



# POL 831

## Political Parties and Policy

S2 Evening 2016

*Dept of Modern History, Politics & International Relations*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Geoffrey Hawker

[geoffrey.hawker@mq.edu.au](mailto:geoffrey.hawker@mq.edu.au)

Contact via [geoffrey.hawker@mq.edu.au](mailto:geoffrey.hawker@mq.edu.au)

W6A 428

Wednesday 5-6pm or by appointment

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MPPP or PGDipPP or PGCertPP or MPASR or PGCertPASR or PGDipPASR or GradDipPASR or GradCertPP or GradDipPP or MIntLawGovPP

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit looks at the impact of elections, party politics and changes of government on the policy process. Case studies drawn from recent federal and state elections are used to evaluate the conduct and impact of election campaigns, the extent to which policy formation within political parties is participative and democratic, and the impact of the transition to government on pre-election policies. The unit explores the evolution of theories around political representation and the functions of political parties in democratic systems. It critically analyses scholarly debate around the cartelisation and decline of political parties, and its application to the Australian context.

## 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:

Explain how political parties formulate public policy using different theoretical lenses and show the conflicts and agreements between different approaches

Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of

political mobilisation

Critically analyse the links between information, 'facts' and judgment in explaining policy outcomes

Use intelligible argument to explicate dilemmas and issues in policy making in political parties

Undertake research in a self-directed way against stated problems

Apply theories of power to contemporary and historical contexts of policy-making in political parties

Show abilities in written and oral form in communicating ideas, arguments and conclusions

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>In Class Test</u>	20%	Wednesday 17 August 2016
<u>Research Essay</u>	50%	14 October 2016
<u>Examination</u>	30%	18 November 2016

### In Class Test

Due: **Wednesday 17 August 2016**

Weighting: **20%**

A set of short questions will be posed in class or sent by email with a stated return time to External students. The questions will be based on the two lectures delivered to that point, and the readings covered. The test is designed to be diagnostic, that is, it is intended to assess a candidate's ability to understand and respond to questions that have been addressed in class and on-line, and to do so in an intelligible written form.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of political mobilisation
- Critically analyse the links between information, 'facts' and judgment in explaining policy outcomes
- Undertake research in a self-directed way against stated problems
- Apply theories of power to contemporary and historical contexts of policy-making in political parties

- Show abilities in written and oral form in communicating ideas, arguments and conclusions

## Research Essay

Due: **14 October 2016**

Weighting: **50%**

Each student should select a broad area of public policy, in consultation with the lecturer, and research the different policy approaches of the major and minor parties towards this policy area in the period leading up to the 2016 federal election.

You should have made your selection and had it approved by the lecturer before the mid-semester break. You can do this using the “Communicate privately with teaching staff” section on the iLearn website.

In writing your essay, you should consider issues such as how the policies were developed, which constituencies they were designed to attract, how the policies were promoted by the parties, and the impact of the electoral cycle. In particular you should examine the extent to which the various parties’ policies converged or not. Your observations will help you to answer the overall question, which is:

*What role do political parties continue to play in public policy?*

Word limit: 3 500 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain how political parties formulate public policy using different theoretical lenses and show the conflicts and agreements between different approaches
- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of political mobilisation
- Use intelligible argument to explicate dilemmas and issues in policy making in political parties
- Undertake research in a self-directed way against stated problems
- Apply theories of power to contemporary and historical contexts of policy-making in political parties
- Show abilities in written and oral form in communicating ideas, arguments and conclusions

## Examination

Due: **18 November 2016**

Weighting: **30%**

Questions based on the material covered in the semester will be distributed in Week 13 in class and posted on the website on the same day, with return due at the end of the following week.

Word limit: 2000 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain how political parties formulate public policy using different theoretical lenses and show the conflicts and agreements between different approaches
- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of political mobilisation
- Critically analyse the links between information, 'facts' and judgment in explaining policy outcomes

## Delivery and Resources

### MPP Information

This unit outline should be read alongside the **Master of Politics and Public Policy Guidelines**. These notes relate specifically to the MPP program. Please familiarise yourself with the guidelines. They are available on the iLearn website for this unit, or can be provided in hard copy by your convenor.

### Classes

For lecture times and classrooms please consult the MQ Timetable website: <http://www.timetable.s.mq.edu.au>. This website will display up-to-date information on your classes and classroom locations.

