UNSW Course Outline

ZEIT8115 Information Operations - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ZEIT8115
Year : 2024
Term : Semester 2
Teaching Period : Z2
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : UNSW Canberra
Academic Unit : School of Systems and Computing
Delivery Mode : Online
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : UNSW Canberra at ADFA
Campus : UNSW Canberra
Study Level : Postgraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course addresses the evolution of Information Operations (IO), from its roots in early warfare, through recent manifestations as Command and Control Warfare and Information Warfare, to its modern conception as a strategy for conflict and competition in the information

age. The course focuses on the present day formulation of IO as a broad range of military and non-military activities intended to achieve information and decision superiority. The course complements related studies in command and control, decision support, information management and knowledge management.

Course Aims

The aim of this course is to address the evolution of IO, from its roots in early warfare, through its recent manifestations as Command and Control Warfare and Information Warfare, to its modern conception as a strategy for conflict and competition in the information age. The course focuses on the present day formulation of IO as a broad range of military and non-military activities intended to achieve information and decision superiority. The course complements related studies in command and control, decision support, information management and knowledge managements.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Articulate fundamental definitions and concepts associated with Information Operations
CLO2 : Assess different national or actor approaches to Information Operations
CLO3 : Identify and evaluate trends in the development and application of Information Operations arising from technological, political, and social factors
CLO4 : Demonstrate the utility of Information Operations in the context of an overall conflict strategy

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Articulate fundamental definitions and concepts associated with Information Operations	• Essay • PowerPoint • Research Paper
CLO2 : Assess different national or actor approaches to Information Operations	• Essay • PowerPoint • Research Paper
CLO3 : Identify and evaluate trends in the development and application of Information Operations arising from technological, political, and social factors	• Essay • PowerPoint • Research Paper
CLO4 : Demonstrate the utility of Information Operations in the context of an overall conflict strategy	• Essay • PowerPoint • Research Paper

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Microsoft Teams

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Essay Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	35%	Due Date: 05/08/2024 11:59 PM
PowerPoint Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	15%	Due Date: 09/09/2024 11:59 PM
Research Paper Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	50%	Due Date: 07/10/2024 11:59 PM

Assessment Details

Essay

Assessment Overview

Write a 2000 (about) word essay using one of the following topics:

Topic 1 - Discuss, using examples, why IO is more than the sum of its parts. Avoid listing and describing each constituent IO activity.

Topic 2 – Analyse a military campaign, highlighting the nature and scope of associated IO. The analysis must address IO planning, conduct, and impact; highlighting the interdependencies of IO activities throughout the campaign.

Topic 3 - Analyse a non-military campaign, highlighting the nature and scope of associated IO. The analysis must address IO planning conduct, and impact; highlighting the interdependencies of IO activities throughout the campaign.

Topic 4 – Analyse the future of IO over the next 10 years by addressing the drivers, trends and key developments likely to shape the future. This topic is concerned with the pathway for IO rather than one specific scenario. While there are no 'facts' about the future, this topic must be underpinned by evidence that supports the judgements you make in this essay topic.

The essay must be submitted no later than 11.59 pm EST on Sunday, 4 August. The essay must observe the conventions of good academic research and writing at the postgraduate level. The essay represents 35% of the final marks.

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Articulate fundamental definitions and concepts associated with Information Operations
- CLO2 : Assess different national or actor approaches to Information Operations
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- CLO4 : Demonstrate the utility of Information Operations in the context of an overall conflict strategy

PowerPoint

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

After Week 4, create a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation from one or a few sources (journal article, news article, broadcast, etc., other than those provided in the course learning material on Moodle) pertinent to the essay you completed in weeks 1 - 3. Include a full bibliographic citation for each source. Present the PowerPoint presentation live online to a small group of fellow students and the lecturer, and discuss it. The PowerPoint represents 15% of the iinal marks

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Articulate fundamental definitions and concepts associated with Information Operations
- CLO2 : Assess different national or actor approaches to Information Operations
- CLO3 : Identify and evaluate trends in the development and application of Information Operations arising from technological, political, and social factors
- CLO4 : Demonstrate the utility of Information Operations in the context of an overall conflict strategy

Research Paper

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

Write a 4000 (about) word research paper: SEE ASSIGNMENT THREE OUTLINE. The research paper represents 50% of the final marks.

