



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS3850 Security in Asia: Politics Meets Economics - 2024

Published on the 02 Feb 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS3850

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Social Sciences

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

In this course you will examine the complex and dynamic relationship between political and economic processes and outcomes in Asia. You will be challenged to ask: How have geopolitical concerns shaped economic development trajectories across the region? How have domestic and

geo-political dynamics within the region been transformed by economic developments? And what are the implications of the region's rapid rise for the global economic and security landscape? Through a theoretically informed analysis of such questions, you will develop an understanding of the the interdependencies between economic and political developments in the region, and the possible trajectories of future economic and political developments.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Explain the various ways in which geopolitical concerns have shaped economic development trajectories across the region
CLO2 : Analyse and evaluate key debates about how domestic and geo-political dynamics within the region have been transformed by economic developments
CLO3 : Assess the implications of the region's rapid rise for the global economic and security landscape, from a theoretically grounded point of view.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explain the various ways in which geopolitical concerns have shaped economic development trajectories across the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case Study Paper• Class Participation
CLO2 : Analyse and evaluate key debates about how domestic and geo-political dynamics within the region have been transformed by economic developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Essay• Viva Voce• Case Study Paper• Class Participation
CLO3 : Assess the implications of the region's rapid rise for the global economic and security landscape, from a theoretically grounded point of view.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Essay• Viva Voce• Class Participation

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Case Study Paper Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 15/03/2024 11:59 PM
Research Essay Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 12/04/2024 11:59 PM
Viva Voce Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable
Class Participation Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details

Case Study Paper

Assessment Overview

Length: 1000 words.

You will prepare a case study paper on trade agreements or infrastructure spending that focuses on one country in the Asia-Pacific region.

You will receive written and/or audio feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain the various ways in which geopolitical concerns have shaped economic development trajectories across the region
- CLO2 : Analyse and evaluate key debates about how domestic and geo-political dynamics within the region have been transformed by economic developments

Detailed Assessment Description

The purpose of this case study is to apply and critically assess what we have discussed so far.

For the case study, choose one of the following topics:

- Free trade agreements (either regional or bilateral)
- Regional development projects (i.e. 'development financing' for infrastructure)

Discuss your chosen topic, and how it applies to one Asian country of your choice. Your case study must:

Discuss how the topic applies to the chosen country (i.e what are the important facts to consider?) Critically assess the economic-security nexus involved in your chosen topic/country Identify the political actors (i.e. other countries, international organisations) involved, and what their primary interests are (i.e what they want to achieve). Make an assessment of what you think may happen in your case study in the near future (i.e. what might the outcomes be?)

Please ensure you address all the questions above.

This is not a major research paper. Whilst scholarly resources should be used, you are also encouraged to make use of news articles, official statements, etc.

Assessment Length

1000 words

Assessment information

If required, a 7-day automatic Short Extension without documentation is available for this assessment. You can apply by accessing the Short Extension Student Portal on the [Special Consideration login page](#). This will be visible, and open for student applications, from 13 February 2024.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Research Essay

Assessment Overview

Length: 3000 words.

You will choose among a selection of questions and prepare a major research essay.

You will receive written and/or audio feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Analyse and evaluate key debates about how domestic and geo-political dynamics within the region have been transformed by economic developments
- CLO3 : Assess the implications of the region's rapid rise for the global economic and security landscape, from a theoretically grounded point of view.

Detailed Assessment Description

The essay will test:

- Your ability to think analytically and critically about the concepts and theories addressed in the course.
- Your ability to research and develop a critical and thoughtful argument on the essay topic.
- You are expected to include source from outside of the course's required readings.

Please choose **one** of the following essay topics:

1. Economic statecraft is more effective than either military strength or security alliances in achieving strategic goals in Asia. Do you agree? Critically assess this statement.
2. Do you believe environmental and/or energy security issues are likely to cause a military dispute (either inter-state or intra-state) in Asia in the near future? Give an example of at least one environmental and/or energy security issue in your answer.
3. How have small South-Pacific states responded to the rise of China? Analyse the foreign policy of one South-Pacific states (e.g. Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, etc) in your answer.
4. Why was economic coercion ineffective in preventing North Korea from developing a nuclear weapon? What strategies, if any, do you believe would have been more successful?
5. What impact does the emerging rivalry between China and the United States have on Australia? Will Australia be able to maintain good relationship with both the United States and China, and if so, how?

