PICT310
Insecurity, Development and Conflict Analysis
S1 Day 2016
Dept of Policing, Intelligence & Counter-Terrorism

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Disclaimer
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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Michael Cohen
michael.cohen@mq.edu.au

Course Convenor
Glenn Diesen
glenn.diesen@mq.edu.au
by appointment

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
36cp including PICT212

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
The nexus between conflict, insecurity and development is an enduring challenge in the Security Studies field. This unit examines the enduring nature of human conflict in the contemporary international system. It uses Conflict Analysis as a lens to examine the key theories and debates about the fundamental origins of violent conflict, the impact of conflict on societies and the main approaches to conflict resolution and peacebuilding. This unit builds on other Security Studies units by exploring the range of insecurity that exists in many of the least developed countries. It presents an alternate, complementary view to other units by focusing on conflict within state which lack the capacity to provide security to individuals. It also examines the implications of insecurity for societal cohesion and long-term development indicators, such as economic growth, employment opportunities, life expectancy and the provision of health and education services.

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:

Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
- Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
- Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
- Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
- Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
- Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

**Major Essay**

Due: **06.06.2016**

Weighting: **50%**

See iLearn for details

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
• Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

Exam
Due: **16.06.2016**
Weighting: **20%**
See iLearn for details

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
• Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

Participation
Due: **Ongoing**
Weighting: **10%**
See iLearn for details

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
• Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.
Delivery and Resources

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

• You should spend an average of at least 12 hours per week on this unit. This includes listening to pre-recorded lectures prior to seminar discussions and reading weekly required readings detailed in iLearn.
• Internal students are expected to attend all seminar sessions and external students are expected to contribute to online discussions.
• Students are required to 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 EReserve site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed at the EReserve site.

Students can purchase either a physical or electronic copy online directly from Routledge (www.routledge.com) or from Amazon (www.amazon.com) or the Book Depository (www.bookdepository.com). Copies are also available from the Macquarie University Co-op bookshop. All materials are available through the Macquarie University library. The compulsory textbook is available in Reserve.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

• Personal PC 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.
• For technical support go to: http://mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/informatics/help
• For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_inf
SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

- All assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.
- Assessment tasks must be submitted either as a PDF or 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 of up to one week are at the discretion of the unit convener. Any requests for extensions must be made in writing before the due date for the submission of the assessment task. Extensions beyond one week are subject to the university’s Disruptions Policy (http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html#purpose).

LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

- If an assignment is submitted late, 5% of the available mark will be deducted for each day (including weekends) the paper is late.
- For example, if a paper is worth 20 marks, 1 mark will be deducted from the grade given for each day that it is late (i.e. a student given 15/20 who submitted 4 days late will lose 4 marks = 11/20).
- The same principle applies if an extension is granted and the assignment is submitted later than the amended date.

WORD LIMITS FOR ASSESSMENT TASKS

- Stated word limits do not include references, 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 x 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://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html)). This process involves all assignments submitted for that unit being reassessed. However, in exceptional cases students may request that a single piece of work is reassessed.

**Unit Schedule**

**PICT310: Syllabus**

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<td>Fiji: Does economic development unite or divide society?</td>
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<td>Decline of the state?</td>
<td>The UK and the European Union: Does the decline of the state create global citizens or the revive nationalism?</td>
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**Unit guide** PICT310 Insecurity, Development and Conflict Analysis

[https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/62107/unit_guide/print](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/62107/unit_guide/print)
Question 3: What are the development dilemmas?

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Week 1: Introduction: The Development-Security Nexus

This module will introduce the security-development nexus. Peace studies focus on the link between development and security, suggesting that one cannot exist without the other. How does this understanding of insecurity impact conflict analysis? We will outline the structure and material of this course, which addresses the debates concerning the link between development and security.

Seminar

Class discussion: What is the relationship between security and development? What is security and why is it a 'contested concept'? Whose security are we referring to? What counts as a security issue and how can security be achieved? What is development? Are economic, governance, societal, human, and technological development of equal importance? Are these categories of development mutually reinforcing or contradictory?

Case Study: Somalia
Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


Week 2: Economic Development and Conflict

This module will explore the relationship between economic development and conflict. As large parts of the world experience unprecedented economic growth, it is worth asking whether economic development can produce security and/or conflict. Economic development has been argued to create peace by fostering internal stability and interdependence with other states. According to modernisation theory it also promotes democracy. However, other theories posit that economic development contributes to conflict due to ‘greed and grievance’.

Seminar
Debate: Does economic development create stability and incentives for keeping the peace? Does poverty or relative poverty fuel terrorism? What is the relationship between economic inequality and civil war? To what extent do civil wars start over grievances due to inequality or greed in terms of seeking economic opportunism?

