FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME
INTP 248: International Security
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

Study period: 19–23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

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: Wednesdays and Fridays 14:10-15:00 (MCLT101)

Tutorials: Tutorials will begin in week 2 of the course. Please see the Academic Timetable 2015: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Joe Burton
Room No: Murphy 506
Phone: 04 463 5613
Email: joe.burton@vuw.ac.nz
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

This course is an introduction to the study of conflict and security. It examines how and why conflict emerges in the international system and explores different approaches to its mitigation and resolution, using both traditional materialist theories of security and alternative critical approaches to security. Students will learn to discern varying forms of conflict and will employ theoretical and empirical perspectives on conflict analysis to analyse modern case studies.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing the course should be able to:
1. demonstrate a good understanding of different theoretical perspectives on conflict and how these affect approaches to conflict in world politics
2. demonstrate a good understanding of debates about the causes of conflict
3. be aware of the different processes employed to manage and/or resolve conflict
4. write a structured and theoretically-informed essay about debates in contemporary

Teaching format

This course involves two 50-minute lectures and a 50 minute tutorial each week.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50% students must attend at least 6 tutorials. Tutorial work will be vital to achieving all of the Course Learning Objectives.   Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet this requirement because of exceptional personal circumstances should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote approximately 200 hours to it throughout the trimester. This is an average of 14 hours per week across the 14 weeks of trimester. This includes attendance at 24 lectures and a 1-hour tutorial each week. The remainder of your time will need to be shared between tutorial/seminar preparation and making progress on assignments.

Breakdown
Class attendance and preparation: 25 hours
Tutorial attendance and preparation: 75 hours
Essay writing and preparation: 50 hours
Exam writing and preparation: 50 hours

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.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 2 x 1500 word essays (30% each)	60%	1, 2, 4	14 August, 2 October
3 A final *examination* (3 hours)	40%	1, 2, 3	Examination period

Submission and return of work

All work submitted for assessment must be dropped off in HARD COPY at the School Office (MY518) in the slots provided with an essay cover sheet. You must ADD the name of your tutor and the course code. We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any assessable work for checking in Turnitin.com (see www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)

Graded essays will be returned to you in lectures in the first instance, and then returned to the School Office, MY 518, where they can be collected between the hours of 2.00-3.00 pm, Monday to Friday. We will notify students via Blackboard when graded essays are available (generally between 2-3 weeks after the date submitted).

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). The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.
(See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

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 Texts

The primary text for this course is Alan Collins, Contemporary Security Studies (3rd ed.) (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2013). Other readings will be made available online or via library reserves. See www.vicbooks.co.nz for details on textbook purchases.

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 in the second week 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

In response to student feedback the numbers of readings for each session has been reduced this year. The course will also focus more on developing students' communications skills in lectures and tutorials. 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-progess (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