ARTS1810

Foundations of Politics and International Relations

Term One // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
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School Contact Information

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Politics and International Relations*

Where does power lie in politics? Whose explanations about how the world works are valued and why? This course will equip you with some of the skills necessary to begin formulating your own answers to these questions. You will be introduced to the idea of studying politics, both domestic and international, as an academic discipline, and to some of the key academic conventions and standards that are important to the discipline: the idea of evidence-based argument, for example, and the idea of ethical scholarship. We will also discuss the formation of the modern state system and interrogate the conceptualisation of the state that informs much contemporary theory and practice in politics at the national and international level.

A substantial part of this course is devoted to the introduction of the main theoretical traditions that animate the study of politics and international relations. One of the central messages of the course is that different theoretical approaches generate different images of the world that build on particular assumptions. Therefore, while people may think they know what the current problems of politics and global politics are and how to solve them, one of the aims of this course is to alert you to other ways of seeing things. This should allow you to make a more confident decision about your own stance towards particular issues and to analyse these issues more thoroughly, but it should also make you question both your own and others' representations of the world.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Examine the 'everyday' nature of politics, both domestic and international, through engagement with academic literature, news media, entertainment media, and other resources, orally and/or writing.
2. Evaluate analysis of politics, both national and global, and the major theoretical traditions in the study of Politics and International Relations, with reference to the disciplinary literatures (orally and/or in writing).
3. Explain the basic assumptions of, and the worldviews that are generated by, major theoretical traditions in the study of Politics and International Relations.
4. Compare the major theoretical traditions in the study of Politics and International Relations and explain their value for the analysis of specific political problems, events, and issues.

Teaching Strategies

We see UNSW student learners as participants in the production of knowledge and we pursue the implementation of a curriculum responsive to each student's individual needs. The design of this course is motivated by a desire to foster the skills of **independent learning** and **critical thinking**.

Blended learning encourages diversity of learning activities and also diversity in assessment. There are three main types of structured learning activity in this course, supplementing independent study (reading, note-taking, research):

1. LECTURES

This course consists of weekly large-group lectures, 1 hour in duration, which may include the presentation of video clips, small-group activities, Q&A sessions and pair-work. The lectures are designed to supplement independent study on the course that begins (but should not end) with close engagement with the weekly required readings. Lecture attendance is compulsory--but it will be well worth it!

2. TUTORIALS

Tutorials allow you to discuss questions, themes and issues arising from your independent study, as well as providing the opportunity to engage in productive discussion with their peers and to participate in a range of structured learning activities, including group/pair/individual analytical work, formal and informal debates, quizzes and mini-projects. Tutorials are also 1 hour in duration.

3. INDEPENDENT LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Independent learning activities must be completed each week and should take approximately 1 hour. They are designed to foster independent study and to allow for engagement with different tasks that cannot be undertaken in a tutorial environment, such as conducting online research or watching a film. These activities are clearly explained on the University LMS and will mostly be facilitated by it.

This blended mode of delivery both increases your flexibility, as you can complete preparatory activities at a time that suits you, and deepens engagement, as you will arrive in the classroom well-prepared and able to undertake complex, problem-based, learning activities in the face-to-face classes.

Assessment

For all information regarding UNSW SOSS policy (referencing, plagiarism, lateness etc) see:

https://socialsciences.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/

Penalties that may be applied to your work:

- You stand to **lose between 5 and 20 marks** for poor referencing, failure to use the Harvard (in-text) system, and for poor attribution of sources. There is A LOT of assistance available to you to help you learn about referencing, attribution and avoiding plagiarism. If you are not sure JUST ASK! See https://student.unsw.edu.au/support-referencing-assignments.
- We use the Harvard (in-text) system of referencing for all assessments. Please see the SoSS Referencing Guide on Moodle.

