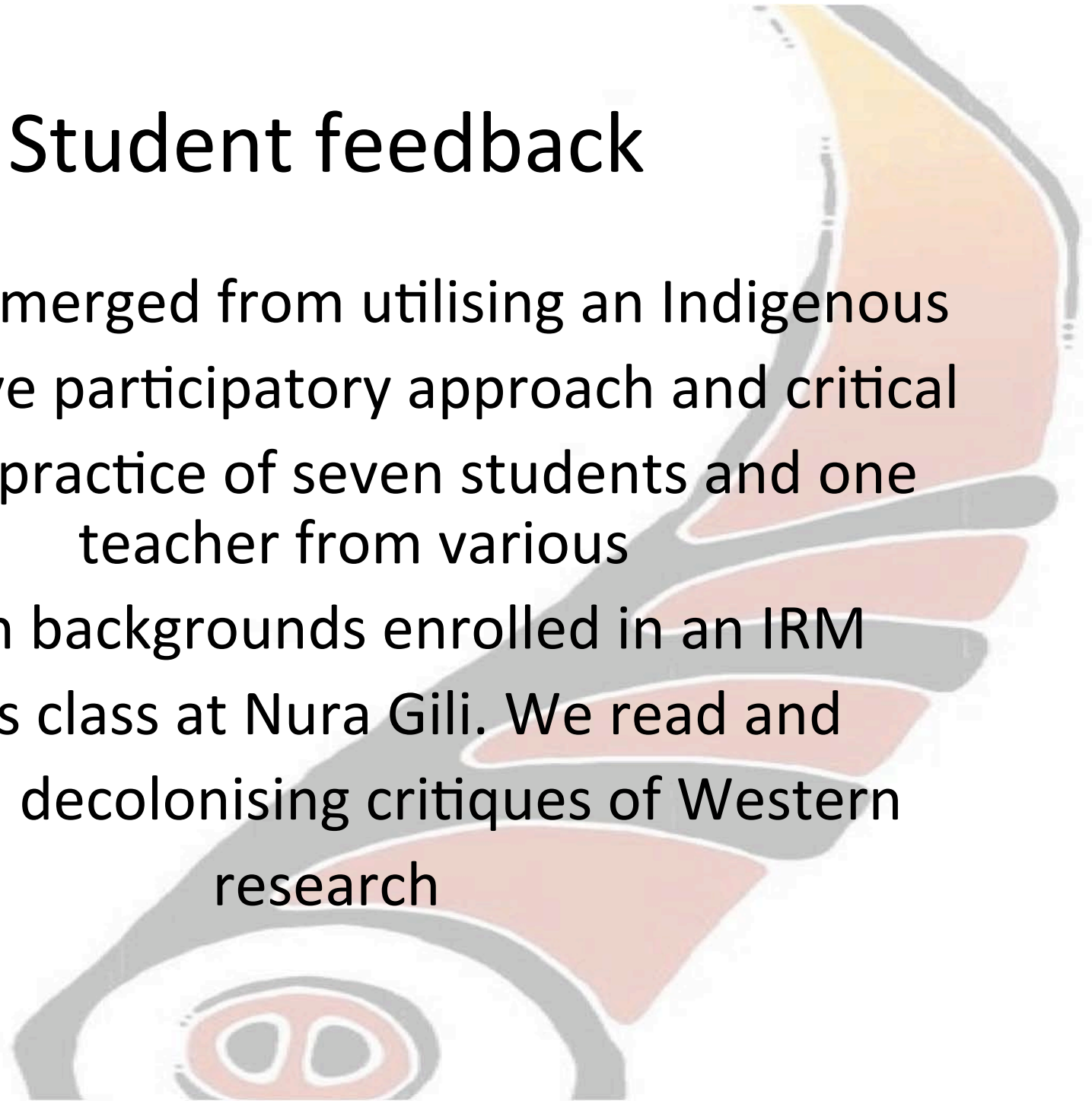
Indigenous research methodologies

- IRM was developed specifically to provide students with a hands-on approach to undertaking community based participatory action research. The research approach promotes the importance of process as well as active collaboration and participation. These are important components of the skills required to develop and articulate an Indigenous Research Methodology.



Student feedback

Our work emerged from utilising an Indigenous collaborative participatory approach and critical reflective practice of seven students and one teacher from various research backgrounds enrolled in an IRM masters class at Nura Gili. We read and discussed decolonising critiques of Western research



Student feedback

- Towards the end of the course we had all noticed substantial shifts in the way we understand the role, practice and ethics of research.
- So we set about documenting and further researching our insights for the purpose of publishing a discussion paper on teaching IRMs.
- As a result of the insights we gained from our participation in Nura Gili's IRM class and the development of our critical reflective skills, we all feel more confident that we can approach research with Indigenous peoples in a more ethical and beneficial way.
- It is our hope that our discussion paper will help others to engage in a similar decolonising process.

