ICOM203
International Public Relations and Advertising
MQC1 Day 2015
Dept of Media, Music & Cultural Studies

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Disclaimer
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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Prithi Nambiar
prithi.nambiar@mq.edu.au
Contact via Via email

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
15cp

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit examines the relationship between media, the state, non-government organisations and other international actors. It examines the literature, history and practice of public diplomacy, media and foreign policy. This involves investigation of soft power through media communication campaigns initiated by national governments; the application of media as an arm of foreign policy; and case studies addressing military intervention, trade policy and agenda like human rights, environmental protection and terrorism.

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:

1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public
2. Interpret the theories and practices surrounding intercultural communication and how they relate to public diplomacy and media and foreign policy
3. Analyse critically PR communication campaigns
4. Appraise the role of mass communication as a continuation and/or tool of foreign policy
5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism
7. Demonstrate knowledge and communicate it to the class and participate in discussions

General Assessment Information
ICOM 203 assessment is designed to minimise the level of stress at the very end of the session and in the examination period. ICOM 203 encourages you

1. to participate in classroom activities;
2. to critically examine the relationship between media and public diplomacy (presentation);
3. to acquire a theoretical and practical understanding (mid-semester assessment); and
4. to develop creative and practical skills (designing a media communication campaign).

You MUST attempt all the four components of assessment to pass ICOM 203.

Marking Criteria:

1. Demonstrated understanding of public relations theory and practice
2. The ability to engage your publics effectively using appropriate tactics
3. Evidence of research with appropriately referenced source material
4. Accurate grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Performance in relation to each of these criteria is assessed against the following standards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Standards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Report conveys an advanced understanding of the complexities of the theory in an applied context</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comprehensive and innovative treatment of all the task requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exceptional critical insights, extensive research and creative use of the arguments introduced in the unit with appropriate wide ranging referencing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Written and presented to an exemplary academic standard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>-------</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Report conveys a strong understanding of the complexities of the theory in the applied context. Comprehensive and satisfactory treatment of all the task requirements. Reflects the author’s ability to effectively conduct research, explain, interpret and analyse situations utilising a variety of conceptual tools with appropriate referencing. Written and presented to a very high academic standard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Report conveys a sound understanding of discrete knowledge components. Task requirements are satisfactorily addressed. Demonstrates a sound capacity to conduct basic research, critically reflect on, analyse and solve problems. There is evidence of being able to interpret concepts in a meaningful way. Written and presented in a satisfactory manner with appropriate use of citations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Report demonstrates a modest capacity to use the theory to analyse and address situations. Majority of the task requirements have been addressed. Although there is evidence of research, there is limited capacity to draw conceptual connections. Report is presented with sufficient coherence and clarity for the reader to understand the ideas and arguments being proposed. However, improvements to writing such as structure, grammar and referencing are required to meet academic writing standards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Report fails to demonstrate a satisfactory grasp of the field of knowledge covered by the unit

Task requirements are not addressed

Report conveys little evidence of the capacity to apply different theories effectively. Few connections are drawn between relevant concepts and their proposed strategy and there is little or no evidence of research

Report demonstrates little or no understanding or appreciation of standards required for academic writing. Considerable improvements in terms of clarity, grammar, spelling, quotations, referencing or presentation are required to achieve an acceptable standard.

Submission Procedures

Your essay must be submitted to Turnitin via iLearn. Late assignments will be penalised at the rate of 5% of the total mark value of the assignment per day.

Hard Copy Submissions

E submissions are preferred in order to reduce waste of paper and enable similarity checks online. Please submit your work via turnitin.

Turnitin Submissions

Information about how to submit work online can be accessed through the iLearn unit. See here: http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/assignments.htm#submit_turnitin for more information on Turnitin submissions.

In case of illness and misadventure students need to submit official documentation at least two days before the due date of the assignment. The University’s policy on the special consideration process is available online. You will need to lodge your request for special consideration by logging into http://ask.mq.edu.au with your OneID.

Plagiarism

The University defines plagiarism in its rules: “Plagiarism involves using the work of another person and presenting it as one’s own.” Plagiarism is a serious breach of the University’s rules and carries significant penalties. You must read the University’s practices and procedures on plagiarism. These can be found in the Handbook of Undergraduate Studies or on the web at: http://www.student.mq.edu.au/plagiarism/

The policies and procedures explain what plagiarism is, how to avoid it, the procedures that will be taken in cases of suspected plagiarism, and the penalties if you are found guilty. Penalties may include a deduction of marks, failure in the unit, and/or referral to the University Discipline Committee.

Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td><strong>Unit Overview and Theoretical introduction</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Activities: Unit outline, contact details and an overview of the field of international PR.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Where to position the field of ‘International PR and Advertising’? What will you learn?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is about the inclusion of cultural differences, environmental changes in the practice of international PR, predominantly from the perspective of governments, nongovernment organizations, multinational corporations and media. It is also about the challenges of international PR versus domestic PR.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th><strong>History of Public Relations and Advertising</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An overview is given about the history of PR – a field which originated in the United States. Highlighted are the ‘American values’ that are still part of the practice of PR and Advertising. In general an approach is taken using cultural studies and international communication concepts to develop international public relations theory.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is Public Relations? What is International Public Relations?</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th><strong>Basic Concepts of International PR</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What are the basic concepts of International Public Relations? What are the processes of communication and how do people react to public relations and media? How is public opinion constructed and experienced? Recognise the processes of persuasion and manipulation.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Week 4: International PR and Public Diplomacy

What is the relationship between international public relations and public diplomacy? How can international public relations be used to promote a government’s policy? What are the challenges for international public relations in terms of promoting a country’s image?


### Week 5: PR and Advertising in Organisations

International PR plays a significant role in multinational organisations. To this end it is very important to differentiate between public relations, advertising and marketing. How can these tools and strategies be brought together to form an integrated marketing communication approach?


### Week 6: Global Public Relations and Culture

An intercultural communication perspective on PR will be taken. Relevant concepts such as language, culture, identity, representation will be examined. Challenges for Cross-Cultural Communications and PR will be discussed.


### Week 7: Regulating Global Public Relations

As global public relations is influencing the lives of many around the world, it needs to be regulated. This week, issues of power are discussed. What are the regulatory institutions vis-a-vis public relations? What are the cultural norms determining the regulation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Mid-semester Assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Public Relations Strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to develop a PR Strategy? How to develop a media communication campaign?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What are the public relations objectives and strategies? What are the tools and instrument required to create a public relations strategy?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>War and Propaganda</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Today, the topic is the manipulation of public opinion by the media, by public relations efforts in particular. How to recognise manipulation? Discuss historical and modern propaganda campaigns from around the world.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Identity and Consumption</td>
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<td></td>
<td>What is a public? What is the difference between traditional and modern and domestic and international publics? What determines consumption? What are new consumption patterns? Think of influencing/manipulation public opinion in regards to consumption behaviour? What roles does public relations and advertising play in this respect?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Weekly from Week 2 to Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>In Tutorials Week 3-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Session Assessment</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign Proposal</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participation**

**Due:** *Weekly from Week 2 to Week 13*

**Weighting:** 10%

Participation in class discussions and active contributions.

Students are expected to lead and participate in discussions and activities around the readings allocated for tutorials and to attend and be punctual for at least 90% of the lectures and tutorials. Marks will be awarded for participation in class discussions and general contributions (N.B. marks are awarded for ‘participation’ rather than attendance). Failure to attend and participate in all classes could result in exclusion and consequent failure in the unit. It is the responsibility for the student to contact the lecturer/tutor and explain reasons for absence from class. Irregular attendance will affect the participation mark for the unit.
On successful completion you will be able to:

1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public
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7. Demonstrate knowledge and communicate it to the class and participate in discussions

Presentation
Due: In Tutorials Week 3-13
Weighting: 20%

Tutorial Presentations

In the tutorial presentation, you will summarise the week's readings and present a real-life example relating to the week's reading. The emphasis is on relating the concepts from the readings to a real life scenario of interest and familiarity to yourself. You may use audio-visual clips and group activities that engage the class rather than a straight presentation.

In successful completion you will be able to:

1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public
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Mid Session Assessment
Due: Week 8  
Weighting: 30%

A 10 question written test administered during the lecture hours in Week 8. Tutorial activity will be held as usual between 10.30 and 11.30am

This will be a test to be conducted during the lecture hours (Tuesday 11.30 am to 1.30 pm) in Week 8. It will consist of 10 questions based on the readings and lectures from weeks 1 to 7 (inclusive). The test will ask you to define some fundamental concepts, discuss relevance and importance of the concepts you have studied, and/or give examples. Lecture questions during the previous weeks’ tutorials should give you a good indication of the direction you should take in your preparation for the test.

The only exception to not sitting an in-class test or examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you should consider applying for Special Consideration otherwise you will not receive any mark for this component of assessment.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• 1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public
• 2. Interpret the theories and practices surrounding intercultural communication and how they relate to public diplomacy and media and foreign policy

Campaign Proposal
Due: Week 13  
Weighting: 40%

A clearly designed PR campaign proposal (2000 words) based on concepts taught in class

2000 words public relation campaign proposal.

Requirement:
Imagine you are a PR consultant for an organisation (choose one from the Topics below), you are required to design a public relations campaign and present the PR campaign proposal to the organisation for which you are working. The proposal should cover the following:

1. Identification of the objectives of your communication campaign;
2. Background information of the organisation (historical, social, political, and cultural
contexts, etc.)

3. Identification of the existing problems/threats;
4. Proposed/expected new developments;
5. Identification of actors (active/passive) involved and stakeholders affected by or affecting the campaign;
6. Discussion of how your strategies of communication, media management and evaluation will address each set of actors and stakeholders. Please demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of concepts from the readings and their bearing on your chosen strategies and over all campaign.

