POIR905
Foundations in Politics, International Relations and Public Policy
S1 External 2016
Dept of Modern History, Politics & International Relations

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Steve Wood
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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to GradCertIntRel or GradCertPPP

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit explores some key concepts in Politics and International Relations. It enables a broad understanding of these contested concepts, which have decisively influenced political and human development through history to the present.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/

Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate a critical knowledge of influential political concepts
2. Ability to Integrate political, philosophical, legal, social and economic reasoning
3. Comprehend how ideational, cultural and personal factors can interact to influence national and/or world affairs
4. Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>short responses (300 words x 7</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>3 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>9 June, 12:00 noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
short responses (300 words x 7
Due: 3 June
Weighting: 20%

Choose any seven of the questions below (those that you are not writing your main essay on) and write responses of 300 words on each = 20%

Due date is 3 June. It is advisable to work on this through the semester. Don’t leave all until the end

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Demonstrate a critical knowledge of influential political concepts
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Essay
Due: 9 June, 12:00 noon
Weighting: 40%

Essay on a weekly topic other than your seminar presentation. 3000 words of text (references/ notes are additional).

Essay Questions
1) How long will states remain the predominant political form?
2) Is there a principal cause of political violence?
3) Is international politics different to politics in one country? How and why?
4) What bestows legitimacy on an actor claiming or aspiring to political authority?
5) What is the most powerful force in politics?
6) Is a global political culture or system possible – why or why not?
7) Is the world becoming more or less ‘democratic’?
8) Can security be guaranteed or at least greatly enhanced? How?

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

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Exam/Test

Due: 6 June
Weighting: 40%

Test based on material drawn from the topics and literature discussed through the unit. 2 hours in class.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

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Delivery and Resources

In person lectures also audio recorded

Unit Schedule

Mondays 12:00 - 14:00 beginning 29 February

A detailed schedule will be outlined in a forthcoming detailed unit guide

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


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 Enquiry Service**

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

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.
When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources 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
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Assessment tasks
- short responses (300 words x 7
- Essay
- Exam/Test

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

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Assessment tasks

• short responses (300 words x 7
• Essay
• Exam/Test

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

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Assessment tasks

• short responses (300 words x 7
• Essay
• Exam/Test

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**

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of influential political concepts
- Ability to integrate political, philosophical, legal, social and economic reasoning
- Comprehend how ideational, cultural and personal factors can interact to influence national and/or world affairs
- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices

**Assessment tasks**

- Essay
- Exam/Test