**Internal students** are expected to attend the following classes each week:

Lecture: Wednesday 6-7pm

Seminar: Wednesday 7-9pm

**External students:** The lecture is digitally recorded and can be downloaded from the iLearn website shortly after it is delivered. You will also find lecture slides on the website.

External students are also required to attend two on-campus sessions of four hours each over

the semester. The dates for these sessions are:

Sunday 18 September 9.30am - 1.30pm W6B 350

Sunday 30 October 1 June: 9.30am - 1.30pm W6B 350

External students are encouraged to attend weekly lectures and seminar classes whenever they can.

### **Attendance**

University regulations prescribe regular attendance at classes. Students are expected to attend all lectures and seminars, or on-campus sessions for external students.

For **internal students**, failure to attend at least three-quarters of seminars risks exclusion from and no credit for the unit.

For **external students**, failure to attend the first on-campus session will risk exclusion from and no credit for the unit.

If you are unable to attend a class, you should provide documentary support for your absence (eg medical certificate). If you know that you will be unable to attend a class, or on-campus session, you should contact the convenor as early as possible.

### **Assignment submission**

All assignments must be submitted using the “Turnitin Assignments” facility on the iLearn website. This facility includes software which scans the uploaded assignments for plagiarism. Follow the instructions on the screen carefully. Your assignment should be uploaded before midnight on the due date.

**In all cases**, you should ensure that you keep a copy of the assignment.

### **Return of marked work**

Marked assignments will be returned via the same facility on iLearn. When marks are released, you will need to go back in to the assignment submission box, and open your uploaded assignment. When you click on the “GradeMark” button, you will be able to see the marker’s comments on your work. You can save or print the essay with the comments.

### *Extensions and special consideration*

Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, and will require documentary

evidence such as a medical certificate to support the request for an extension. You should contact the convenor as early as possible if you think you may need an extension. While we do understand that most students are engaged in paid employment, extensions cannot be granted on this basis alone.

Penalties for late submission: Assignments which are submitted after the due date, without having an extension granted by the convenor, will be penalised, at a rate of 3% of the mark for each week day after the due date. Any paper submitted more than 3 weeks after the due date will not be marked, and the student will be failed for the assignment.

### Special Consideration Policy

[http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special\\_consideration/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html)

### Applying for Special Consideration

Students applying for Special Consideration circumstances of three (3) consecutive days duration, within a study period, and/or prevent completion of a formal examination must submit an on-line application with the Faculty of Arts. For an application to be valid, it must include a completed Application for Special Consideration form and all supporting documentation.

The online Special Consideration application is found at: [http://www.arts.mq.edu.au/current\\_students/undergraduate/admin\\_central/special\\_consideration](http://www.arts.mq.edu.au/current_students/undergraduate/admin_central/special_consideration).

University policy on grading

### University Grading Policy

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

The grade a student receives will signify their overall performance in meeting the learning outcomes of a unit of study. Grades will not be awarded by reference to the achievement of other students nor allocated to fit a predetermined distribution. In determining a grade, due weight will be given to the learning outcomes and level of a unit (ie 100, 200, 300, 800 etc). Graded units will use the following grades:

HD	High Distinction	85-100
D	Distinction	75-84
Cr	Credit	65-74
P	Pass	50-64
F	Fail	0-49

Further information on the rubric used in determining grades in MPP units will be distributed in

class and posted on the iLearn website.

#### Academic honesty

Academic honesty is an integral part of the core values and principles contained in the Macquarie University Ethics Statement:

<http://www.mq.edu.au/ethics/ethic-statement-final.html>

Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information. This means that:

- All academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim.
  - All academic collaborations are acknowledged.
  - Academic work is not falsified in any way
  - When the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

The link below has more details about the policy, procedure and schedule of penalties that will apply to breaches of the Academic Honesty Policy which can be viewed at:

[http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic\\_honesty/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

#### Student support services

Macquarie University provides a range of Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at:

<http://www.deanofstudents.mq.edu.au/> or <http://www.campuslife.mq.edu.au/campuswellbeing>

Another useful support service is provided by the Learning Skills unit which you can find at: <http://www.mq.edu.au/learningskills/>.

#### Arts Student Centre

Phone:	+61 2 9850 6783
Email:	artsenquiries@mq.edu.au
Office:	W6A/Foyer



Centre staff are there to smooth the way into university life; answer questions; give informed advice; provide a sympathetic ear; de-mystify uni ways and procedures.