Please note: If you would like feedback for your Essay (beyond the rubric), type at the top of page 1 of your essay: I REQUEST FEEDBACK

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Annotated bibliography and essay plan	15%	01/04/2019 09:00 AM	1
Essay	45%	26/04/2019 11:59 PM	1,2,3
Exam	40%	Not Applicable	3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Annotated bibliography and essay plan

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 800 words

Details: Students submit an 800 word annotated bibliography and essay plan. Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within two weeks of submission. The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Additional details:

For this assessment, there is a 10% +/- word count leeway.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2500

Details: Students submit a 2500 word research essay. Questions are set by the course convenor. Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within two weeks of submission. The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Additional details:

The word limit will be strictly enforced. We will stop reading and marking your essay after 2500 words. **The word count includes all text in the main body of the assignment. In-text references are included.** Only the reference list or bibliography is excluded. **Please note:** assignments that are substantially below the established word limit are likely to fail.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Exam

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: Written exam in the official UNSW exam period. 2 hours. This is the final assessment in the course. Students will receive a numerical grade within two weeks of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS)

Attendance Requirements

Attendance

In this course you are expected to attend at least 80% of tutorials and 80% of lectures. This means that you must attend 8/10 tutorials and 8/10 lectures. If you attend less than 80% of lectures and/or less than 80% of tutorials, you may be refused final assessment. This means that if you do not attend at least 80% of possible tutorials and 80% of lectures, your final assignment may receive a mark of zero. For the purpose of attendance monitoring, the final assessment for this course is the exam worth 40% of your overall grade for this course. This is the assessment item that will be graded at zero if you do not meet the attendance requirements for this course.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 18 February - 24 February		Introduction
Week 2: 25 February - 3 March		Race
Week 3: 4 March - 10 March		Gender
Week 4: 11 March - 17 March		Class
Week 5: 18 March - 24 March		Individuals
Week 6: 25 March - 31 March		States
Week 7: 1 April - 7 April		Organisations
Week 8: 8 April - 14 April		People/social movements
Week 9: 15 April - 21 April		Producing knowledge
Week 10: 22 April - 28 April		Practicing P&IR

Resources

Prescribed Resources

The UNSW Library website is available at http://www.library.unsw.edu.au. You need to be familiar with all aspects of the UNSW Library as soon as you begin your studies at UNSW.

The library runs the ELISE tutorial on-line, which familiarises students with academic writing, research and using information responsibly. It can be located at http://elise.library.unsw.edu.au/home/welcome.html.

You will benefit from becoming familiar with GoogleScholar (http://scholar.google.com) as a key search engine for academic publications and reports. You can set up the preferences to link to the UNSW Library even when you are not on campus.

Go to Google Scholar> settings> library links, and enter 'University of New South Wales' in the box for "Library":

You can sign up for Table of Contents (TOC) Alerts from the homepages of relevant journals, to receive an email whenever new articles are published in that journal. Journal websites will often carry information on the most viewed and most cited articles; these are likely to be interesting and often influential contributions. Google Scholar will also point you to articles that have cited a particular article and hence will be related to the topic.

There is no **core text** for ARTS1810

Devetak, R., J. George and S.Percy (2017) (eds) An Introduction to International Relations, 3rd edition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Dunne, T., M. Kurki and S. Smith (2016) (eds) International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity, 4th edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Heywood, A. (2018) Political Ideologies: An Introduction, 6th Edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Savigny, H. and Marsden, L. (2011) Doing Political Science and International Relations: Theories in Action, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

You should always assume that these books have something interesting to say about each of the topics we cover and could be consulted as wider reading each week, even where not specifically listed.

All required and recommended readings for each topic are listed on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Online databases: these are accessible through the UNSW Library website at http://guides.lib.unsw.adfa.edu.au/az.php. Searching under 'International Studies' yields the best results.

Internet sources: you are encouraged to explore Internet sources for your preparatory and assessed work, but be aware that these cover a wide range of standards, from very scholarly to pure drivel. Using a search engine is not the same thing as researching something: search engines match keywords;

researchers make choices about information according to multiple perspectives.

Do be aware that academic staff know how to use search engines and that **all information gathered from Internet research needs to be appropriately referenced.** Google Scholar (www.scholar.google.com) is a useful *preliminary* search engine for academic research. **Wikipedia is NOT an appropriate academic resource.**

Course Evaluation and Development

ARTS1810 uses University mechanisms to gather feedback from students. You are also welcome at any time to submit informal feedback specific to individual tutorials and lectures to the course convenors. Feedback is always welcome and is taken seriously. Continual enhancements are made to learning and teaching activities on the basis of student feedback.

As an example, student feedback in previous years of ARTS1810 has requested more support and more activities to assist in learning about the theories and theorists covered in the course. We have responded by providing multiple access points to the course content. We have included diversified learning and teaching activities such as VideoScribes. Students have also requested a greater emphasis on providing empirical examples to help them understand the theories and concepts covered in the course. Students in 2018 suggested that a 50% essay and 50 % exam was too stressful. We have added another assesment to address this concern.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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