



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2813 International Security: Dilemmas and Debates in Contemporary Global Politics - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2813

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

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

International Security has traditionally been analysed through (neo)realist theoretical frameworks that focus exclusively on the state as the referent of security, and investigate issues as the causes of war and armed conflict, alliances, strategy, arms control and deterrence. At the same time, International Relations scholars have argued that these narrow, state-centric and military-centric approaches to security – and the concepts and discourses they rely on – are deeply implicated in the ‘imperial-racial origins of IR’ and unable to engage with contemporary security concerns related to issues such as climate justice, environmental security, food security, the Black Lives Matter movement, disinformation, ethnic strife, the evolution of terrorism, the corollaries of intervention, and the securitisation of migrants and refugees, amongst others. This course provides a critical evaluation of the traditional security studies scholarship, and introduces students to critical approaches to security, including feminist, postcolonial, poststructuralist, and emancipatory theoretical frameworks that extend beyond warfare and examine diverse modern security issues. We will analyse different sets of critical theoretical approaches and explore their analytical utility (as well as any biases/ blind spots) by investigating relevant case studies and contemporary security dilemmas. Overall, the course will enable you to recognise core differences between critical security scholarship and traditional security studies; identify and evaluate critical theories of security, and apply them to contemporary events and issues in global politics.

Relationship to Other Courses

This course provides students with foundational knowledge in Security Studies, particularly critical approaches to security, and serves as a precursor to ARTS3819 Emerging Challenges in International Security.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Distinguish major theoretical perspectives on security and compare their value for the analysis of specific problems of security as well as their basic assumptions and the worldviews they generate.
CLO2 : Explain key theoretical and conceptual debates about security, particularly from critical security perspectives
CLO3 : Analyse specific issues or cases relevant to security studies from a theoretically grounded point of view.
CLO4 : Identify and explore a contemporary issue in security studies, and communicate this in a short-writing piece.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Distinguish major theoretical perspectives on security and compare their value for the analysis of specific problems of security as well as their basic assumptions and the worldviews they generate.	• Research Essay
CLO2 : Explain key theoretical and conceptual debates about security, particularly from critical security perspectives	• Research Essay
CLO3 : Analyse specific issues or cases relevant to security studies from a theoretically grounded point of view.	• Research Essay
CLO4 : Identify and explore a contemporary issue in security studies, and communicate this in a short-writing piece.	• Media article/blog

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

This course adopts a blended learning approach to encourage and facilitate diversity of learning activities and also diversity in assessment. It consists of lectures, face-to-face classes plus additional online learning activities.

This course assumes no prior knowledge of the discipline of International Relations (IR) but, upon its successful completion, all students who engage fully with the course (including content, activities and assessments) will be able to participate in debates about the study and practice of contemporary IR with specific reference to the sub-field of Security Studies.

I see UNSW student learners as participants in the production of knowledge and I pursue the development and implementation of a curriculum responsive to each student's individual needs. I am strongly motivated to facilitate the development of transferable skills and this course is designed to encourage student preparedness upon graduation for the pursuit of future career goals. I bring my research expertise to bear on the design of this course, meaning that the course is intrinsically research-led, but more importantly this course prioritises learning-by-doing and aims to foster a spirit of critical thought and active enquiry in all student learners.

Blended learning encourages diversity of learning activities and also diversity in assessment. This course consists of weekly large-group lectures, weekly seminars, and online learning activities relating to different weekly topics. The weekly lectures are highly interactive and may

include the presentation of video clips, small-group activities, reading groups, Q&A sessions and pair-work. The lectures are designed to supplement independent study on the course that begins (but should not end) with close engagement with the weekly required readings.

Weekly tutorials allow students to discuss questions, themes and issues arising from their independent study, as well as providing the opportunity to engage in productive discussion with their peers and to participate in a range of structured learning activities, including group/pair/individual analytical work, formal and informal debates, and mini-projects.

Online, in some weeks, you are required to complete specific online learning activities (OLAs) as indicated on Moodle, before you attend the seminars for those weeks. There is also a range of online resources specific to each week's topic to enhance independent learning. I also provide a number of resources related to study skills and research literacy.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Media article/blog Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 04/10/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 20/10/2024 09:00 AM
Research Essay Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 18/11/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 03/12/2024 09:00 AM

Assessment Details

Media article/blog

Assessment Overview

Students submit a media article/blog of 1500 words that identifies and explores a contemporary security issue, modelled on the style of a media outlet or blog of their choice.