Assessment Length

3000 words

Assessment information

If required, a 7-day automatic Short Extension without documentation is available for this assessment. You can apply by accessing the Short Extension Student Portal on the [Special Consideration login page](#). This will be visible, and open for student applications, from 13 February 2024.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Viva Voce

Assessment Overview

You will have a 10 minute oral exam held during the formal university exam period.

Students will answer questions related to their research essay, and how their research relates to the content of the course more broadly.

You will receive a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Analyse and evaluate key debates about how domestic and geo-political dynamics within the region have been transformed by economic developments
- CLO3 : Assess the implications of the region's rapid rise for the global economic and security landscape, from a theoretically grounded point of view.

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle.

Assessment Length

10 mins

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Class Participation

Assessment Overview

You will be graded on your class participation throughout the term. Your mark will be determined by: 1) the depth of knowledge of the week's topic; 2) your engagement with the readings; and 3) your demonstrated respect for others in class discussion.

You will receive a marked rubric and a numerical grade. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain the various ways in which geopolitical concerns have shaped economic development trajectories across the region
- CLO2 : Analyse and evaluate key debates about how domestic and geo-political dynamics within the region have been transformed by economic developments
- CLO3 : Assess the implications of the region's rapid rise for the global economic and security landscape, from a theoretically grounded point of view.

Detailed Assessment Description

Students must attend at least **80% of seminars**. Students who fail to do so without a valid reason will automatically receive a **0% for participation**. Students can miss up to 2 tutorials without

documentation, however special consideration will be required for absences beyond this. See Moodle for more information.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

General Assessment Information

Assessment FAQs

1. What if I go over the word limit?

A +/- 10% leeway is applied to all written assessments. For example, for a 2000-word essay can be anywhere between 1800 and 2200. Essays that are shorter or longer than the allowed range will be penalized at 1% per 50 words over/under the 10% leeway.

2. What is included in the word count?

Everything except your reference list is included in the word count. That means that footnotes, sub-headings and in-text references **are** included in the word count.

3. What referencing style should I use?

All your written assessments must be formatted according to the **Harvard system of referencing**, as found in the guidelines in the **School of Social Science's Referencing Guide**. This is available at https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/sites/default/files/documents/SoSS_Ref_Guide_2019.pdf.

Poor referencing and attribution of sources will result in a lower grade and may even constitute academic misconduct. There is a lot of assistance available to you to help you learn about referencing, attribution and avoiding plagiarism. If you are not sure just ask! See <https://student.unsw.edu.au/support-referencing-assignments>.

If you submit work for this course that you have already submitted for assessment in another course at this University or any other institution, in whole or in part, or if you copy material from another source and do not attribute that material to its original author, your work will be referred to the School Student Ethics Officer for an investigation into a possible charge of academic misconduct. See <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>.

4. Can I use generative AI in my assessments?

Text generated through generative AI software is not allowed to be included in assessments. If the outputs of generative AI form part of your submission it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to standard penalties.

Whilst AI may be used to assist in essay planning, please note that AI is not a reliable academic source.

Non-generative AI programs used to assist with grammar, translation and other improvements to your writing are allowed.

5. What if I submit an assignment late?

Unless you have an approved extension (see question 6 below), 5% is deducted from the 'total awardable mark' each calendar day you are late. For example, an assessment that received 70% but is two days late will receive a final grade of 60% - i.e. $70\% - 10\% \text{ (2 days late} \times 5\%) = 60\%$.

For work submitted more than five days after the due date a mark of **zero** will be awarded.

6. What if I need more time to finish my assessment?

You can apply for special consideration if you need more time due to illness, misadventure etc. It is highly recommended that you apply for an extension before the due date passes, if possible.

Special consideration is handled by a centralised bureaucracy. For more information, or to apply for an extension, visit <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>.

