

ARTS3810

Politics & International Relations: Theory and Practice

Term 2, 2022



Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
D'Arcy Blaxell	d.blaxell@unsw.edu.au	Wednesday 12-1pm	Online	

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

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Acknowledgement of Country

UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture Kensington and Paddington campuses are built on Aboriginal Lands. We pay our respects to the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples who are the Custodians of these lands. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and pay respect to their unique values, and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our nation and communities.



Image courtesy of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous [UNSW's Indigenous strategy](#)

Course Details

Units of Credit 6

Summary of the Course

What is theory? What is praxis? What assumptions guide us when we theorise about events or phenomena in domestic and global politics? And what does it mean to undertake theoretically informed research and then actually apply it, in the discipline of Politics & International Relations? This course encourages you to consider the broader context of the discipline through critical, reflective and engaged thinking about contemporary Pols & IR. The course draws on your previous experience of scholarship, both in Pols & IR and in other disciplines, to engage with contemporary debates and issues. In this course, you will revisit the theoretical literature of the discipline, examine its methodologies, and discuss the disciplinary politics of knowledge production through the process of designing a research project relevant to contemporary debates in Pols & IR.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and explore a contemporary issue in Politics & International Relations.
2. Locate and prioritise empirical information and theoretical insights about domestic or world politics from a variety of sources.
3. Demonstrate effective research skills, critical reasoning, and a variety of communication skills relevant to Politics & International Relations.
4. Work effectively in a group on a self-directed task to achieve a specific goal.
5. Articulate the capacity to apply considerations regarding ethical fieldwork practices in the study of Politics and International Relations
6. Employ self-reflexive research and writing practices.

Teaching Strategies

In accordance with UNSW Learning and Teaching Guidelines, this course has been designed to engage you in learning through informed seminar discussion based on guided reading and independent research, and to provide you with meaningful and timely feedback. The course is taught through a two-hour weekly seminar and additional hour of online learning activity each week. Class discussions will be led by both you and your convenor based on readings, analysis and independent interpretation of a selection of secondary sources. Learning outcomes will be addressed through seminar preparation and participation plus the timely submission of your course assignments. Your achievement of the learning outcomes of this course shall then be demonstrated through the extent of your engagement with course material, the quality of the presentation of your ideas and class discussion, and your level of achievement in course assessments.

Assessment

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Media article	25%	01/07/2022 11:59 PM	1, 6
2. Assignment	45%	22/07/2022 11:59 PM	2, 6
3. Group Project 	30%	05/08/2022 11:59 PM	2, 3, 4, 5

Assessment 1: Media article

Assessment length: 1300 Words Maximum

Due date: 01/07/2022 11:59 PM

Students submit a 1300-word written assignment modelled on the style of a media outlet of their choice. Students will receive written feedback and a marked rubric within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of semester to allow students to work towards clearly communicated standards.

Assessment 2: Assignment

Assessment length: 2000 Words Maximum

Due date: 22/07/2022 11:59 PM

You will submit an assignment. Questions are set by the course convenor. You will receive feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to you at the start of the course so you can work towards specified standards.

Assessment 3: Group Project (Group)

Due date: 05/08/2022 11:59 PM

Groups submit a 5-page project proposal. This is a group task. All students in the group will receive the same grade for the assignment. Students are asked to rate their fellow group members' participation and contribution on a scale of 1-10 using a confidential online survey. If any group member's participation and contribution is rated lower than 7 (by students or the course convenor) then their grade will be moderated accordingly by the convenor. This will be clearly communicated to students at the start of semester. The final proposals will be submitted through moodle and students will receive written feedback and a marked rubric within ten working days of submission.

Attendance Requirements

In ARTS3810, seminar attendance and the completion of the weekly tasks is mandatory.

Seminars are offered in in-person or hybrid learning mode. You must attend the seminars in the mode you are enrolled - so if you are enrolled in an in-person seminar, you must attend in person! If you are enrolled in a hybrid seminar, you may attend online. However, it is recommended that you attend in person.

In this course you are expected to attend at least 75% of your seminars.

Each week, you will have tasks to complete before each seminar. These tasks are also a component of your seminar attendance.

If you attend less than this amount, you may be refused final assessment.

This means that if you do not attend at least 7/9 seminars and complete associated learning hurdles outlined in Moodle each week (and bring them to class!), your final assignment may receive a mark of zero.

For the purpose of attendance monitoring, the final assessment for this course is the Group Project worth 30% 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.

If you are sick or ill, or have had a misadventure, please let me know as soon as possible so we can take this into consideration when considering if you have met your attendance requirements.

The monitoring mechanism for your seminar attendance is a roll taken during class. If you are more than 15 minutes late for your class you may be considered absent.

We need you there in class! We need you there for your learning, and so you can smash out a brilliant group case study.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 5: 27 June - 1 July	Assessment	Media article
Week 8: 18 July - 22 July	Assessment	Assignment
Week 10: 1 August - 5 August	Assessment	Group Project

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Not available

Recommended Resources

Not available

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 includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original 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 for the purpose of them plagiarising, 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

The [UNSW Academic Skills support](#) offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. 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 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

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided.)

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.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Image Credit

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