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Articulate fundamental definitions and concepts associated with Information Operations
- CLO2 : Assess different national or actor approaches to Information Operations
- CLO3 : Identify and evaluate trends in the development and application of Information

Operations arising from technological, political, and social factors
- CLO4 : Demonstrate the utility of Information Operations in the context of an overall conflict strategy

General Assessment Information

Use of Generative AI in Assessments

As this assessment task involves some planning or creative processes, you are permitted to use software to generate initial ideas. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., only occasional AI-generated words or phrases may form part of your final submission. It is a good idea to keep copies of the initial prompts to show your lecturer if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If the outputs of generative AI, such as ChatGPT form a part of your submission, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension, and exclusion.

* To cite: OpenAI (Year Accessed). ChatGPT. OpenAI. https://openai.com/models/chatgpt/

* Please note that the outputs from these tools are not always accurate, appropriate, or properly referenced. Before submission, you should ensure that you have moderated and critically evaluated the outputs from generative AI tools such as ChatGPT.

<u>Grading Basis</u>

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 15 July - 19 July	Lecture	Course Admin and IO Fundamentals (1)
Week 2 : 22 July - 26 July	Lecture	IO Fundamentals (2)
Week 3 : 29 July - 2 August	Lecture	Information Related Capabilities (1)
Week 4 : 5 August - 9 August	Lecture	Information Related Capabilities (2)
Week 5 : 12 August - 16 August	Lecture	Information Related Capabilities (3)
Week 6 : 19 August - 23 August	Lecture	National Approaches (1)
Week 7 : 9 September - 13 September	Lecture	National Approaches (2)
Week 8 : 16 September - 20 September	Lecture	IO Case Studies (1)
Week 9 : 23 September - 27 September	Lecture	IO Case Studies (2)
Week 10 : 30 September - 4 October	Lecture	IO Case Studies (3)
Week 11 : 7 October - 11 October	Lecture	Emerging Issues in IO (1)
Week 12 : 14 October - 18 October	Lecture	Emerging Issues in IO (2)
Week 13 : 21 October - 25 October	Lecture	Emerging Issues in IO (3) and Course Wrap-Up

Attendance Requirements

Not Applicable - as no class attendance is required

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Huadong Mo		R118, Building 20	0251145183	Huadong is usually available by email and during online consultation times via the Moodle Collaborate platform. I also welcome face-to-face discussion in my office during working hours by email appointment.	No	Yes
Lecturer	Francesco Schiliro					No	No

Other Useful Information

School-specific Information

The Leaning Management System

Moodle is the Learning Management System used at UNSW Canberra. All courses have a Moodle site which will become available to students at least one week before the start of semester. Please find all help and documentation (including Blackboard Collaborate) at the Moodle Support page.

UNSW Moodle supports the following web browsers:

• Google Chrome 50+

• Safari 10+

Internet Explorer is not recommended. Addons and Toolbars can affect any browser's performance.

Operating systems recommended are:

• Windows 10,

• Mac OSX Sierra,

• iPad IOS10

Further details:

Moodle System Requirements

[Moodle Log In](#)

If you need further assistance with Moodle:

For enrolment and login issues please contact:

IT Service Centre

Email: itservicecentre@unsw.edu.au

Phone: (02) 9385-1333

International: +61 2 9385 1333

For all other Moodle issues please contact:

External TELT Support

Email: externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Phone: (02) 9385-3331

International: +61 2 938 53331

Opening hours:

Monday – Friday 7:30am – 9:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday 8:30 am – 4:30pm

[Study at UNSW Canberra](#)

Study at UNSW Canberra has lots of useful information regarding:

• Where to get help

• Administrative matters

• Getting your passwords set up

• How to log on to Moodle

• Accessing the Library and other areas.

[UNSW Canberra Student Hub](#)

For News and Notices, Student Services and Support, Campus Comminity, Quick Links,

Important Dates and Upcoming Events

School Contact Information

Deputy Head of School (Education): Dr Erandi Hene Kankanamge

E: e.henekankanamge@adfa.edu.au

T: 02 5114 5157

Syscom Admin Support: syscom@unsw.edu.au

T: 02 5114 5284

Syscom Admin Office: Building 15, Level 1, Room 101 (open 10am to 4pm, Mon to Fri)