The Faculty of Arts online submissions for Special Approval, Special Consideration, Grade Review and Grade Appeal are located at: [www.arts.mq.edu.au/current\\_students/undergraduate](http://www.arts.mq.edu.au/current_students/undergraduate).

Required and recommended texts and/or materials

## REQUIRED READING

All students should purchase the **Unit Readings** from the Coop Bookshop.

## RECOMMENDED READING

Participants who have not already completed POL820, or previously examined the Australian political and party systems in any detail, should refer to a good introductory text-book on Australian Government and Politics, such as:

Ariadne VROMEN, Katherine GELBER and Anika GAUJA: *Powerscape – Contemporary Australian Politics*. 2nd ed. Allen and Unwin. 2009 (2005 edition also suitable)

Ian WARD and Randal STEWART: *Politics One*. 4th ed. Macmillan. 2010 (2006 edition also suitable)

Graham MADDOX: *Australian Democracy in Theory and Practice*. 5th ed. Pearson. 2004

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

The following is a list of books which you may find useful in this unit. Most of them are available at the Macquarie University Library. The list is not exhaustive.

Aulich, C and Wettenhall, R (eds): *Howard's Second and Third Governments 1998-2004*, UNSW Press 2005; and *Aulich and Wettenhall, Howard's Fourth Government: Australian Commonwealth Administration 2004-2007*, UNSW Press 2008.

Barns, G: *Selling the Australian Government: Politics and Propaganda from Whitlam to Howard*, UNSW Press 2005

Bean, C et al (eds): *The Politics of Retribution: the 1996 Australian Federal Election*, Allen & Unwin, 1996.

Beilharz, P: *Transforming Labor: Labor Tradition and the Labor Decade in Australia*, Cambridge UP, 1994.

Benson, S: *Betrayal: The Underbelly of Australian Labor*, Pantera Press, 2010

Bramston, T: *Looking for the Light on the Hill: Modern Labor's Challenges*, Scribe, 2011

Brett, J: *The Australian Liberals and the Moral Middle Class : from Alfred Deakin to John Howard*, Cambridge University Press, 2003

Brown, W: *Ten Prime Ministers*, Longueville Books, 2002.

Browne, P and Thomas, J: *A win and a prayer : scenes from the 2004 Australian election*, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2005

Caplan, B: *The Myth of the Rational Voter: Why Democracies Choose Bad Policies*, Princeton University Press. 2007

Cassidy, B: *The Party Thieves: The real story of the 2010 election*, Melbourne University Press, 2010

Castles, FG, et al: *The Great Experiment: Labour Parties and Public Policy Transformation in Australia and New Zealand*, Allen & Unwin, 1996.

Cavalier, R: *Power Crisis: The Self-Destruction of a State Labor Party*, Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Costar, B: *For Better or Worse: the Federal Coalition*, MUP, 1994.

Costar, B and Curtin, J: *Rebels with a Cause: Independents in Australian Politics*, UNSW Press, 2004

Crabb, A: *Losing It: The inside story of the Labor Party in Opposition*, Picador, Sydney, 2005

Dalton, RJ and Wattenburg, MP: *Parties without Partisans: Political Change in Advanced Industrial Democracies*, Oxford University Press, 2000

Davey, P: *The Nationals: The Progressive, Country and National Party in New South Wales 1919 to 2006*, Federation Press 2006

Diamond, L and Gunther, R (eds): *Political Parties and Democracy*, John Hopkins University Press, 2001

Duverger, M: *Political Parties*, Methuen, 1965.

Farrell, DM and McAllister, I: *The Australian Electoral System: Origins, variations and consequences*, UNSW Press 2006

Faulkner, J & Macintyre, S (eds.): *True Believers*, Allen & Unwin, 2001.

Fitzgerald, J: *Lobbying in Australia: You can't expect anything to change if you don't speak up!* Rosenberg, Sydney 2006

Fraser, M and Simons, M: *Malcolm Fraser: The political memoirs*, Miegunyah Press, 2010.

Gunther, R, Ramon-Montero, J and Linz, JJ (eds): *Political Parties: Old concepts and new challenges*, Oxford University Press, 2002

Grattan, M: *Australia's Prime Ministers*, New Holland, 2000.

Hancock, I: *National and Permanent? The Federal Organisation of the Liberal Party of Australia*, MUP, 2000.

