



PICT847

Supervised Project in Security Studies

S1 External 2014

Centre for Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Karina Guthrie

karina.guthrie@mq.edu.au

Contact via karina.guthrie@mq.edu.au

PICT Offices, Level 2, Building Y3A

By appointment

Peita Richards

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

GPA of 3.0 and permission of Executive Dean of Faculty

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Students enrolled in this unit are expected to research and compose one substantial research project of 5000–6000 words on an approved topic. Students will be supervised in all stages of this task by PICT staff. All enrolled students will undertake a research project on one of a list of approved topics provided by PICT staff at the beginning of each semester. Subject to availability, students will be supervised by the staff member who has nominated the research topic that the student has chosen. Students will be encouraged to thoroughly engage with the existing research on their topic, using it as a stepping stone in developing their own research skills. This research relies on utilising secondary sources and does not require original empirical work. Indeed students are not permitted to conduct interviews or other fieldwork which would normally require ethics approval.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.

Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.

Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.

Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Due |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| <u>Research Plan</u> | 10% | 21 March 2014 |
| <u>Literature Review</u> | 20% | 11 April 2014 |
| <u>Essay Plan</u> | 10% | 9 May 2014 |
| <u>Research Essay</u> | 60% | 13 June 2014 |

Research Plan

Due: **21 March 2014**

Weighting: **10%**

Detailed information about this assessment item can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Literature Review

Due: **11 April 2014**

Weighting: **20%**

Detailed information about this assessment item can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Essay Plan

Due: **9 May 2014**

Weighting: **10%**

Detailed information about this assessment item can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Research Essay

Due: **13 June 2014**

Weighting: **60%**

Detailed information about this assessment item can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.

Delivery and Resources

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

There are no lectures for this subject however the student should attend regular meetings with their research supervisor throughout the year.

The unit convenor will be available, either via email, phone or in person to answer queries about the research process or assessment submission.

REQUIRED READINGS

There are no prescribed texts or materials for this unit.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Personal PC and internet access are essential for this unit. Basic computer skills and skills in word processing are also a requirement.

The unit can only be accessed by enrolled students online through <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

All assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.

Assessment tasks must be submitted either as a PDF or MS word document by the due date.

All assessment tasks will be subject to a 'Turnitin' review as an automatic part of the submission process.

The granting of extensions of up to one week are at the discretion of the unit convenor. Any requests for extensions must be made in writing before the due date for the submission of the assessment task. Extensions beyond one week are subject to special consideration. The policy for this is detailed under Policy and Procedures.

LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

There is a penalty for the late submission of assessment tasks. If an assignment is submitted late it will initially be marked as if it had been submitted on time. However, **5%** of the weighting allocated for the assignment will then be deducted from the mark the student initially achieves in the assessment task for each day it is late. For example if the assessment task's weighting is 20, 1.00 mark per day will be deducted from the initial mark given per day it is late ie a task initially given 15/20 but which is submitted four days late will lose 4 x 1.00 marks. That means 15/20-4marks=11/20. It is this second mark which will be recorded in gradebook.

Unit Schedule

There are no lectures or tutorials for this unit, however you are expected to meet regularly with your supervisor to discuss your progress and receive feedback on your drafts. The nature and frequency of these meetings should be negotiated by you and your supervisor at the outset of Session 1.

A research project is a significant undertaking. It requires a great degree of self-directed learning. It is important that you work on it consistently throughout the session. Your supervisor is there to provide you with support throughout this process but is not there to direct your research.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.

Assessment tasks

- Essay Plan
- Research Essay

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Plan
- Literature Review
- Essay Plan
- Research Essay

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Plan
- Literature Review
- Essay Plan
- Research Essay

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.

Assessment tasks

- Literature Review
- Essay Plan
- Research Essay

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Evaluate data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Plan
- Literature Review
- Essay Plan
- Research Essay

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field by critically assessing established academic scholarship in a critical review of published academic sources.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.

- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Plan
- Literature Review
- Essay Plan
- Research Essay