



PICT211

National Security: Policy and Strategy

S1 External 2017

Department of Security Studies and Criminology

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	4
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	7
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	8

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

PICT111 or PICT110

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit critically examines how the Australian government formulates defence and national security policy. The unit explores the historical development of Australia's defence policy by looking at the political, geographic and cultural factors that have shaped Australian perceptions of its own security requirements. The unit then discusses the current strategic challenges facing Australia, including the rise of China, the US 'pivot' to Asia, regional military modernisation, and the threats emanating from weak and failing states. The unit concludes by examining current Australian defence debates on how best to respond to these emerging security threats and challenges. By the end of this unit, students will possess a deep understanding of the issues involved with how Australia can and might use military force to pursue its strategic interests. The unit complements PICT112, which addresses Indo-Pacific security.

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 key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.

Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is

made.

Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.

Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.

Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.

Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Book Review	30%	No	TBA - see iLearn
Online Quizzes	30%	No	TBA - see iLearn
Research Essay	40%	No	TBA - see iLearn

Book Review

Due: **TBA - see iLearn**

Weighting: **30%**

See iLearn for details

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Online Quizzes

Due: **TBA - see iLearn**

Weighting: **30%**

See iLearn site for details

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Research Essay

Due: **TBA - see iLearn**

Weighting: **40%**

See iLearn site for details

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

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 major 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

- Personal PC and internet access are essential for this unit. Basic computer skills and skills in word processing are also a requirement.
- This unit has an online presence. Login is via: <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/>
- Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.
- For technical support go to: http://mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/informatics/help
- For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm

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.

REASSESSMENT OF ASSIGNMENTS DURING THE SEMESTER

- Macquarie University operates a Grade Appeal Policy in cases where students feel their work was graded inappropriately (<http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>). This process involves all assignments submitted for that unit being reassessed. However, in exceptional cases students may request that a single piece of work is

reassessed.

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_2016.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

Disruption to Studies Policy (in effect until Dec 4th, 2017): http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html

Special Consideration Policy (in effect from Dec 4th, 2017): <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>

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://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

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.

Assessment tasks

- Book Review
- Research Essay

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.

- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Assessment task

- Online Quizzes

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment task

- Book Review

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in

relation to national security contingency planning.

- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Assessment tasks

- Book Review
- Online Quizzes
- Research Essay

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Assessment tasks

- Book Review
- Online Quizzes
- Research Essay

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and

they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment tasks

- Online Quizzes
- Research Essay

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Assessment task

- Book Review

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critically analyze the concepts of business continuity and continuity of government in relation to national security contingency planning.
- Debate and argue the influence of external stakeholders to the formulation and implementation of Australian national security policy.
- Employ a whole-of-government perspective to a policy coordination challenge.

Assessment task

- Online Quizzes

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key decision-making processes in the formulation and implementation of national security policies and strategies.
- Explain the political and legal framework in which Australian national security policy is made.
- Identify key external stakeholders, such as the private sector, the media, think-tanks and lobby or interest groups, relevant to the Australian national security policy.

Assessment task

- Online Quizzes