7. I think my grade was too low, what can I do?

The process for appealing grades is available here: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>. Appeals must be submitted within 5 working days of marks being released. Please first talk with the grader of the assessment prior to lodging an appeal.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Seminar	Week 1: 'New security issues' and the economy. What is security? Whose security are we concerned with and why? Why do we need both political and economic lenses to understand international security?
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Seminar	Week 2: Politics Meets Economics: Regional Security Through the IPE Lens What are the key IPE concepts that help us understand security in Asia and elsewhere? How do politics and economics intertwine in the concepts of economic statecraft and interdependence? Why are foreign trade, foreign aid, development assistance, economic sanctions, inherently political? What are their goals and how do they work? What is their strategic utility?
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Seminar	Week 3: The Politics of Regional Trade Agreements: TPP, CPTPP, RCEP While having a strong economic rationale, TPP, CPTPP, and later RCEP reflect the dynamics of great power rivalry in the Asia-Pacific region. Why did the US withdraw from TPP? Was it simply Trump's idiosyncrasy? Then why does not Biden revive TPP? Why TPP evolved into CPTPP? What is the role of China in the evolution of these FTA formats? What are the implications of RCEP (without the United States) for China's leadership and power balance in the region?
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Seminar	Week 4: Grand Regional Development Projects: Infrastructure and International Security What drives grand regional development projects such as China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)? What are the implications for regional security? How does politics and economics dovetail in these projects? Are they driven by domestic-level of international circumstances?
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Seminar	Week 5: Debt-trap Diplomacy and China's Client States What is now called "debt-trap diplomacy" has been used in relation to Chinese state-backed lending policies to other countries in Asia and beyond. It implies predatory lending practices in which poor countries would be overwhelmed with unsustainable loans and forced to cede strategic leverage to the lender. What is the essence of debt-trap diplomacy? Does it exist at all, or is it simply a propaganda campaign? How does it work and what are the consequences for individual states in Asia and Asian regionalism more broadly?
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Seminar	Week 6 (non-teaching week) Reading week. No classes.
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Seminar	Week 7: Economic Coercion in Asia: Interdependence, Assistance, Aid, and Sanctions How are such techniques as assistance, aid, and sanctions used as a mechanism of economic coercion in Asia? Does economic coercion work? If yes, then when and how? If no, then why? Can sanctions change the course of action of North Korea? Can economic pressure on South Korea change its relations with the United States? How do larger powers use economic coercion to realise political goals and affect the behaviour of small and middle powers?
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Seminar	Week 8: Sovereignty for Purchase? – China-Taiwan Competition in the South-Pacific Aid to South-Pacific Island nations has become a diplomatic battle for sovereignty recognition between China and Taiwan. Each country attempts to win the minds and hearts of the small South-Pacific states to get their support within international organisations when it comes to sovereignty recognition. China provides aid to persuade island states not to recognise Taiwan, whereas the primary goal of Taiwan's aid is to achieve the opposite – to secure diplomatic recognition. What are the implications of this struggle to the South-Pacific Island nations? How are economics and politics interlinked in this foreign policy endeavour?
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Seminar	Week 9: Energy Security Nexuses in Asia What is energy diplomacy and how it is executed in the Asia-Pacific region? How is energy trade related to energy security? Why do great powers invest billions in hydrocarbons despite the impending shift to clean energy? Is such a shift feasible? If yes, how soon? What drives China-Russia pipeline diplomacy – economic considerations or geopolitical risks? How is energy security related to the South China Sea dispute?

Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Seminar	<p>Week 10: Between a Rock and a Hard Place: China-US political-economic competition and Australia's interests.</p> <p>How can Australia maximize its economic and strategic interests in the context of intensifying great power rivalry, specifically the growing confrontation and trade wars between China and the United States? Does Canberra have to choose between extensive economic cooperation with China and security cooperation with the United States? Can Canberra sustain this "division of labour" when closer economic links to China do not undermine security guarantees of the United States? Can other nations in the Asia-Pacific region replace China as Australia's largest economic partner? Is economic decoupling between China and Australia possible? What can and should the United States offer Australia economically to reduce Canberra's dependence on China?</p>

Attendance Requirements

Students must attend at least **80% of seminars**. Students who fail to do so without a valid reason will automatically receive a **0% for participation**. Students can miss up to 2 tutorials without documentation, however special consideration will be required for absences beyond this.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All relevant course information and required readings are available on the Moodle site for this course. Please regularly check for updates, announcements, and other relevant course related information on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Information about additional readings and resources is also made available on the Moodle site for this course.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback, both formal and informal, is welcome and valued, and will be considered seriously for the continued improvement of this course. Students will be asked to give formal feedback towards the end of the semester through UNSW's MyExperience survey process. Students are also strongly encouraged to give feedback (formal or informal) on learning and teaching activities throughout the course.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Madison Cartwright		Room 132 Morven Brown Building (and working from home)	+61 2 9348 0689	By appointment	Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas

or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externaltelsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here.](#)

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Location: Room 159, Morven Brown Building (C20), Kensington campus

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (except public holidays)

Telephone: +61 2 9385 1807

Email: soss@unsw.edu.au

Web: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/social-sciences>