FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME
INTP 376: Special Topic: Cases in International Security: Strategies and Alliances
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: Thursday 11:00-11:50 (HMLT104) and Friday 09:00-10:50 (HMLT002)
Tutorials: There are no tutorials for this course.

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 aims to provide students with an insight into the many and varied international security challenges of the 21st Century.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing the course should be able to:
1. demonstrate a critical understanding of some of the major theoretical frameworks in security studies
2. demonstrate empirical knowledge of events, circumstances, and strategies that are referenced by debates in the discipline
3. use terminology, theory and concepts introduced in the course to interpret contemporary international issues and events.

Teaching format

The course is taught via a weekly 50 minute lecture and a weekly 1 hour 50 minute lecture. Lectures will be 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.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to INTP 376 throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures (24 hours), preparation for lectures including completion of all set weekly readings (48 hours), and research and writing for set assessment tasks: it is expected that students will spend approximately 12 hours on the briefing paper, 48 hours on the essay, and 60 hours preparing for and sitting the examination.

Assessment

	Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	1 x briefing paper of 1000 words	10%	1	Thursday 6 August
2	1 x essay of 2500-3000 words	40%	1, 2 & 3	Friday 11 September
3	1 x 3-hour examination	50%	1, 2 &3	TBA

Briefing paper

The topic of the briefing paper will be provided in week 2 of the course and will be due on Thursday 6 August. The briefing paper will test students' writing and analytical skills as well as their understanding and ability to apply the theoretical frameworks outlined in the course (learning objective 1).

Essay

The essay is designed to test students' ability to conduct in-depth research and analysis on a particular topic in International Security and to develop their writing skills. It will also test their knowledge of the theoretical frameworks, their empirical knowledge of some of the security issues covered in the course, and their ability to interpret security issues from difference conceptual standpoints (learning objectives 1-3). The essay is due on Friday 11 September.

Final Examination

The final examination will take the form of three one-hour questions. The examination will take place between 23 October to 14 November 2015. Students must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period. The examination will test students' theoretical and empirical knowledge, and their ability to apply theories and concepts to international security issues (learning objectives 1-3).

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. 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 work 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.

Required readings

The required readings will be available by electronic link or download via Blackboard. An extended reading list will also be placed on 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 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 more time will be spent on the strategic and technological content in the course. The course will also focus more on developing students' communications skills. 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