Case Study: Fiji

Compulsory Reading
Week 3: Democratic Development and Conflict

In this module we will address the relationship between democracy and conflict. What is the relationship between democracy and conflict? Competing theories have been constructed on this topic: The dominant 'democratic peace theory', building on the Perpetual Peace by Emmanuel Kant, is considered axiomatic by many practitioners. This theory suggests that democracies do not go to war against each other, implying that democracy promotion should be considered a security initiative. Other scholars have focused on states transitioning to democracy as being especially vulnerable to war, and even genocide. Democratic states are argued to create 'new wars', and have a reduced capacity to win small wars. If Plato is correct, democracies will incrementally lose control over society as power becomes too dispersed, which will bring about a return to tyranny as the people will seek a strongman to reassert control and stability.

Seminar

Debate: What role does democracy have for security? Should states actively seek to promote democracy as an intrinsic component of security? Why would states transitioning to democracy be more vulnerable to war and ethnic cleansing? Is it reasonable to argue democracies create 'new wars'?

Case Study: The Balkans

Compulsory Reading

Mansfield, Edward D., and Jack Snyder. "Democratization and the Danger of War." International
**Week 4: Military Technology and Security**

In this module we will discuss the development and proliferation of military technology. What determines whether the development of military power increases or decreases security? The development or proliferation of new military technology can be a source of both conflict and stability. Scholars ascribing to the ‘offence-defence’ theory suggest that weapons can be assessed as having offensive or defensive advantage, with the former increasing the likelihood of war and the latter decreasing the incentive to seek a military solution. Critics of this theory detest whether it is possible to distinguish weapons as having clearly an offensive or defensive purpose. We will also address other methods to mitigate the uncertainties that fuel the security dilemma by enhancing transparency and confidence-building measures.

**Seminar**

Debate: What determines whether the development of military power creates certainty or uncertainty? Why is conflict more likely if there is an offensive advantage? Is it possible to distinguish between offensive and defensive weapons? How can we mitigate uncertainties by communicating defensive intentions and capacity? Are nuclear weapons an offensive or defensive weapon, and would an Iranian nuclear weapon be the source of conflict or stability?

Case Study: Iran

**Compulsory Reading**
Week 5: State-Building and Security

In this module we will discuss state-building as a security initiative. Does state-building create sustainable peace or legitimise new imperialism? Johan Galtung drew a conceptual distinction between positive and negative peace to distinguish ceasefires from sustainable peace. While negative peace implied the temporary cessation of violence, positive peace aims to go beyond ending violence and to resolve the underlying political problems. State-building has produced a new approach of developing security through the restoration of society, government and economy. However, competing ideas about state-building can impede the development of a cohesive strategy. Critics of state-building tend to argue that foreign powers rarely come without their interest and motives, a familiar dilemma as states will only provide the resources required for state-building when they have their own interests and objectives.

Seminar:

Debate: Why is sovereignty at the heart of the debates on nation-building? What are the best approaches to achieve sustainable peace in conflict zones? What are some of the difficulties in achieving economic, political and social development and stability in the aftermath of war and conflict? Does the need for lasting peace outweigh the requirement for justice post-conflict? Should transitional justice be retributive, restorative, or rehabilitative? Do the concepts of negative peace and positive peace create competing objectives or competition for resources?

Case Study: Afghanistan and Iraq

Compulsory Reading

Krasner, Stephen D., and Thomas Risse. "External actors, state-building, and service provision


Recommended Reading


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Week 6: The Weak State Insecurity Dilemma

This module will be devoted to exploring the weak state insecurity dilemma. Does the strength or weakness of states create a major threat to the contemporary security environment? While security threats have traditionally been measured by the strength of adversaries, more focus is being devoted to the insecurity deriving from the weakness of other states.

Seminar

Debate: Is it the strength or weakness of states that causes the greatest security threat? How does the weak state insecurity dilemma affect decision-makers? Should they seek a balance between keeping their adversaries weak and strong?

Case Study: Syria and North Korea

Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


In this module we will address the decline of the state. There are scholarly disagreements whether the state is in decline and if it would be a source of security or insecurity. Globalisation presents several challenges as multinational corporations, non-governmental organisations and international institutions challenge the sovereignty of the state. Does the diminished primacy of the state and diffusion of power give way to peace and the rise of the global citizen, or does it inhibit the capacity of the state to represent its citizens fuel the return of nationalism?

**Seminar**

Debate: Is the state in decline? Does the diffusion of power away from the state produce security or insecurity? Is the security and prosperity of states enhanced or undermined by regional integration? Does the weakened primacy of the state reduce or fuel nationalism?

