



PICT847

Supervised Project in Security Studies

S1 Evening 2017

Department of Security Studies and Criminology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Andrew Tan

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Contact via 98506898

Room 242, Department of Security Studies and Criminology

By email appointment: andrew.tan@mq.edu.au

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MCrimMPICT or MCP ICT or PGDipPICT or GradDipPICT or GradDipCPICT or MPICTMIntSecSt or MCP ICTMIntSecSt or MIntSecStud or GradDipIntSecStud and 12cp and permission by special approval

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit gives students the opportunity to engage in the composition of a 6000 word self-directed research project, under the supervision of a subject area expert. This unit will necessitate students to thoroughly engage with the existing research on their topic, using it as a stepping-stone in developing their own research skills. Students will be mentored and trained on how to devise a research questions, translate this question into a set of research tasks, synthesise an appropriate methodological framework, conduct a literature review, collect data, and write up the result of their research as a coherent long research essay. This research relies on utilizing academic secondary sources and does not require original empirical work.

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:

Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.

Evaluate evidence / data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.

Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.

Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

General Assessment Information

SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

- All text-based assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.
- Assessment tasks must be submitted as a 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 is subject to the university's Disruptions Policy. Extensions will not in normal circumstances be granted by unit conveners or tutors, but must be lodged through Disruption to Study: http://www.students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/manage_your_study_program/disruption_to_studies/.

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 include footnotes and footnoted references, but not 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://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>
- Conformably to the Grade Appeal Policy, individual works are not subject to regrading.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Research Proposal</u>	20%	No	17/03/2017
<u>Research Essay Plan</u>	10%	No	07/04/2017
<u>Research Essay</u>	70%	No	09/06/2017

Research Proposal

Due: **17/03/2017**

Weighting: **20%**

Detailed information about this assessment task can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Research Essay Plan

Due: **07/04/2017**

Weighting: **10%**

Detailed information about this assessment task can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Research Essay

Due: **09/06/2017**

Weighting: **70%**

Detailed information about this assessment task can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Evaluate evidence / data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Delivery and Resources

DELIVERY AND RESOURCES

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

- You will not be able to enroll in this unit without first having found an appropriate member of PICT who has agreed to supervise your research.
- You should spend an average of at least 12 hours per week on this unit.
- You will need to agree a regular program of consultation with your supervisor.
- Students are required to submit all major assessment tasks in order to pass the unit.

REQUIRED READINGS

- There are no designated required readings for this unit.

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

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

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Evaluate evidence / data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research

submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

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

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

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

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Evaluate evidence / data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to

logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal
- Research Essay Plan
- 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

- Evaluate evidence / data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.

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

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Evaluate evidence / data in line with a chosen theoretical or practical model in order to logically and rationally test a research hypothesis.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.

- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal
- Research Essay Plan
- 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

- Develop detailed knowledge of a chosen field from a critical assessment of established academic scholarship.
- Develop research, time management and academic writing skills in order to design and deliver one major scholarly research project in conjunction with close supervision from an academic mentor.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from draft submissions into a final cogent written research submission.

Assessment tasks

- Research Proposal
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay