



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

INTP 245: FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 16 October 2015 (In-class test)

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

Lectures

(Time and Venue): Wednesdays, 10:00-10:50am, Hugh Mackenzie LT 104
Fridays, 10:00-10:50am, Student Union, MT 228

Tutorials: TBA

Please see the Academic Timetable 2015

www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables

Name and contact details

Course Coordinator: Manjeet S. Pardesi

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Email: manjeet.pardesi@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00pm (and by appointment)

Tutors: TBA

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

This course introduces and explores the notion of foreign policy, which is traditionally considered one of the most important bridges between 'domestic' and 'international' politics. Here the spotlight is kept on the sources, instruments, agents, processes and implications of foreign policy. The course adopts an analytical and comparative approach, drawing on the experiences several international actors have had since the Second World War.

Course content

Foreign policy phenomena are complex in all sorts of interesting and important ways. One not only needs to be familiar with the dynamics whereby states interact with each other, but the internal processes whereby foreign policies are formed also need to be probed. Foreign policy analysis requires theory as well as empirical analysis of how any country conducts itself in its international relations. The methodologies of foreign policy analysis are as salient as are the substantive problems that countries face in linking themselves to the international system. Consequently, this course is divided into three main parts. The first part deals with the theoretical approaches to foreign policy. The second part studies actors, context, and goals of foreign policy analysis. The third and the final section looks at a number of empirical examples through specific case studies.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate a greater understanding of the major analytical approaches to foreign policy
2. exhibit a deeper knowledge of the issues and themes relating to foreign policy analysis
3. identify the major types of factors that may have contributed to particular foreign policy decisions or actions
4. develop their analytical skills through discussion and written analysis; and
5. expand their research skills

Teaching format

The course is taught in two 50-minute lectures per week and one 50 minute tutorial per week. It is important that you prepare for the tutorials so that you are able to contribute constructively to class discussions. This means doing background readings or research on the topic for discussion (and preparing presentations when asked). The tutorial questions for each week can be downloaded from Blackboard before each tutorial.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must obtain at least 40% in each piece of assessment (listed below) in order to demonstrate the achievement of all CLOs in the course

1. The research essay which must be submitted by the specified date (subject to provisions for late work)
2. Take the mid-trimester test (in-class)
3. Take the end-trimester test (in-class)

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

This course has been designed on the assumption that students will devote approximately 200 hours to it throughout the trimester.

Things to consider when planning your time:

- Tutorial preparation involves careful reading of set texts for meaning and argument, as well as note-taking and preparation of responses to discussion questions. As you become more skilled throughout the trimester, this may take fewer hours each week but in the first instance 1 hour per reading is worth 'budgeting' for.
- Essays and other written assignments may require enough time for location, retrieval and reading of a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft will all be necessary before writing up a final version.

Please note that it is an important part of your skills development in working out how much time you should allocate to each of these tasks. But here are some very rough guidelines on what to expect:

Preparation for (including reading) and attendance at classes:	60 hours
Preparation for and attendance at tutorials:	30 hours
Studying for and writing the mid-trimester test:	25 hours
Research and preparation for the essay:	60 hours
Studying for and writing the end-trimester test:	25 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Mid-trimester test (in-class) (10-10:50am)	25%	1, 2	21 August, 2015
2 Tutorial tests (20 minutes during tutorial)	10%	2, 3, 4	TBA
3 Research Essay (2,500 words)	40%	4, 5	25 September, 2015
4 End-trimester test (in-class) (10-10:50am)	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	16 October , 2015

Mid-Trimester Test (In-class), 25%

21 August 2015

This test is designed to assess your understanding of the topics discussed in class and in tutorials up to 19 August 2014 (Parts 1 and 2). There will be four essay questions on the mid-term test, of which you will have to answer two.

Tutorial Tests, 10%

TBA

Students will be provided with a list of questions (or cases) for discussion in the tutorials every week. These questions will be made available via Blackboard on a weekly basis.

On **one** randomly selected tutorial day over the trimester, a short test will be administered during the tutorials. (The format may vary – e.g., multiple choice or providing definitions or short essays).

Research Essay, 40%

Due on 25 September 2015 (to be submitted via Blackboard by 5pm)

2,500 words (including footnotes)

Students will be provided with a list of research questions on the first day of the class. There will be a choice of approximately 5-8 research questions. Students will be required to choose one of these questions for their research essay.

You are expected to conduct independent research on these questions by referring to at least 6-10 **academic sources** (whether book chapters, books, or journal articles). Please check with the instructor if you do not understand what an academic source is. Newspaper and magazine articles available online do **NOT** count as academic sources. You are **NOT** allowed to use/cite sources such as Wikipedia or Encyclopaedia Britannica.

This assignment will help you develop your research skills while honing your ability to think critically and argue persuasively.

End-Trimester Test (In-class), 25%

16 October 2015

This test will be based on Part 3 of the course. There will be four essay questions in the end-trimester test, of which you will have to answer two.

Marking Criteria

Each of your written pieces will be assessed on the basis of whether you have

- a. Answered the question directly
- b. Developed clear and well-substantiated arguments
- c. Linked your arguments together in a clear logic that flows through the assignment
- d. Reflected an awareness in your writing of the foreign policy analysis literature on the subject
- e. Written in a style that is easy to follow and communicates your points clearly and effectively

Submission and return of work

Please note that you need to submit your research essay by Blackboard on 27 September 2015 by 5pm. Marked essays and tests will be available from the Office, MY 518, two-to-three weeks after they have been submitted. You will be informed via Blackboard once your assignments have been sent over the Office, MY 518. (Please email me your essays if you have issues with Blackboard.

Essays submitted after 5pm on the due date will be considered "late" by one day).

Tutorial assignments should be handed to your tutor at the end of the tutorial in which they have been presented. When marked, assignments will be returned to you in tutorials.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Late submission of **assignments** will **not be accepted** unless the student makes an appointment as soon as practically possible with the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted). Extensions are normally given only to those with a medical certificate, or of other evidence of forces beyond your control.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days**. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked.

Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical

certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary. Extensions on deadlines for written work will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.

Set text

Steve Smith, Amelia Hadfield, and Tim Dunne, eds., *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012). Please make sure to purchase the second edition from VicBooks. Please see their website www.vicbooks.co.nz

Recommended texts (for reference and research):

Laura Neack, *The New Foreign Policy: Complex Interactions, Competing Interests* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014).

Alex Mintz and Karl DeRouen, Jr., *Understanding Foreign Policy Decision Making* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010).

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. These include the following –

- (1) Students will be provided with notes for the lectures via Blackboard (in addition to the PowerPoint slides) to help them better understand the content and help them with future research.
- (2) Students will also be allowed to set their own research question (for the research essay) in consultation with the instructor

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