



UNSW Course Outline

POLS5127 China and Asia-Pacific Security - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : POLS5127

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Social Sciences

Delivery Mode : Multimodal

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

For those interested in the future of regional security in the Asia-Pacific and international relations, cultivating an understanding of China and its foreign policy is imperative. This course offers you the opportunity to study China as a global power in the making. Focusing on China's

evolving engagement with the post-Cold War regional order, you will explore how China's 'rise' as a great power over the past three decades has profoundly impacted both regional and global security. You will be provided with the analytical and theoretical tools to critically examine Chinese foreign policy, and gain insight into policy debates on whether China is fundamentally a status quo or revisionist power.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Analyze the Chinese foreign policy-making process and, in particular, the historical and philosophical foundations of China's regional engagement strategy.
CLO2 : Examine the key opportunities and challenges China faces in its domestic political transformation and 'rise' as a global and regional power.
CLO3 : Critically apply International Relations theory to explain China's external behaviour and the implications of its growing power for regional security in the Asia-Pacific.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Analyze the Chinese foreign policy-making process and, in particular, the historical and philosophical foundations of China's regional engagement strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Facilitation • Final Essay
CLO2 : Examine the key opportunities and challenges China faces in its domestic political transformation and 'rise' as a global and regional power.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Essay • Class Facilitation • Final Essay
CLO3 : Critically apply International Relations theory to explain China's external behaviour and the implications of its growing power for regional security in the Asia-Pacific.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Essay • Final Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Blackboard Collaborate

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Class Facilitation	25%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable
Short Essay	25%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 24/06/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 08/07/2024 12:00 AM
Final Essay	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 09/08/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 23/08/2024 05:00 PM

Assessment Details

Class Facilitation

Assessment Overview

15-20 min class facilitation based on assigned readings in groups of 3 or 4 students.

All students will receive the same mark. You will receive written feedback within 10 working days of your facilitation.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Analyze the Chinese foreign policy-making process and, in particular, the historical and philosophical foundations of China's regional engagement strategy.
- CL02 : Examine the key opportunities and challenges China faces in its domestic political transformation and 'rise' as a global and regional power.

Assessment information

You are required to serve as “chief discussants” of the readings in the seminar at least once during the course. Depending on the size of the class, each week three or four students will work as a team and lead off the discussion. The presenters must make a 15-20 min presentation of the week’s readings and facilitate discussion. Rather than simply summarizing the readings under question (presumably all will have read it), the discussion facilitators should critically engage with the material and tease out specific questions or problems that appear worthy of attention. All students in a group delegated with the responsibility to lead the discussion will receive the same mark.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Short Essay

Assessment Overview

1500 word essay based on course readings.

You will receive written feedback within 10 working days.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL02 : Examine the key opportunities and challenges China faces in its domestic political transformation and 'rise' as a global and regional power.
- CL03 : Critically apply International Relations theory to explain China's external behaviour and the implications of its growing power for regional security in the Asia-Pacific.

Assessment Length

1,500 words

Assessment information

You are required to prepare a short essay – a “reaction piece” – of 1500 words, which should present your response to, and critique of, the major arguments from a week’s readings. You can select the week of your interest to reflect on, but your selection should be different from the week of your class facilitation (Assignment 1). You will receive written feedback within 10 working days from the day of submission. You are required to read the marking rubric carefully to fully familiarize yourself with the criteria of assessment which will be used for assessment of your work.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Final Essay

Assessment Overview

3500 word essay based on content of the course.

You will receive written feedback within 10 working days. This is the final assessment for the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Analyze the Chinese foreign policy-making process and, in particular, the historical and philosophical foundations of China's regional engagement strategy.
- CL02 : Examine the key opportunities and challenges China faces in its domestic political transformation and 'rise' as a global and regional power.
- CL03 : Critically apply International Relations theory to explain China's external behaviour and the implications of its growing power for regional security in the Asia-Pacific.

Assessment Length

3,500 words

Assessment information

You are required to write a final essay of about 3500 words on a topic of your interest but based on or related to the content of the course. This essay is the final assessment for the course. Throughout the term, you should think about a topic of your interest and how it can be analyzed. In the essay, you should demonstrate an in-depth understanding of key theoretical concepts related to international security debate and analyze the specific issue(s) or case(s) relevant to security studies from a theoretically grounded perspective. You will receive written feedback within 10 working days. The final essay process has two steps:

- The first step is a 1-2 page essay proposal, including a few key references. The essay proposal needs to be discussed with the instructor during individual consultation hours.
- The final essay is due on August 9. Late papers are penalized unless an application for Special Consideration has been provided and approved

