PICT1010
Introduction to Security Studies
Session 1, Online-flexible 2024

Department of Security Studies and Criminology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is a gateway unit into further study in Security Studies. It will introduce students to
the theoretical foundations, essential concepts and central issues in the field of Security
Studies. It will also further develop and refine students’ academic skills and literacy. Students
will learn how to use Security Studies’ central theories and concepts to gain a deeper
understanding of the leading security challenges currently confronting Australia and the wider
world. At its conclusion, students will have acquired the academic skills and conceptual
knowledge necessary to successfully pursue their undergraduate studies in Security Studies.

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: Demonstrate understanding of key approaches, theories, concepts, issues and
debates in Security Studies.

ULO2: Apply Security Studies’ key approaches, theories, concepts to both historical and
current events in order to gain insight and understanding.

ULO3: Identify key stakeholders, actors and structures in the field of Security Studies.

ULO4: Model basic academic skills, in particular, being able to demonstrate analytical
reading and annotation skills.

ULO5: Develop oral and written communication skills

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/164903/unit_guide/print
### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analytical Reading Assignment</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viva Voce</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Check iLearn for details</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Analytical Reading Assignment

Assessment Type 1: Qualitative analysis task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 33 hours
Due: Weekly
Weighting: 45%

Students will annotate the core readings using the "Macquarie Method" of analytical reading. They will then upload scanned versions of these readings each week.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Demonstrate understanding of key approaches, theories, concepts, issues and debates in Security Studies.
- Model basic academic skills, in particular, being able to demonstrate analytical reading and annotation skills.
- Develop oral and written communication skills

#### Viva Voce

Assessment Type 1: Viva/oral examination
Indicative Time on Task 2: 30 hours
Due: Check iLearn for details
Weighting: 55%

Students will submit a policy brief and complete a viva voce.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Demonstrate understanding of key approaches, theories, concepts, issues and debates in Security Studies.
- Apply Security Studies’ key approaches, theories, concepts to both historical and current
events in order to gain insight and understanding.

• Identify key stakeholders, actors and structures in the field of Security Studies.
• Model basic academic skills, in particular, being able to demonstrate analytical reading and annotation skills.
• Develop oral and written communication skills

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, participating in iLearn discussion forums 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.

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.

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 at Macquarie University is available at http://students.mq.edu.au/it_services/

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 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of ‘0’ (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.
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 deviates from the limit by more than 10%, then penalties will apply. These penalties are 5% of the awarded mark for every 100 words deviation from 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](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html)
- In accordance with the Grade Appeal Policy, individual works are not subject to regrading.

STAFF AVAILABILITY

- Department staff will endeavour to answer student enquiries in a timely manner. 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). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student 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) 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

**Academic Integrity**

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

**The Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of **Student Support Services** including:

- **IT Support**
- **Accessibility and disability support** with study
- **Mental health support**
- **Safety support** to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- **Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues**
- **Student Advocacy** provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

**Student Enquiries**

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](https://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/), or contact [Service Connect](https://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](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](https://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2024.04 of the **Handbook**