



ANTH3002

The Anthropology of Politics and Power

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Anthropology

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor and lecturer

Max Harwood

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On appointment

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Politics and power can be thought of as intimate aspects of our social life and relationships, and hence as aspects of all subjects of anthropological investigation. Processes of domination, resistance and social transformation are inevitably involved in the creation and representation of cultural practices and meanings. In the first half of the unit students will identify and compare the themes - explicit or otherwise - that dominate the composition of a number of classical political ethnographies, while also exploring the wider question of their colonial contexts and how this context influenced the development of anthropological knowledge. Its second half examines how these themes are still relevant in illuminating more contemporary manifestations of power, including forms of political practice such as nationalism and its project of social transformation; violence and terror; gender and agency; resistance and collaboration; and peace-making and reconciliation.

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: Apply the concerns of various anthropological writings to contemporary processes of power and politics.

ULO2: Discern and discuss the tensions and correspondences between the political institutions of different societies, their representation in ethnographic writing or film, and political processes in the ethnographers' own society.

ULO3: Demonstrate knowledge of influential ethnographies and debates relevant to the anthropology of politics and power.

ULO5: Write cogently about the sociocultural dimensions of political systems and practices

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Minor Essay	25%	No	TBA
Take-Home Test	25%	No	TBA
Tutorial Participation	10%	No	TBA
Major Essay	40%	No	TBA

Minor Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 22 hours

Due: **TBA**

Weighting: **25%**

The minor essay will count for 25% of the semester's work. Please base this essay on any cluster of readings that takes your fancy from the other 6 weeks of group presentations.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply the concerns of various anthropological writings to contemporary processes of power and politics.
- Discern and discuss the tensions and correspondences between the political institutions

of different societies, their representation in ethnographic writing or film, and political processes in the ethnographers' own society.

- Demonstrate knowledge of influential ethnographies and debates relevant to the anthropology of politics and power.
- Write cogently about the sociocultural dimensions of political systems and practices

Take-Home Test

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **TBA**

Weighting: **25%**

The exam will consist of a combination of short answers to questions that link together topics and themes covered in lectures and tutorials throughout the course.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply the concerns of various anthropological writings to contemporary processes of power and politics.
- Discern and discuss the tensions and correspondences between the political institutions of different societies, their representation in ethnographic writing or film, and political processes in the ethnographers' own society.
- Demonstrate knowledge of influential ethnographies and debates relevant to the anthropology of politics and power.
- Write cogently about the sociocultural dimensions of political systems and practices

Tutorial Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **TBA**

Weighting: **10%**

Students participation in tutorial discussions and activities.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply the concerns of various anthropological writings to contemporary processes of

power and politics.

- Discern and discuss the tensions and correspondences between the political institutions of different societies, their representation in ethnographic writing or film, and political processes in the ethnographers' own society.
- Demonstrate knowledge of influential ethnographies and debates relevant to the anthropology of politics and power.

Major Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 45 hours

Due: **TBA**

Weighting: **40%**

The major essay will account for 40% of the semester's work. Remember, students will write two essays in total, one from each half of the course, dealing with the major themes under discussion. Essay questions will be self-selected, but this selection will be facilitated by tutorial discussion. Your essay question must be clearly stated in your assignment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply the concerns of various anthropological writings to contemporary processes of power and politics.
- Discern and discuss the tensions and correspondences between the political institutions of different societies, their representation in ethnographic writing or film, and political processes in the ethnographers' own society.
- Demonstrate knowledge of influential ethnographies and debates relevant to the anthropology of politics and power.
- Write cogently about the sociocultural dimensions of political systems and practices

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

TBA

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](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>).

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.