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

At least 50 out of 100

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Lecture	Overview & Logistics of Course: What is the format of the course and what are the main requirements and assessments? What are the main topics that we will cover throughout the term? What are the main theoretical approaches to the study of international security, and how do they help us understand the rise and behavior of China? What are the basic tenets of realism, liberal institutionalism, and constructivism, and what do they tell us about interstate interactions?
	Tutorial	Discussion of course requirements and assessment regime.
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Lecture	China's Evolving Foreign Policy Doctrines: Status Quo or Revisionist Power? In the last thirty years, China's foreign policy has evolved from "keeping a low profile" under Deng Xiaoping to more assertive forms, such as "Striving for Achievement," and "China dream" and "One Belt, One Road," under Xi Jinping. What are the main characteristics of different stages or "doctrines" of China's foreign policy? Is China deliberately moving towards greater assertiveness in its foreign policy behavior, or is China's new behavior merely a reflection of its growing power capabilities? Can China have a unique "peaceful rise" or will it follow the pattern of other great powers and eventually pursue hegemony when/if its power capabilities allow it to do so? What shapes the evolution of China's foreign policy approaches, and how do the new features of China's foreign policy shape international security in Asia?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Lecture	Rising and Declining Hegemons? – China-US competition in the Asia-Pacific The United States and China are the two major great powers in the Asia-Pacific region with the highest impact on regional security. What is the essence of China-US relations in the Asia-Pacific? Can the two great powers accommodate each other's strategic interests or is spiraling confrontation inevitable? What are the implications for regional peace and stability?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Lecture	China-Russia Alignment and Security in the Asia-Pacific China-Russia security cooperation has increased considerably over the last decade, and now the Beijing-Moscow power axis has significant bearing on international security in Asia and beyond. How to conceptualize and define China-Russia strategic rapprochement? Is it a strategic partnership of consequence, or is it an ad hoc reaction to the deterioration of Russia-US and China-US relations? What are the potential avenues of China-Russia strategic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region? How has the war in Ukraine affected China-Russia cooperation?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Lecture	China's Rise and Regional Powers in Asia (Part 1): The Case of India India is considered another "rising power" in Asia. However, there is no consensus over how China-India relations might evolve. Can China and India rise peacefully together? Alternatively, do they see each other as a threat and thus are destined for conflict?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 6 : 1 July - 7 July	Lecture	China's Rise and Regional Powers in Asia (Part 2): The Case of Japan China-Japan relations are one of the most complex ones in the Asia-Pacific region. The two countries have territorial disputes and very complex historical memories. How can the two progress towards normalization in their bilateral interactions? What is the role of exogenous factors (e.g. Japan's alliance relations with the United States) in the evolving nature of China-Japan relations? Do the two countries balance or hedge against each other?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Lecture	China's Rise and Smaller Powers in Asia (Part 1): Hedging, Balancing, Bandwagoning In the Asia-Pacific, China is surrounded by countries, many of which are smaller than China in terms of material and non-material capabilities. What is the dynamic of interactions between China and these countries like and how to explain it? What theories of international relations can best explain the reaction of smaller regional powers to China's persistent rise?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Lecture	China and Smaller Powers (Part 2): Empirical Cases (SCS, Vietnam, Malaysia, and the Philippines) Is China a threat or an opportunity for the smaller states surrounding it? How do Southeast Asian states, such as Vietnam, Malaysia, and the Philippines navigate the troubled waters of the Southeast Asian security complex in the context of intensifying South China Sea dispute? Do they hedge or balance against China, or do they bandwagon with Beijing instead? What is the predominant pattern in their

		behaviour, and is it changing as China continues to rise?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Lecture	China's COVID-19 Diplomacy: continuous rise against all the odds? China has been at the forefront of international politics during and in the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic. However, we still know little about how COVID-19 has affected China's continuous rise. Has the COVID politics slowed it down or, quite the opposite, further accelerated the rise of China vis-a-vis other nations? How has COVID-19 affected China's relations with other countries in the Asia-Pacific region? Was it detrimental to China's global status, or perhaps its impact was rather mixed?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings
Week 10 : 29 July - 4 August	Lecture	Between Scylla and Charybdis? – China-US Competition and Australia's Foreign Policy How can Australia maximize its national interests in the Asia-Pacific region? Does it have to choose between economic interdependence with China and security alliance with the United States? How should Australia navigate the ever-intensifying US-China competition in Asia? Should it hedge, balance, or bandwagon? How do the theories and cases studied throughout this course inform our understanding of Australia's behavior in the region?
	Tutorial	Students-led discussion based on the assigned readings

Attendance Requirements

All lectures and tutorials are mandatory classes in POLS5127

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
Tutor	Carolyn Kautz		Morven Brown 114	+61 2 9385 1384		No	No
Convenor	Alexander Korablev		Room 114, Level 1, Morven Brown		Wednesday 16:00-18:00	Yes	Yes
Tutor	Qian Qin		Room 114, Level 1, Morven Brown			No	No

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 externalteltsupport@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>