



POIR905

Foundations in Politics, International Relations and Public Policy

S2 External 2019

Dept of Modern History, Politics & International Relations

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Tutor

Conor Keane

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By appointment

Francesco Stolfi

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Conor Keane

conor.keane@mq.edu.au

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MIntRel or GradDipIntRel or GradCertIntRel or MPPP or GradDipPP or GradCertPP

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores some key concepts in Politics and International Relations. It enables a broad understanding of these contested concepts, which have decisively influenced political and human development through history to the present.

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:

Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts

Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning

Comprehend different factors influencing national and/or world affairs

Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices

Capacity to research and compose an advanced-level scholarly essay

General Assessment Information

'Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – 2 marks out of a total of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for *timed* assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.'

Assignment Submission All written assignments must be submitted using the “Turnitin Assignments” facility on the iLearn website. This facility includes software which scans the uploaded assignments for plagiarism. Follow the instructions on the screen carefully. Your assignment should be uploaded before midnight on the due date. **In all cases**, you should ensure that you keep a copy of the assignment.

Return of marked work Marked assignments will be returned via the same facility on iLearn. When marks are released, you will need to go back in to the assignment submission box, and open your uploaded assignment. When you click on the “GradeMark” button, you will be able to see the marker’s comments on your work. You can save or print the essay with the comments.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Essay	50%	No	27 October
Test	50%	No	10 November

Essay

Due: **27 October**

Weighting: **50%**

Research essay of 2500 words = 50%

Choose one of the questions listed below. It is advisable to begin work on a response sooner rather than later. Don't leave it until near the due date. **Research** effort and the relevance of applied sources is part of the evaluation.

Please ensure that the essay is properly and completely referenced in accordance with academic standards. At Masters level there are no excuses for anything less.

Do not change the wording of the questions or invent new questions. Due date: 27 October.

Essay Questions

- 1) Is the state the world's predominant political entity? If yes, will continue to be? If no, what is?
- 2) What causes political violence?
- 3) Is international politics different to politics in one country or fundamentally the same?
- 4) What gives a political actor legitimacy?
- 5) What is the most powerful force in politics?
- 6) Is a global political culture or system possible?
- 7) How influential on politics is ideology?
- 8) Analyse the concept of 'security' as it relates to politics
- 9) What is public policy and who decides what will be implemented?
- 10) Which theory of International Relations is most convincing and why?
- 11) What is globalization?
- 12) Which contemporary public policy issue is most important and why?
- 13) Are justice and freedom compatible?
- 14) Is the notion of territory changing?

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts
- Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning
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- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices
- Capacity to research and compose an advanced-level scholarly essay

Test

Due: **10 November**

Weighting: **50%**

Test based on the topics addressed through the unit.

A test document will be accessible on the unit iLearn site at the time and date of the test.

Students have 3 hours and 10 minutes to respond to questions and submit the test document on the unit ilearn site

If drawing on other material, **please reference properly**, including use of quote marks. Do not base all of all your answers on the work of others (i.e. by paraphrasing or direct quoting). Include your own observations where possible.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts
- Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning
- Comprehend different factors influencing national and/or world affairs
- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices

Delivery and Resources

Lectures will be audio recorded and accessible via University channels. In some weeks lectures will be available before the nominal Friday time

Unit Schedule

See the 'detailed unit guide' on the iLearn site

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

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

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

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

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to 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

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.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts
- Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning
- Comprehend different factors influencing national and/or world affairs
- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices
- Capacity to research and compose an advanced-level scholarly essay

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Test

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based

critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts
- Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning
- Comprehend different factors influencing national and/or world affairs
- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices
- Capacity to research and compose an advanced-level scholarly essay

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Test

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts
- Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning
- Comprehend different factors influencing national and/or world affairs
- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices
- Capacity to research and compose an advanced-level scholarly essay

Assessment task

- Test

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a critical knowledge of political concepts
- Ability to integrate political and philosophical reasoning
- Comprehend different factors influencing national and/or world affairs
- Effectively communicate understanding of connections between concepts, and between concepts and practices
- Capacity to research and compose an advanced-level scholarly essay

Assessment tasks

- Essay
- Test

unit description

This unit explores some key themes and concepts in Politics, International Relations and Public Policy. It enables a broad understanding of these, which have decisively influenced human development through history to the present. The unit is not especially difficult, however, it is at Masters level and presumes that students have completed an undergraduate degree and are able to compose pieces of academic writing at a reasonable standard.

The unit is mandated by the AQF/ASQC. Because rooms are difficult to obtain during this transition period of building construction for the Faculty the unit is only offered in external mode. Audio lectures, hopefully with screen capture of slides, will be available on iLearn/Echo each week in accordance with the schedule of topics. Precise days and times when audio lectures will first be available will vary.

Weekly readings are available on the unit iLearn site. Initiative to locate other relevant works is welcomed.

A unit discussion board will be available for students to engage with each week's indicative questions. The discussion board is **not for asking general questions about unit organization or assessment.**

For other individual inquiries email the convenor at steve.wood@mq.edu.au