



PICT705

Specialised Research Topic in Security 2

S1 Evening 2015

Dept of Policing, Intelligence & Counter-Terrorism

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Vincent Williams

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Y3A 241

As detailed on the iLearn site

Adam Lockyer

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

PICT838

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:

Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.

Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.

Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.

Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.

Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Essential Issues Brief</u>	10%	Weeks 2 to 6 (see iLearn site)
<u>Introductory Essay</u>	20%	Week 3 (details on iLearn)
<u>Research Paper</u>	50%	Week 9 (details on iLearn)
<u>Country Study</u>	20%	Week 12 (details on iLearn)

Essential Issues Brief

Due: **Weeks 2 to 6 (see iLearn site)**

Weighting: **10%**

The Essential Issues Briefs will be submitted prior to the scheduled seminar discussions each week commencing in Week 2 and ending in Week 6.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Introductory Essay

Due: **Week 3 (details on iLearn)**

Weighting: **20%**

For details on this assignment please refer to the unit iLearn site.

A detailed marking matrix for this assignment is available to enrolled students on the unit iLearn site

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Research Paper

Due: **Week 9 (details on iLearn)**

Weighting: **50%**

For details on this assignment please refer to the unit iLearn site.

A detailed marking matrix for this assignment is available to enrolled students on the unit iLearn site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Country Study

Due: **Week 12 (details on iLearn)**

Weighting: **20%**

For details on this assignment please refer to the unit iLearn site.

A detailed marking matrix for this assignment is available to enrolled students on the unit iLearn site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.

- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

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.

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.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Recommended readings will be posted to the unit iLearn site as Session 1 progresses.
- Students may consider obtaining a copy of the following book, Richards, D., and Mills, G., (eds) *Victory Among People: Lessons from Countering Insurgency and Stabilising Fragile States*, RUSI, London, 2011. Students have previously found downloading an electronic version on to an E-Book to be an effective means by which the book can be acquired.

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.

- A plagiarism declaration is automatically completed when work is submitted through "turnitin". This removes the need to submit a coversheet declaration.
- 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.

The same principle applies if a student seeks and is granted an extension and the assessment task is submitted later than the amended submission 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, unless specifically stated.

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 x 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%)

Unit Schedule

Module 1- Insurgencies their drivers, underlying principles and past exponents

Module 2 - Countering Insurgencies-an overview

Module 3 - The role of Intelligence agencies in confronting insurgencies

Module 4 - The Police and countering insurgencies

Module 5 - The military, other security agencies and private military companies in countering insurgencies

Module 6 - The media and NGOs and their roles in insurgencies and COIN

Modules 7-12 - Case Studies

Module 13 - Insurgencies and the Future

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/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

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 - 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

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment tasks

- Essential Issues Brief
- Introductory Essay
- Research Paper
- Country Study

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

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment tasks

- Essential Issues Brief
- Introductory Essay
- Research Paper
- Country Study

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

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment tasks

- Introductory Essay
- Research Paper
- Country Study

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

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the outcomes they achieve.
- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment tasks

- Introductory Essay
- Research Paper
- Country Study

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

- Critically analyse selected insurgencies and evaluate their causes and characteristics.
- Evaluate selected counter insurgency campaigns in order to review their nature and the

outcomes they achieve.

- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment tasks

- Essential Issues Brief
- Introductory Essay
- Research Paper
- Country Study

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

- Analyse the impact of non-state actors and influence drivers on modern insurgencies.
- Critique contemporary literature relating to the concepts of insurgency and counter insurgency.
- Formulate sustained and persuasive written arguments through research and analysis of critical texts, concepts and theories related to insurgencies, non-state security challenges, influence drivers and counter insurgency.

Assessment tasks

- Research Paper
- Country Study