PICT809

Research Project

FY1 Day 2014

Centre for Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Karina Guthrie
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PICT Offices, Level 2, Building Y3A
By appointment

Peita Richards
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Credit points
8

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 or thesis of 15,000 words on an approved topic. Students will be supervised in all stages of this task by the unit convener, and by PICT staff. All enrolled students will undertake a major research project or thesis, including all the stages from topic selection through to completion. The unit therefore provides students with the opportunity to explore a topic of particular relevance to themselves or their organisation. In so doing they will be encouraged to thoroughly engage with the existing research on their topic, using it as a stepping stone in developing their own interests and key analytical questions. 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:

Identify and design research question(s) as a series of definable research tasks and critically evaluate data to test the research question(s) in line with a chosen theoretical or other research model.

Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.

Develop independent research, time management and academic writing skills through a sustained and documented research process.

Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Research Proposal	15%	11 April 2014
Literature Review	25%	6 June 2014
Research Project	60%	31 October 2014

Research Proposal

Due: **11 April 2014**
Weighting: **15%**

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

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Identify and design research question(s) as a series of definable research tasks and critically evaluate data to test the research question(s) in line with a chosen theoretical or other research model.
- Develop independent research, time management and academic writing skills through a sustained and documented research process.

Literature Review

Due: **6 June 2014**
Weighting: **25%**

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

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a

literature review and analysis of published academic sources.

Research Project

Due: **31 October 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:
- Identify and design research question(s) as a series of definable research tasks and critically evaluate data to test the research question(s) in line with a chosen theoretical or other research model.
- Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.
- Develop independent research, time management and academic writing skills through a sustained and documented research process.
- Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

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 resrach 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 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.

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 outcomes

- Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.
- Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

Assessment tasks

- Literature Review
- Research Project

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

- Identify and design research question(s) as a series of definable research tasks and critically evaluate data to test the research question(s) in line with a chosen theoretical or other research model.
- Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.
- Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal
- Literature Review
- Research Project

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

- Identify and design research question(s) as a series of definable research tasks and critically evaluate data to test the research question(s) in line with a chosen theoretical or other research model.
- Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a

literature review and analysis of published academic sources.

- Develop independent research, time management and academic writing skills through a sustained and documented research process.

- Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal

- Literature Review

- Research Project

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 particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.

- Develop independent research, time management and academic writing skills through a sustained and documented research process.

- Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal

- Literature Review

- Research Project

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

- Identify and design research question(s) as a series of definable research tasks and critically evaluate data to test the research question(s) in line with a chosen theoretical or other research model.
- Develop detailed knowledge of a particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.
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Assessment tasks

- Literature Review
- Research Project

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 particular academic field as evidenced through a literature review and analysis of published academic sources.
- Develop independent research, time management and academic writing skills through a sustained and documented research process.
- Develop a coherent academic argument in a thesis-type written project using appropriate research methodologies during the design, development and production of the thesis.

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- Research Project