



PICT708

Specialised Research Topic in Security 5

S2 Evening 2014

Centre for Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Rebecca Vogel

rebecca.vogel@mq.edu.au

Contact via rebecca.vogel@mq.edu.au

PICT offices

Business hours Monday-Wednesday

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit exposes students to significant issues relating to security studies in one of five identified areas. These five areas - policing, intelligence, counter terrorism, cybersecurity and international security - are central to an understanding of security within a rapidly changing global context. The unit challenges students to test the limits of research in a selected area of study and identify effective research methodologies relevant to this area.

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:

Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence

Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments

Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly

Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context

Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Written Exercise	30%	Week 3
Quiz	20%	End of Weeks 2-11
Research Paper	50%	Week 11

Written Exercise

Due: **Week 3**

Weighting: **30%**

For details see ilearn.

A detailed marking matrix is available to all enrolled students on the unit iLearn site.

Marking criteria in the marking matrix includes evaluation of topic comprehension, argument, written expression, referencing, essay structure and organization.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context

Quiz

Due: **End of Weeks 2-11**

Weighting: **20%**

For details see ilearn.

Quizzes will assess the student's understanding of the topics covered in the weekly pre-recorded lectures and the Required Readings for that week.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context

Research Paper

Due: **Week 11**

Weighting: **50%**

For details see ilearn.

A detailed marking matrix is available to all enrolled students on the unit iLearn site.

Marking criteria in the marking matrix includes evaluation of topic comprehension, argument, written expression, referencing, essay structure and organization.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Delivery and Resources

DELIVERY AND RESOURCES

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

§ You should spend an average of at least 12 hours per week on this unit. This includes listening to pre-recorded lectures prior to seminar discussions and reading weekly required readings detailed in iLearn.

§ Internal students are expected to attend all seminar sessions and external students are expected to contribute to on-line discussions.

§ Students are required to submit all assessment tasks in order to pass the unit.

REQUIRED READINGS

§ The citations for all the required readings for this unit are available to enrolled students through the unit iLearn site, and at Macquarie University's Library EReserve site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed at the EReserve site.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

§ Reliable Personal PC and internet access are required and 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.

§ Most 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 convener. 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 the university's Disruptions Policy (http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html#purpose).

LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

If an assignment is submitted late, 5% of the available mark will be deducted for each day (including weekends) the paper is late.

For example, if a paper is worth 20 marks, 1 mark will be deducted from the grade given for each day that it is late (i.e. a student given 15/20 who submitted 4 days late will lose 4 marks = 11/20).

The same principle applies if an extension is granted and the assignment is submitted later than the amended date.

WORD LIMITS FOR ASSESSMENT TASKS

Stated word limits do not include references, bibliography, or title page.

Word limits can generally deviate by 10% either over or under the stated figure.

If the number of words exceeds the limit by more than 10%, then penalties will apply. These penalties are 5% of the awarded mark for every 100 words over the word limit. If a paper is 300 words over, for instance, it will lose $3 \times 5\% = 15\%$ of the total mark awarded for the assignment. This percentage is taken off the total mark, i.e. if a paper was graded at a credit (65%) and was 300 words over, it would be reduced by 15 marks to a pass (50%).

The application of this penalty is at the discretion of the course convener.

Unit Schedule

PICT814 – Architecture of Modern Intelligence

This unit examines the role of intelligence in a national security environment and presents a framework for the effective, efficient and rigorous production and utilisation of intelligence analysis product in support of national security. Students will examine modern-day threats to national security and the intelligence requirements to combat these threats. Different levels of intelligence will be examined and a more detailed look at modern-day intelligence practices will be undertaken, using case studies to provide real-world scope and understanding.

Module 1: Course introduction, learning approach, assessment

Module 2: Post Cold-War Transformation of Intelligence

Module 3: Australian Intelligence Community agencies

Module 4: Intelligence Standard of Performance

Module 5: Tactical, Operational, Strategic Intelligence

Module 6: National Security Threats / Assessments

Module 7: Terrorism

Module 8: Cyber Threat

Module 9: Espionage

Module 10: Transnational Organised Crime

Module 11: Future Intelligence Challenges

Module 12: Dynamics of Decision-Making and the Role of Independent Advice

Module 13: Intelligence Reform and Accountability

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

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment tasks

- Written Exercise
- Quiz
- Research Paper

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

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment tasks

- Written Exercise
- Quiz
- Research Paper

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

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate

sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments

- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment tasks

- Written Exercise
- Research Paper

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

- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment tasks

- Written Exercise
- Quiz
- Research Paper

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

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment tasks

- Written Exercise
- Quiz
- Research Paper

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

- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of intelligence
- Demonstrate higher order communication skills including the ability to formulate sustained, persuasive and original written and oral arguments
- Model academic research skills, particularly the ability to select sources appropriately to integrate knowledge from diverse sources, to critically evaluate its significance and relevance, synthesise material and present finding logically, rationally and lucidly
- Evaluate how the intelligence function fits within the dynamic national security context
- Explore a case study requiring critical analysis/assessment.

Assessment tasks

- Written Exercise
- Quiz
- Research Paper