Please refer also to “Structure of the campaign proposal”, which explains how these contents should be structured in the proposal.

**Topics:**

Choose one from the following scenarios:

1. Imagine that you are a public relations consultant for a national campaign to change the public behaviour of Australians when they travel abroad. You have been hired by the Australian government to design an innovative and effective communication campaign that will achieve this outcome.

2. Imagine that you are a public relations consultant for a corporation. You have been hired to design an innovative and effective communication campaign to promote its social profile and image in domestic and international contexts.

**Structure of the campaign proposal**

Your proposal can begin with a brief synopsis outlining the problems and opportunities. Executive summaries should concentrate on only the most salient points and recommendations. (Re. cases studies in reading materials)

Your proposal should contain the following eight sections:

1. Situation analysis: This will be the introduction of the proposal. In this section, you should outline the problems or opportunities, comment on its implications, and identify possible consequences if no action is taken.
2. Objectives: Clearly describe the outcomes to be attained. Explain your objectives by relating them to the situation discussed in the above section.
3. Audiences: Identify the types of audiences targeted by your campaign. Discuss the relationship between them and your organization. Discuss their profiles.
4. Strategy: Describe your strategy while detailing the process by which you will achieve the above stated objectives and outcomes.
5. Tactics: Describe the specific activities that will operationalise your strategies towards the achievement of your stated objectives.

6. Schedule/Timeline: Develop a task-time matrix that covers all the major tasks to be conducted. This can follow a Gant chart or any model chosen from your readings.

7. Budget: Identify items of expected costs and potential resources for the campaign.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation: address how you will measure the effect of your campaign.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public.
- 2. Interpret the theories and practices surrounding intercultural communication and how they relate to public diplomacy and media and foreign policy.
- 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign.

**Delivery and Resources**

**Classes**

Number and length of classes: 1 x 2 hour lecture and 1 x 1 hour tutorial.

Attendance at the tutorial is compulsory.

The timetable for classes can be found on the MQC Student Portal at: [http://student.mqc.edu.au](http://student.mqc.edu.au)/

**Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials**

All the required readings are in the *ICOM 203 Course Reader* available from the Co-op bookshop.

All prescribed textbooks will be made available to students to purchase at the Phillip Street Coop Bookshop. Students will be able to view a full list of textbooks for all units on the Noticeboard link on the Student Portal at [http://student.mqc.edu.au/](http://student.mqc.edu.au/)

**Selected Bibliography / Recommended Reading:**


Learning and Teaching Activities

Participation in Seminar style classroom discussions

• You are required to attend a two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial each week. The tutorial is held in seminar style with weekly presentations. • Students are expected to read the weekly articles, follow the news, read newspapers, participate actively in class and engage in discussions and class activities.

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

Technology Used and Required

Online units can be accessed at: http://ilearn.mq.edu.au/.

PC and Internet access are required. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement.

Please consult teaching staff for any further, more specific requirements.


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https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/53121/unit_guide/print 15
**Disruption to Studies Policy** is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.

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/](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](http://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/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://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](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

**IT Help**


When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.
Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• 4. Appraise the role of mass communication as a continuation and/or tool of foreign policy
• 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
• 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism
• 7. Demonstrate knowledge and communicate it to the class and participate in discussions

Assessment tasks

• Presentation
• Campaign Proposal

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• 3. Analyse critically PR communication campaigns
• 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
• 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism
• 7. Demonstrate knowledge and communicate it to the class and participate in discussions

Assessment tasks

• Presentation
Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- 2. Interpret the theories and practices surrounding intercultural communication and how they relate to public diplomacy and media and foreign policy

**Assessment task**

- Campaign Proposal

**Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills**

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 2. Interpret the theories and practices surrounding intercultural communication and how they relate to public diplomacy and media and foreign policy
- 3. Analyse critically PR communication campaigns
- 4. Appraise the role of mass communication as a continuation and/or tool of foreign policy
- 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
- 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism

**Assessment tasks**

- Presentation
Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public
- 2. Interpret the theories and practices surrounding intercultural communication and how they relate to public diplomacy and media and foreign policy
- 3. Analyse critically PR communication campaigns
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- 7. Demonstrate knowledge and communicate it to the class and participate in discussions

**Assessment tasks**

- Presentation
- Mid Session Assessment
- Campaign Proposal

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• 4. Appraise the role of mass communication as a continuation and/or tool of foreign policy
• 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
• 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• 1. Understand and explain the relationships between public relations and advertising, the media, international actors (state, national, NGOs and international enterprise) and the international public
• 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
• 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism
• 7. Demonstrate knowledge and communicate it to the class and participate in discussions

Assessment tasks

• Participation
• Presentation
• Mid Session Assessment
• Campaign Proposal

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.
This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
- 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism

**Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Campaign Proposal

**Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible**

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- 5. Apply public relations theories in creating an international communication campaign
- 6. Examine case studies addressing international activities and agenda such as military intervention, trade policy, environmental protection, health promotion and anti-terrorism

**Assessment task**

- Presentation