- Hancock, I: *The Liberals : a history of the NSW Division of the Liberal Party of Australia, 1945-2000*, Federation Press 2007
- Hughes, C and Costar, B: *Limiting Democracy: The Erosion of Electoral Rights in Australia*, UNSW Press, 2006
- Jaensch, D: *Power Politics: Australia's Party System*, Allen & Unwin, 1994, 3rd ed.
- Jaensch, D: *The Liberals*, Allen & Unwin, 1994.
- Johnson, C: *Governing Change: Keating to Howard*, UQP, 2000.
- Jupp, J: *Australian Party Politics*, MUP, 1968.
- Katz, RS and Mair, P: *How Parties Organize: Change and Adaptation in Party Organizations in Western Democracies*, Sage, London, 1994
- Katz, R and Crotty, W (eds): *Handbook of Party Politics*, Sage 2006
- Keating, M et al: *Institutions on the Edge*, Allen & Unwin, 2000.
- Kelly, P: *100 Years: The Australian Story*, Allen & Unwin, 2001.
- Leach, M (eds.): *The Rise and Fall of One Nation*, UQP, 2000.
- Loewenstein, A and Sparrow, J (eds.): *Left Turn: Political Essays for the New Left*, MUP, 2012.
- Lilleker, D and Lees-Marshment, J: *Political Marketing: A Comparative Perspective*, Manchester University Press, 2005.
- McAllister, I & Moore, R: *Party Strategy and Change: Australian Electoral Speeches Since 1946*, Longman, 1991.
- McKnight, D: *Beyond Right and Left: New Politics and the Culture Wars*, Allen and Unwin, Sydney 2005
- Maddox, G: *The Hawke Government and Labor Tradition*, Penguin, 1989.
- Manne, R (ed): *The Howard Years*, Black Inc Melbourne, 2004
- Manne, R and McKnight, D: *Goodbye to all that? On the failure of neo-liberalism and the urgency of change*, Black Inc, 2010.
- Marr, D & Wilkinson, M: *Dark Victory*, Allen & Unwin, 2003.
- Marsh, I: *Beyond the Two Party System*, Cambridge University Press, 1995.
- Marsh, I and Yencken, D: *Into the Future: The Neglect of the Long Term in Australian Politics*, Black Inc Melbourne, 2004
- Marsh, I (ed.): *Australia's Choices: Options for a Prosperous and Fair Society*, UNSW Press, 2003.
- Marsh, I (ed): *Political Parties in Transition?*, Federation Press 2006
- Megalogenis, G: *The Longest Decade*, Scribe Melbourne, 2006
- Mills, S: *The Hawke Years: The story from the inside*, Viking, 1993.

- Nethercote, JR (ed.): *Liberalism and the Australian Federation*, Federation Press, 2001.
- Prasser, S & Starr, G: *Policy and Change: the Howard Mandate*, Hale & Iremonger, 1997.
- Ryan, S and Bramston, T: *The Hawke Government: A Critical Retrospective*, Pluto Press Melbourne, 2003
- Sartori, G: *Parties and Party Systems: A Framework for Analysis*, Cambridge University Press, 1976.
- Sharman, C (ed.): *Parties and Federalism in Australia and Canada*, Federalism Research Centre, 1994.
- Simms, M (ed.): *The Paradox of Parties*, Allen & Unwin, 1996.
- Simms, M & Warhurst, J (eds.): *Howard's Agenda: The 1998 Australian Election*, UQP, 2000.
- Simms, M & Warhurst, J (eds) *Mortgage Nation: The 2004 Australian Election*, API Network, Perth, 2005
- Singleton, G (ed.): *The Howard Government: Australian Commonwealth Administration 1996-1998*, UNSW Press, 2000.
- Smith, Rodney: *Australian Political Culture*, Pearson Sydney, 2001
- Smith, R: *Against the Machines: Minor Parties and Independents in New South Wales 1910-2006*, The Federation Press, Sydney, 2006
- Solomon, D (ed.): *Howard's Race: Winning the Unwinnable Election*, Harper Collins, 2002.
- Stockwell, S: *Political Campaign Strategy: Doing Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Australian Scholarly 2005
- Stuart, N: *What Goes Up... Behind the 2007 Election*, Scribe 2007
- Tiernan, A: *Power Without Responsibility: Ministerial Staffers in Australian Governments from Whitlam to Howard*, UNSW Press 2007
- Van Onselen, P: *Liberals and Power: The road ahead*, Melbourne University Press, 2008
- Walter, J and Strangio, P: *No, Prime Minister: Reclaiming Politics from Leaders*, UNSW Press 2007
- Warhurst, J: *Keeping the Bastards Honest*, Allen & Unwin, 1997.
- Warhurst J & Parkin, A: *The Machine: Labor Confronts the Future*, Allen & Unwin, 2000.
- Warhurst, J: *Behind Closed Doors: Politics, Scandals and the Lobbying Industry*, UNSW Press, 2007
- Weller, P: *Don't Tell the Prime Minister*, Scribe, 2002.
- Weller, P: *Cabinet Government in Australia 1901-2006*, UNSW Press 2007
- Young, S: *The Persuaders: Inside the Hidden Machine of Political Advertising*, Pluto Press Melbourne, 2004

