



POIR980

International Relations Practice

S1 Block 2019

Dept of Modern History, Politics & International Relations

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convener

Geoffrey Hawker

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MHPIR, Hearing Hub Building

By arrangement

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

POIR901 and IRPG841 and (admission to MIntRel or MIntCommMIntRel or MIntBusMIntRel or MTransInterMIntRel or MPPPMIntRel)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit draws on knowledge from across the International Relations program, requiring candidates to apply their earlier learning to an urgent and/or controversial theme in international relations – i.e. an international political problem. The participatory exercises are simulations that involve role playing. They require students to acquire (i) some specialist and general theoretical knowledge; (ii) to develop and apply negotiation, communication and practical problem solving abilities; iii) enhance research and writing skills.

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:

Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format

Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics

Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts

Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
Develop communication and argumentation skills
Enhance research skills

General Assessment Information

Late Submission Penalty - University Policy

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

Plagiarism – read this very, very carefully

Plagiarism is more trouble than it is worth. It is unscholarly, unethical, unfair and illegal. It will waste your tutor's and/or convenor's time and ultimately your own. You will achieve far better outcomes by avoiding it. Do not do it. At Master's level there are no excuses whatsoever. If you plagiarise do not claim after the fact that you did not understand what it was. More info at: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------|---------------|
| <u>Introductory Exercise</u> | 0% | Yes | March 6 |
| <u>Participation in Scenario 1</u> | 25% | No | March 20 |
| <u>Participation in Scenario 2</u> | 25% | No | April 10 |
| <u>Participation in Scenario 3</u> | 25% | No | May 8 |
| <u>Written appraisal of scenarios</u> | 25% | No | Friday May 24 |

Introductory Exercise

Due: **March 6**

Weighting: **0%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Meeting of March 6

Before this first class, read "Passports", chapter 8 in Nigel Swift et. al. (eds) *Globalization in Practice*, OUP 2014, supplied in iLearn. In class, be prepared to answer in writing some short

questions about the use of passports in the modern world. Access to the internet will be an advantage, though not absolutely necessary, and so please if possible bring your laptop or phone or other internet enabled device. There is no specific reward or penalty for this exercise, which is designed to alert you to some of the issues likely to arise in the substantive simulations.

Roles for the first simulation will be allocated at this meeting.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Enhance research skills

Participation in Scenario 1

Due: **March 20**

Weighting: **25%**

Wednesday 20 March

Through research in the preceding weeks, and following the first meeting on March 6, students have informed themselves on the actor they are to represent and the position/s it is likely to have and to propose regarding the stated scenario. Skills in argumentation and communication, as well as background knowledge, are then tested in the role playing forum.

Time limits apply for each actor to state their position. After each actor has done so, an open but structured session of debate will follow. See the iLearn page for the 'rules of engagement'.

Written notes can be brought to the live exchange.

Please submit your notes to link on the iLearn site by the end of the day of the meeting.

Roles for the second simulation will be allocated at this meeting.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written

format

- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
- Develop communication and argumentation skills
- Enhance research skills

Participation in Scenario 2

Due: **April 10**

Weighting: **25%**

Meeting of Wednesday 10 April

Through research in the preceding weeks, following the earlier meetings, students have informed themselves on the actor they are to represent and the position/s it is likely to have and to propose regarding this scenario. Skills in argumentation and communication, as well as background knowledge, are then tested in the role playing forum.

Time limits apply for each actor to state their position, and these limits and other rules of engagement are set out in an iLearn page of the unit. After each actor has set out their position in the class meeting, an open but structured session of debate will follow.

Written notes can be brought to the live exchange.

Please submit your notes to the link on the iLearn site by the end of the day of the meeting.

Roles for the third simulation will be allocated at this meeting.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
- Develop communication and argumentation skills
- Enhance research skills

Participation in Scenario 3

Due: **May 8**

Weighting: **25%**

Meeting of Wednesday 8 May

Through research in the preceding weeks, following the earlier meetings, students have informed themselves on the actor they are to represent and the position/s it is likely to have and to propose regarding this scenario. Skills in argumentation and communication, as well as background knowledge, are then tested in the role playing forum.

Time limits apply for each actor to state their position, and these limits and other rules of engagement are set out in an iLearn page of the unit. After each actor has set out their position in the class meeting, an open but structured session of debate will follow.

Written notes can be brought to the live exchange.

Please submit your notes to the link on the iLearn site by the end of the day of the meeting.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Develop communication and argumentation skills
- Enhance research skills

Written appraisal of scenarios

Due: **Friday May 24**

Weighting: **25%**

Meeting of May 22

A written summary of the three scenarios (total 1500 words), noting especially for each case what critical reflection you would make of your own role in light of the simulations as they turned out. If using sources, do so sparingly and reference them. The main aim is for you to summarise content succinctly, and to auto-critique your own role(s). Dedicate roughly the same number of words to each scenario.

The last in-class session (22 May) is an opportunity for presentation and exchange of ideas and insights for this piece of work, and the paper should be submitted by the end of that week..

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
- Enhance research skills

Delivery and Resources

Seminar setting with live diplomatic role playing simulations. Wednesday from 10am to 1pm

The room is 04WR 210.

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](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>).

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 - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics

- Develop communication and argumentation skills

Assessment tasks

- Introductory Exercise
- Participation in Scenario 1
- Participation in Scenario 2
- Participation in Scenario 3
- Written appraisal of scenarios

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

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
- Develop communication and argumentation skills
- Enhance research skills

Assessment tasks

- Participation in Scenario 1
- Participation in Scenario 2
- Participation in Scenario 3
- Written appraisal of scenarios

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

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
- Develop communication and argumentation skills
- Enhance research skills

Assessment tasks

- Introductory Exercise
- Participation in Scenario 1
- Participation in Scenario 2
- Participation in Scenario 3
- Written appraisal of scenarios

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

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Gain insight into some key concepts and ideas in international relations and politics
- Comprehend relationships between elements of domestic and international politics including institutions, historical influences and current contexts
- Develop a critical understanding of relations between political ideas and political action
- Develop communication and argumentation skills
- Enhance research skills

Assessment tasks

- Introductory Exercise
- Participation in Scenario 1

- Participation in Scenario 2
- Participation in Scenario 3
- Written appraisal of scenarios

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

- Identify and articulate views on a contemporary political issue in verbal and written format
- Develop communication and argumentation skills

Assessment tasks

- Introductory Exercise
- Participation in Scenario 1
- Participation in Scenario 2
- Participation in Scenario 3
- Written appraisal of scenarios

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Develop communication and argumentation skills

Assessment tasks

- Participation in Scenario 1
- Participation in Scenario 2
- Participation in Scenario 3

Changes since First Published

| Date | Description |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 16/02/2019 | Room for 2019 updated from 2018. |