



POIR7000

Key Questions in Political Science and Public Policy

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Modern History, Politics & International Relations

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	3
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	4
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	4

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer

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Contact via 98507085

Australian Hearing Hub

TBA

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to BPhil/MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit aims to guide the students through some of the fundamental literature in Comparative Politics and Comparative Public Policy. The goal is to give students the opportunity to read in depth about and reflect upon key methodological and conceptual debates, so that they can acquire the fundamental theoretical and methodological tools to carry out comparative political analysis. The unit is structured as a seminar and thus is based on weekly discussions of the required readings.

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:

ULO1: Identify, critically analyse and discuss the major debates and controversies involved in issues such as democratization, development, party systems and the political and policy implications electoral rules

ULO2: Engage with the key methodological debates in comparative politics and comparative public policy

ULO3: Show competent knowledge of the theoretical literature as well as of the empirical

cases covered in the readings

ULO4: Evaluate the quality, validity and reliability of research

ULO5: Communicate views accurately and effectively in oral scholarly discussions

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and students](#)

General Assessment Information

Late Submission Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

DELIVERY

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

Students are expected to attend the following classes each week:

Lecture: Tuesday 3.00 to 5.00 pm located at 4 Western Rd - 301 Tutorial Rm.

-Attending the seminars are central to completing the tasks for this course.

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Week 1	February 26	Introduction to the Course and Introducing Key themes and Theoretical schools
Week 2	March 5	What is politics?
Week 3	March 12	What or who is the subject of the political act?
Week 4	March 19	What is the state?
Week 5	March 26	What is the market?
Week 6	April 2	On the question of political truth or ideology?
Week 7	April 9	Rights or Needs?
Sept 16- 29 Mid Semester Break		
Week 8	April 30	Revolution or Reform?
Week 9	May 7	How should we understand identity?
Week 10	May 14	Understanding future Challenges: Automation
Week 11	May 21	Reading Week (no lectures or tutorials)
Week 12	May 28	Understanding future Challenges: Ecology
Week 13	June 4	Concluding Remarks

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)

- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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.