



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INTP 371 HUMAN SECURITY 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Study week: 9 – 13 June 2014

Examination/Assessment Period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Friday 1:10-3pm

Venue: Memorial Theatre

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Associate Professor David Capie

Room No: Murphy 504

Phone: 463-7483

Email: david.capie@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Friday 11-12

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course examines conflict and violence in world politics. It explores the changing nature of war between and within states, giving particular emphasis to contemporary civil wars. Topics covered may include: the relationship between natural resources (e.g. diamonds and oil) and conflict; the role and regulation of mercenaries; terrorism and armed groups; aid and war; and the efforts of governments and civil society groups to reduce the harm caused to civilians (e.g. through action against landmines, small arms and cluster bombs). A wide range of cases are discussed in class including Iraq, Afghanistan, Sudan, Sierra Leone and Rwanda.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- 1 have a good grasp of the concept of human security and debates about it
- 2 have a general understanding of contemporary conflict and efforts to deal with it
- 3 display the ability to think critically about efforts to promote human security
- 4 display the ability to think critically about the causes of contemporary conflict

Teaching format

This course is taught in weekly two-hour lectures over one trimester. Students are expected to attend classes regularly, take part in class discussion, and keep up with the reading.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit both essays
2. Sit the final exam

Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. There are two hours per week of class time, so over the trimester students are expected to spend on average 12-14 hours per week on readings, research and writing assignments. Precisely how long it will take to complete an assignment will vary significantly from student to student. I will provide guidance in the lectures about what is expected in terms of the individual assessment items.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Short paper (1200 words)	20%	1, 3, 4	Monday 14 April 5pm
2	Research essay (2,500 words)	30%	1,2, 3	Friday 16 May 5pm
3	Final examination (3 hours)	50%	1,2,3,4	13 June to 2 July

There are three pieces of assessment for the course: a short paper, a longer research essay and a final exam.

1. Short paper

The Short Paper is designed to give you a chance to show your understanding of the key debates around the concept of human security and to critically consider the use of the concept as it relates

to one key conflict or issue. The paper must not be more than 1200 words and is worth 20% of the final grade. Questions and additional instructions will be distributed in the second week of class. The paper is due at **5pm on Monday 14 April**.

2. Research Essay

The research essay is designed to give you the chance to apply your understanding of key concepts and theories about internal conflicts as discussed in the course to a specific case or cases. Topics will be distributed before the break on 18 April. You should note that the questions may include topics that we have not covered in lectures by the due date. The research paper is due by **5pm on Friday 16 May**. It must not be more than 2500 words and is worth 30% of the final grade. The paper should include appropriate references and a bibliography (references **do count** towards the word limit, but the bibliography does not). 'Appropriate' references means using academic journals and books, not a quick Google search and a few footnotes to Wikipedia. More information about the research paper will be distributed in class and posted on Blackboard.

Final Exam

A three hour final exam will be held during the exam period **13 June to 2 July 2014**. The date and location of the examination will be announced when the timetable becomes available, typically halfway through the trimester. Students must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period. If you cannot sit an examination during this period, you should not enrol in the course. The exam is worth 50% of the final grade and will cover all of the material in the lectures and readings. More information about the format and kind of questions you can expect will be distributed closer to the time.

Submission and return of work

All written work must be submitted in hard copy in the course essay box outside the School office on the fifth floor of the Murphy building. All assignments must have a Programme cover sheet attached.

The Programme's policy requires that students also submit an **electronic copy** along with the hardcopy. For this course, please upload a copy to Turnitin.com on the same due date for your hardcopy submission. Instructions for how to register and upload to Turnitin will be distributed in class.

Because of the large size of this class and rules around the secure handling of essays, assessed work will only be returned from the School Office, Murphy 518 between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection. The class will be advised when essays are ready to be collected.

Extensions and penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days**. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). If you are not able to hand in assessment on time, **you must contact the lecturer for an extension before the deadline**. ***Extensions will not be granted retrospectively.***

Set texts

There is no set text for this course. The readings will be available on the Library's Course Reserves website and via Blackboard. In addition, we will be using excerpts from *The Human Security Report 2005* (Oxford University Press, 2005), *Human Security Report 2009-10*, and

Human Security Report 2012. The good news is that **free** versions of these reports are available online at: www.hsrgroup.org

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. You should also feel welcome to approach me directly. The class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box. Please write clearly using blue or black ink.

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

I welcome student feedback and suggestions about how the course can be improved. In addition to the formal evaluations carried out towards the end of the class, please feel free to contact me directly or through the class representative.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz