



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

**INTP 427: SPECIAL TOPIC: WAR AND ITS AFTERMATH
30 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Last assessment item due: 14 October 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Seminars: Tuesdays 11am-2pm

Venue: Murphy MY632

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Kate Schick

Room No: Murphy 542

Phone: 4636547

Email: kate.schick@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Friday 3pm

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 tutorial programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course examines war and its aftermath in global politics. It explores different forms of conflict in the international system as well as the changing nature of political violence. It then explores the ways in which actors in the international system have attempted to mitigate conflict through conflict resolution and to deal with its fallout in criminal tribunals and truth commissions after war.

Alongside analysis of the tangible dimensions of war, students will also consider the unseen dimensions, exploring motivations for political violence as well as the psychological effects of such violence on communities. The course employs a multidisciplinary perspective, drawing on readings from political studies, security studies, history, psychology, and social theory.

Course content

See the syllabus for detailed week-by-week information, including required and recommended readings.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. recognise key arguments about how and why war emerges in world politics and the different theoretical perspectives that underlie these arguments
2. describe different approaches employed to manage and/or resolve war; recognise the way these approaches are informed by different beliefs about conflict; and critically assess their costs and benefits
3. recognise the myriad challenges posed in the aftermath of war and the ways these can perpetuate conflict, and critically evaluate the predominant approaches to transitional justice and the ways these foster or hinder peace
4. illustrate understanding of contemporary debates in conflict studies by referring to historical and contemporary case studies and recognise that the 'success' of peace operations is context dependent
5. write well-structured, theoretically-informed, and critically-aware essays about debates in contemporary conflict studies.

Teaching format

The course includes one seminar each week. Students will be expected to do the tasks required for the seminars **in advance** of each seminar session, including the required reading.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, course design assumes students will devote 300 hours to the course throughout the trimester, including three hours of seminars per week. Over the 12 weeks of this course, that is an average of 25 hours per week. Note that essays and other written assignments require time to locate, retrieve and read a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft are necessary before writing a final version. Begin assignments early.

Your allotted hours should be allocated approximately as follows:

- Seminar attendance: 36 hours
- Preparation for seminars: 48 hours
- Research and writing for research proposal: 40 hours
- Research and writing for essay: 106 hours
- Preparation for test: 50 hours
- Preparation for self-review essay: 20 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Research proposal (4-5 pages)	15%	1-5	Friday 5 August
2	In-class test (1 hour)	15%	1, 2	Tuesday 16 August
3	In-class self-reflection essay (1 hour)	15%	1-4	Tuesday 4 October
4	Research essay (6000-7000 words, including footnotes)	50%	1-5	Friday 14 October
5	Participation	5%	1-4	n/a

The **research proposal** is due on Friday 5 August and acts as preparation for the research paper due in the final week. Students are required to formulate their own research topic pertaining to the course content. The research proposal will include a summary of the project and a bibliography. More detailed guidelines will be posted on blackboard in the first two weeks of the course.

The **mid-trimester test** is scheduled during class time on Tuesday 16 August (11am) and will last for 1 hour.

The **in-class self-reflection essay** is scheduled during class time on Tuesday 4 October and will last for 1 hour.

The **research paper** is due 5pm, Friday 14 October and is to be 6-7000 words in length, *including* footnotes.

Both the research proposal and the research paper should be submitted in hard copy to the course coordinator's box outside the fifth floor office and electronically to Blackboard.

Submission and return of work

Submission: 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 assessment will be returned to you in seminars 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 assessment is available.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

The development of work discipline and time management skills are an important part of the education process and it is expected that each student takes responsibility for allocating sufficient time for their studies.

Late submission of **assignments** will **not be accepted** unless the student communicates via email 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**. 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

There is no set text for this course; although there are texts that you may find helpful (see recommended reading). The most important resources for this course are the required readings available electronically on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

Peter Hough et. al., *International Security Studies: Theory and Practice* (London: Routledge, 2015).

Paul Williams, *Security Studies: An Introduction* (London: Routledge, 2008). Available electronically through the library.

Oliver Ramsbotham and Tom Woodhouse and Hugh Miall, *Contemporary Conflict Resolution, 3rd Edition* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2011). This text gives a good overview of conflict resolution.

Chris Brown with Kirsten Ainley, *Understanding International Relations, 4th edition* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009). This text will be particularly useful if you come to this course with no background in International Relations. It can be accessed electronically from the library and read online or downloaded to your laptop. There are also hard copies available for loan from the library.

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

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

Electronic journals that you may find useful, particularly for essay research, are:

International Organization, Review of International Studies, Millennium, British Journal of Politics and International Relations, European Journal of International Relations, International Relations, New Political Science, Globalizations, Political Studies, Third World Quarterly, International Affairs, World Politics, Social Justice, Alternatives, American Political Science Review, International Journal of Human Rights, Globalizations, Journal of Global Ethics, Ethics and International Affairs, International Peacekeeping, Global Governance, Australian Journal of International Affairs and New Left Review.

Other recommended readings are listed underneath the topics for each week in the 'course content' document provided separately.

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 seminar of the course.

Student feedback

Based on feedback from previous iterations of this course, students will be organised into smaller groups that they will remain in for the duration of the course for course discussions. 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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- 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