



PICT8060

Geopolitics and Geostrategy

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Security Studies and Criminology

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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 activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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

Adam Lockyer

adam.lockyer@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MPICT or MCP ICT or GradDipPICT or GradDipCPICT or PGCertPICT or MPICTMIntSecSt or MCP ICTMIntSecSt or MIntSecStud or GradDipIntSecStud or GradCertIntell or MCTerrorism or M CyberSec or GradDipSecStudCr or GradCertSecStudCr or MIntell or MSecStrategicStud or MCrim or MSecStrategicStudMCrim or MSecStrategicStudMIntell or MSecStrategicStudM CyberSec or MSecStrategicStudMCTerrorism or MIntellMCrim or MIntellM CyberSec or MIntellMCTerrorism or M CyberSecMCTerrorism or M CyberSecMCrim or MCTerrorismMCrim or Master of Cyber Security Analysis or ((Admission to BSecStudMCTerrorism or BSecStudMCrim or BSecStudM CyberSecAnalysis or BSecStudMIntell or BSecStudMSecStrategicStud) and (50 cp at 2000 level))

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The international security order is in a period of rapid transformation. This unit examines the major global geopolitical trends, including in the Indo-Pacific, the greater Middle East, Europe, as well as Latin America and Africa. It also analyses the influence of those dynamics on the geostrategies of key countries. Aside from exposing students to the concept of geopolitics as an analytical instrument, the unit will deal with a series of case studies, including the evolving US-Sino rivalry; the Sino-India great power game; the geopolitics of Southeast Asia; the rise of Iran, and the emerging roles of Saudi Arabia and Turkey; the question of the re-emergence of Russia and Germany as great powers; and the United Kingdom in times of Brexit. The unit will provide students with in-depth understanding about the key contemporary global geostrategic dynamics and the implications for regional and international stability.

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 in-depth understanding about geopolitical analysis, geopolitical theories and geostrategy in multiple contexts. You will be across the various methods and approaches to geopolitical and geostrategic analysis.

ULO2: understand the difference between classical and critical geopolitics. You will be able to apply different methods for analysing geopolitics and to critically assess geopolitical questions through different analytical lenses.

ULO3: apply in-depth understanding about the historical evolution of modern geopolitics. Students will be equipped with the knowledge of historical case studies of geopolitically important changes before and after the Cold War, and the implications for scholarly understandings of geopolitical study.

ULO4: apply geopolitical analysis and integrated knowledge to assess the significance of current trends in this area and the related implications for scholarship and the policy world. Students will also be able to recognise recurrent geopolitical patterns throughout history.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Annotations	40%	No	TBA - see iLearn for details
Major Research Essay	50%	No	TBA - see iLearn for details
Participation	10%	No	TBA - see iLearn for details

Annotations

Assessment Type ¹: Log book

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **TBA - see iLearn for details**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will annotate a selection of their required readings. Instructional videos will be available on iLearn that show how to properly annotate a text.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- apply in-depth understanding about geopolitical analysis, geopolitical theories and geostrategy in multiple contexts. You will be across the various methods and approaches to geopolitical and geostrategic analysis.
- understand the difference between classical and critical geopolitics. You will be able to apply different methods for analysing geopolitics and to critically assess geopolitical questions through different analytical lenses.
- apply in-depth understanding about the historical evolution of modern geopolitics. Students will be equipped with the knowledge of historical case studies of geopolitically important changes before and after the Cold War, and the implications for scholarly understandings of geopolitical study.
- apply geopolitical analysis and integrated knowledge to assess the significance of current trends in this area and the related implications for scholarship and the policy world. Students will also be able to recognise recurrent geopolitical patterns throughout history.

Major Research Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 55 hours

Due: **TBA - see iLearn for details**

Weighting: **50%**

Students will prepare a 3,000 word research essay which will develop their ability to conduct independent research, apply critical thinking skills and foundational knowledge acquired during the seminar, and write in a clear, concise and academically rigorous manner.

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- understand the difference between classical and critical geopolitics. You will be able to apply different methods for analysing geopolitics and to critically assess geopolitical questions through different analytical lenses.
- apply in-depth understanding about the historical evolution of modern geopolitics. Students will be equipped with the knowledge of historical case studies of geopolitically important changes before and after the Cold War, and the implications for scholarly

understandings of geopolitical study.

- apply geopolitical analysis and integrated knowledge to assess the significance of current trends in this area and the related implications for scholarship and the policy world. Students will also be able to recognise recurrent geopolitical patterns throughout history.

Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **TBA - see iLearn for details**

Weighting: **10%**

Students will be expected to actively engage in the weekly discussions and debates within their seminars (on campus students) or on the iLearn discussion forums (fully online students).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- apply in-depth understanding about geopolitical analysis, geopolitical theories and geostrategy in multiple contexts. You will be across the various methods and approaches to geopolitical and geostrategic analysis.
- understand the difference between classical and critical geopolitics. You will be able to apply different methods for analysing geopolitics and to critically assess geopolitical questions through different analytical lenses.
- apply in-depth understanding about the historical evolution of modern geopolitics. Students will be equipped with the knowledge of historical case studies of geopolitically important changes before and after the Cold War, and the implications for scholarly understandings of geopolitical study.
- apply geopolitical analysis and integrated knowledge to assess the significance of current trends in this area and the related implications for scholarship and the policy world. Students will also be able to recognise recurrent geopolitical patterns throughout history.

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

Unit requirements and expectations

- You should spend an average of 12 hours per week on this unit. This includes listening to lectures prior to seminar or tutorial, reading weekly required materials as detailed in iLearn, and preparing assessments.
- Internal students are expected to attend all seminar or tutorial sessions, and external students are expected to make significant contributions to on-line activities.
- In most cases students are required to attempt and submit all major assessment tasks in order to pass the unit.

Technology used and Required

- Computer 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.
- Information about IT used for this unit is available at http://students.mq.edu.au/it_service/s/

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 Special Consideration Policy. Extensions will not be granted by unit conveners or tutors, but must be lodged through Special Consideration: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>

Late submission of assessment tasks

- 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 seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline**. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

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 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.

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 site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed through the library or will be made available by other means.

Extensions and special consideration

The granting of extensions of up to one week is at the discretion of the Unit Convenor. Any request for extensions must be made in writing to the Unit Convenor before the due date. Extensions beyond one week will be subject to the special consideration policy and applications must be made through the links below.

Special Consideration Policy

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/postgraduate_coursework/admin_central/special_consideration

UNIT WEBPAGE AND TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

- Computer 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.

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
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ACADEMIC HONESTY / PLAGIARISM

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

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>

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

STAFF AVAILABILITY

- Department staff will endeavor to answer student enquiries in a timely manner (usually within 48 hours). However, emails or iLearn messages will not usually be answered over the weekend or public holiday period.
- Students are encouraged to read the Unit Guide and look at instructions posted on the iLearn site before sending email requests to staff.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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.