Young, S (ed): *Government Communication in Australia*, Cambridge University Press, 2007

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

### Journals

The most clearly relevant academic journals (many of which are available on-line through the Macquarie Library) are:

*Australian Journal of Political Science*

*Australian Journal of Politics and History*

*Australian Journal of Public Administration*

*Australian Journal of Social Issues*

*Governance: An International Journal of Policy and Administration.*

*Government and Opposition*

The easiest way to access these journals is through the **Journal Finder** pathway on the Library website. In some cases older issues of the journal are available in hard copy only and more recent issues on-line only. Some journal publishers prevent on-line access to the most recent (1 year) issues. On-line journals are being added to the Library's resources regularly.

### Websites

Useful links to websites are posted on iLearn.

Weekly Seminar Program:

The detail of the weekly coverage is posted in the iLearn page of the unit, and readings for each week are contained there also.

## Unit Schedule

Weekly schedule: this outline is subject to revision as advised on the iLearn site

<b>Week 1</b>	Introduction: Before parties; Political parties and democracy
<b>Week 2</b>	Party functions and representation
<b>Week 3</b>	Party systems and political cleavages
<b>Week 4</b>	Party structure and organisation
<b>Week 5</b>	Party ideology
<b>Week 6</b>	Convergence, and the Left/Right Divide
<b>Week 7</b>	Leadership
<b>Week 8</b>	Essay preparation & consultation: – no class this week
<b>Week 9</b>	Minor parties and independents
<b>Week 10</b>	Electoral systems

Week 11	Election campaigns
Week 12	Alternative conduits
Week 13	Conclusion: Party decline?

## 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](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

**New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016** [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy\\_2016.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html). For more information visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new\\_assessment\\_policy\\_in\\_place\\_from\\_session\\_2/](http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/)

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

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

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint\\_management/procedure.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html)

Disruption to Studies Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](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/](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](http://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](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](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 - 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

- Explain how political parties formulate public policy using different theoretical lenses and show the conflicts and agreements between different approaches
- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of



political mobilisation

- Use intelligible argument to explicate dilemmas and issues in policy making in political parties
- Undertake research in a self-directed way against stated problems

## Assessment tasks

- Research Essay
- Examination

## 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

- Explain how political parties formulate public policy using different theoretical lenses and show the conflicts and agreements between different approaches
- Apply theories of power to contemporary and historical contexts of policy-making in political parties

## Assessment tasks

- In Class Test
- Research Essay
- Examination

## 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 the links between information, 'facts' and judgment in explaining policy outcomes
- Undertake research in a self-directed way against stated problems
- Apply theories of power to contemporary and historical contexts of policy-making in

political parties

## Assessment tasks

- In Class Test
- 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

- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of political mobilisation
- Critically analyse the links between information, 'facts' and judgment in explaining policy outcomes
- Undertake research in a self-directed way against stated problems
- Apply theories of power to contemporary and historical contexts of policy-making in political parties
- Show abilities in written and oral form in communicating ideas, arguments and conclusions

### Assessment task

- 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

- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of political mobilisation
- Use intelligible argument to explicate dilemmas and issues in policy making in political parties

- Show abilities in written and oral form in communicating ideas, arguments and conclusions

## **Assessment tasks**

- In Class Test
- 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**

- Explain how political parties formulate public policy using different theoretical lenses and show the conflicts and agreements between different approaches
- Explain differences and similarities over time between different organisational forms of political mobilisation
- Critically analyse the links between information, 'facts' and judgment in explaining policy outcomes
- Show abilities in written and oral form in communicating ideas, arguments and conclusions

## **Assessment task**

- Research Essay