Case Study: The UK and the European Union

**Compulsory Reading**


**Recommended Reading**


In this module we will discuss the concept of human security. Traditionally, security studies have considered the state as the referent object. Shifting the focus to the individual as the referent object has changed the way scholars and practitioners think about security. Proponents of viewing the individual as the referent object suggest that it also strengthens state security, while critics often propose a zero-sum relationship exists. We will address the concept of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) as a key concept and focal point of the human security debate.

Seminar
Debate: Should the individual or the state be the referent object in international security? Are there universal human rights and values, or should they be limited by tradition and culture? Is human security and state security complementary or mutually exclusive? Should the international community have a Responsibility to Protect (R2P)?

Case Study: Syria

Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


This module will explore energy security and how we can conceptualise the energy security dilemma. As new powers rise and their appetite for energy increases, we can expect the competition for energy resources and transportation infrastructure to intensify. We will focus on China as the largest consumer of energy and Russia’s dominant position as an energy supplier, and assess how this impacts the global security environment.

Seminar
Debate: What is ‘energy security’ and the energy security dilemma? How might the problem of energy security impact upon wider aspects of international security? What is meant by the “peak oil moment”, and how might this lead to increased energy insecurity? Is there competition between energy producers, energy consumers and energy transportation corridors? Why can energy producers and consumers be in competition? How could energy security lead to military conflict?

Case Study: China and Russia

Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


Ross, Michael L. "Does oil hinder democracy?." World Politics 53, no. 03 (2001): 325-361.
Week 10: Societal Security

In this module we will explore societal security. Cultural identity, religion and language have become a key focus of security studies as the state is not the only source of collective identity. A strong unifying national identity is recognised to be pivotal for the stability and strength of states, which are threatened by possible ethnic or religious secessionist movements, insurgencies or terrorism. These cultural, ethnic or religious grouping can feel that their 'society', is threatened by the state.

Seminar

Debate: What is societal security? Is there a societal security dilemma? Are states required to have a clear ethno-cultural core or is there greater strength with a civic identity and diversity? Why are ethno-federal states vulnerable?

Case Study: Tibet

Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


Week 11: Environmental Security
In this module we will address the issue of environmental security. Environmental degradation and global warming is frequently cited as the most probable and most severe threat to human survival. It is also recognised to not have the traditional zero-sum security dilemma dynamic. We will discuss the difficulties to respond to security risks and threats emanating from environmental security.

Seminar

Debate: What is environmental security? Is it possible to develop the environment as the referent object, or will environmental security remain a branch of human security? Without a common global approach to protecting the environment, do states face a dilemma between environmental security and state security?

Case Study: Global warming and the carbon trading scheme

Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


Week 12: International Regimes and Insecurity

In this module we will explore the rise of international regimes and the impact on security. ‘Institutional peace’ suggests that regions can harmonise interests and resolve disputes through institutions. Imitating the Western model, other parts of the world are also developing regional institutions to harmonise interests and seek collective influence in the world. Regional and global institutions can develop predictability and manage international security issues. Others view
institutions as alliances and argue that regional institutions will merely result in fewer, more powerful and less compatible entities of power confronting each other.

Seminar
Debate: How does the United Nations try to maintain international security? Has it been successful? Do regional institutions manage security or elevate competition and conflict to a higher level? What are the key contributions and main shortcomings of regional institutions?

Case Study: ASEAN

Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


Week 13: Conclusion: Future Development and Insecurity

Where is the world moving and what will be the insecurities of tomorrow? Will the main development occur in the area of democratisation, economy or military technology? Will development imply more global governance and limited sovereignty, and how will this impact security? Will human security, energy security, societal security and environmental security be improved or deteriorate? What evidence are we selecting and applying, and what are the theoretical assumptions for our assessment?
Compulsory Reading


Recommended Reading


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:


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

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](http://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.

**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 outcome**

- Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.

**Assessment tasks**

- Introductory Essay
- Major Essay
- Exam
- Participation

**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**

- Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
- Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

**Assessment tasks**

- Introductory Essay
- Major Essay
- Exam
- Participation

**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

• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
• Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

Assessment tasks

• Introductory Essay
• Major Essay
• Exam
• Participation

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

• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
• Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

Assessment tasks

• Introductory Essay
• Major Essay
• Exam
• Participation
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

• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.

Assessment tasks

• Introductory Essay
• Major Essay
• Exam
• Participation

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

• Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
• Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
• Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
• Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
• Explain the relationship between state fragility and insecurity.
• Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

Assessment tasks

• Introductory Essay
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**

- Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
- Critically analyse key theories of political violence, conflict and peacebuilding.
- Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
- Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.

**Assessment tasks**

- Introductory Essay
- Major Essay
- Exam
- Participation

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**

- Apply theories about the causes of conflict to case studies.
- Critically analyse theories of peacebuilding.
- Identify key state functions which contribute to national and human security.
- Critically assess the security-development nexus, including its relationship to peacebuilding efforts.
Assessment tasks

- Introductory Essay
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