Students will receive written feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within 2 weeks of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow students to work towards clearly communicated standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL04 : Identify and explore a contemporary issue in security studies, and communicate this in a short-writing piece.

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for details.

Assessment Length

1,500 words

Assessment information

See Moodle for details.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

See Moodle for further details.

Research Essay

Assessment Overview

Students will prepare a research essay of 2000 words on a topic related to course content.

The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow students to work towards clear standards. Students will receive a numerical grade within 2 weeks of submission.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Distinguish major theoretical perspectives on security and compare their value for the analysis of specific problems of security as well as their basic assumptions and the worldviews they generate.
- CL02 : Explain key theoretical and conceptual debates about security, particularly from critical security perspectives
- CL03 : Analyse specific issues or cases relevant to security studies from a theoretically grounded point of view.

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for details.

Assessment Length

2,000 words

Assessment information

See Moodle for details.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

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See Moodle for details.

General Assessment Information

See Moodle for details.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Students must attain an overall mark of 50% or more to pass this course.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Introducing Security Studies
	Tutorial	Introducing Security Studies
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Gender and Violence (Feminist approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	Gender and Violence (Feminist approaches to International Security)
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Imperial Security (Postcolonial approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	Imperial Security (Postcolonial approaches to International Security)
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	National Security (Realist approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	National Security (Realist approaches to International Security)
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Human Security (Liberal approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	Human Security (Liberal approaches to International Security)
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Lecture	No Lectures this week.
	Tutorial	No tutorials this week.
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Structural Violence (Emancipatory approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	Structural Violence (Emancipatory approaches to International Security)
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Representing (In)Security (Securitization Theory & Poststructural approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	Representing (In)Security (Securitization Theory & Poststructural approaches to International Security)
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Telling Stories of In/Security (Narrative approaches to International Security)
	Tutorial	Telling Stories of In/Security (Narrative approaches to International Security)
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Case Study + Critical Reflections
	Tutorial	Case Study + Critical Reflections

Attendance Requirements

Lecture and tutorial attendance for this course is mandatory. Students must attend at least 80% of all lectures and tutorials. If you are unable to attend a lecture or tutorial for any reason, you must email the course convenor in advance.

General Schedule Information

ARTS2813 lectures will take place on Tuesdays 12PM-2PM in Patricia O'Shane 103.

Please check your timetables to confirm which ARTS2813 tutorial you are enrolled in.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

*****Please check Moodle regularly for updates on all aspects of the course.***** This course outline should not be your source for the most up to date information related to the course.

The prescribed textbook for this course is McDonald, M. and Williams, P. (2023). *Security Studies: An Introduction*. Routledge. 4th Edition. An e-version of the book is available via the UNSW Library. You are advised to have in-tutorial access to e-copies of relevant chapters from the book and/or any other readings as listed for each week and be prepared to discuss the readings in detail each week.

All relevant course information is available on the Moodle site for this course. Students are expected to regularly check the Moodle course site and their UNSW email for updates, announcements and other relevant course-related information.

Other overview texts on security that you might find useful include:

Shepherd LJ, (ed.) (2013), *Critical approaches to security: An introduction to theories and methods*, London: Taylor and Francis

Burgess, J. Peter (ed.) (2010) *The Routledge Handbook of New Security Studies*, London: Routledge.

Fierke, K. (2007) *Critical Approaches to International Security*, Cambridge: Polity.

Krause, K. and M. Williams (1997) *Critical Security Studies: Concepts and Cases*, London: Routledge.

Peoples, C. and N. Vaughan-Williams (2010) *Critical Security Studies: An Introduction* London: Routledge

You will benefit from becoming familiar with GoogleScholar (<http://scholar.google.com>) as a key search engine for academic publications and reports. You can set up the preferences to link to the UNSW Library even when you are not on campus. Go to Google Scholar> settings> library links, and enter 'University of New South Wales' in the box for "Library".

Recommended Resources

See Moodle for weekly required and suggested readings.

Additional Costs

N/A

Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically using, among other means, the University's MyExperience process. Informal feedback and feedback specific to a particular tutorial topic will be welcomed and encouraged during the term. Student feedback is taken seriously and continual enhancements are made to learning and teaching activities on the basis of student feedback.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Monika Barthwal-Datta		149, Level 1 Morven Brown Building		Tue 2.15pm-3.15pm	Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;
- Review of results;

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

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

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](#).

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant

circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

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>