



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

School of History, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations

Political Science and International Relations Programme INTP 201: Special Topic: Cyber Security and International Relations 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 3 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 17 November 2014 to 22 February 2015

Teaching dates: 17 November to 19 December 2014

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Monday and Friday 13:10-15:00 Hugh Mackenzie HMLT002

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Joe Burton

Room No: Murphy 506

Phone: ext. 5613

Office hours: by appointment

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

An examination of the global politics of cyber security. We begin by placing cyber security issues in historical and theoretical context, before focusing on the technical challenges involved. The course then explores the major strategic debates around cyber security and looks at how states and non-state actors are responding.

Course content

1. Introduction - A Cyber Revolution? *Monday 17th November.*
2. Conceptualising Cyber Security. *Friday 21st November.*
3. Technical Challenges - Protecting Computer Networks. *Monday 24th November.*
4. Cyber Strategy: Offence, Defence and Deterrence. *Friday 28th November.*
5. Cyber Warfare, Cyber Terrorism and Cyber Crime. *Monday 1st December.*
6. Social Media and International Security. *Friday 5th December.*
7. The US, China and Russia – Strategic Rivalries in Cyber Space. *Monday 8th December.*
8. New Zealand's Cyber Security Strategy. *Friday 12th December.*
9. Regulation of the 'Cyber Commons' – Institutions, Laws and Norms. *Monday 15th December.*
10. In Class Test. *Friday 19th December.*

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. compare and contrast the major theoretical approaches to cyber security
2. explain the technical challenges associated with protecting digital infrastructure
3. identify some of the major political and strategic debates surrounding cyber warfare, cyber terrorism and cyber crime
4. critically evaluate how nation states and non-state actors are involved in and responding to cyber security issues.

Teaching format

The course is taught via nine 1 hour 50 minutes sessions over 5 weeks. The first fifty minutes will be in the form of a lecture. There will then be a ten-minute break. The remaining part of the class will be more inclusive and involve group and class discussion. Class discussion will largely be based on the required readings. Students are expected to contribute to discussions and to have completed the required reading for every session.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- (a) submit the research paper and essay on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- (b) sit the in-class test.

Workload

This course has been designed on the assumption that students will devote approximately 200 hours to it throughout the trimester. This includes attendance at 18 hours of lectures. The remainder of your time will need to be shared between lecture preparation (22 hours), making progress on assignments (120 hours), and preparing for the in-class test (40 hours).

Assessment

Assessment items	%	Due Date	CLO(s)
1 1500 word research paper	25%	28 th November	1,3
2 3000 word essay	50%	5 th December	1,2,3
3 In-class test	25%	19 th December	1,2,3,4

Submission and return of work

Essays and research papers should be submitted either to the designated box at Murphy, 5th floor and via the turnitin folder on blackboard. All assignments are due by 4.30pm on the due date to be considered on time. Your marked assignment will be handed back as soon as possible. Assignments will be held for three months.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances, but **all extensions require the student to provide documentation**. If granted an extension, students must agree to a new due date. Contact your tutor as soon as a problem emerges.

Penalties

PSIR Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. Students lose 5% for the first day late and 2% thereafter for a maximum of 8 days. After 8 days, work can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked.

Set Texts/Recommended reading

A reading list will be provided to students in the first class. Readings will be made available via blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student Feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications

- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz