

The University of Sydney
FACULTY OF LAW



master of international law

2009 lecture timetable & unit descriptions

for units offered by other departments

For confirmation of timetabling/unit information, please contact:

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master of international law

units offered by other departments

MIL candidates must complete 42 credit points offered by the Faculty of Law with the remaining 6 credit point unit to be chosen from approved departments. Below is a list of the approved units offered by these departments.

february semester 2009

CODE	UNIT OF STUDY	DAY	TIME	ROOM	LECTURER
GOVT6136-1	Asia Pacific Politics				M. Cook
GOVT6103-1	Australia in Diplomacy, Defence & Trade				R. Muller
GOVT6108-1	Development Dilemmas in Southeast Asia				L. Rahim
GOVT6147-1	Foundations of International Relations				B. Howard
GOVT6123-1	Globalisation and Governance				L. Weiss
GOVT6117-1	International Politics of Human Rights [Prohibition: LAWS6161 Intl Human Rights]				F. Panzironi
GOVT6119-1	International Security				B. Goldsmith
CISS6013-1	Middle East Conflict and Security				
CISS6002-1	Strategy and Security in the Asia-Pacific				

winter school 2009

CODE	UNIT OF STUDY	DAY	TIME	ROOM	LECTURER
CISS6007-11	Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific Region				

july semester 2009

CODE	UNIT OF STUDY	DAY	TIME	ROOM	LECTURER
CISS6012-2	Civil-Military Relations				
CISS6005-2	Ethics, Law and War				
GOVT6135-2	Global Environmental Politics				C. Epstein
GEOS5501-2	Human Rights and the Environment*				R. Fisher
GOVT6116-2	International Organisations				B. Beem
CISS6001-2	New Security Challenges				
GOVT6125-2	Politics of the World Economy				M. Cook
CISS6008-2	Population and Security				

* Offered by the School of Geosciences, Faculty of Science

The information contained in this timetable should be used as a guide only. For up-to-date information on unit offerings, times and locations, please contact the relevant department.

2009 unit of study descriptions

GOVT6136 Asia Pacific Politics

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Option A: Essay, policy brief, final exam, participation; Option B: Three policy briefs, final exam, participation.

This unit is organised around the upsurge in regional economic and security cooperation within East Asia and the more nebulous Asia Pacific in the last 15 years. It also looks at academic efforts to define East Asia and the Asia Pacific as regions. The first part of the unit covers the domestic similarities in East Asia and what these mean for East Asian and Asia-Pacific regionalism. The second part of the unit covers efforts to develop regional institutions like APEC and ASEAN and the role of these institutions in spurring regionalism. While the Asia Pacific and its sub-regions are the focus of the unit, both domestic and global economic and political forces are fully integrated into discussions. The unit provides critical insights into the reasons for the upsurge in regional economic and security cooperation, its likely trajectory and how East Asia and the Asia-Pacific are defined.

GOVT6103 Australia in Diplomacy, Defence & Trade

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Agency report and Ministerial briefing paper; group project

This unit examines Australia's external relations through its foreign, defence and trade policies from Federation until today. It will begin with an overview of the theoretical tools for studying foreign policy and the institutions of Australia's external relations. Following an examination of 'Continuity and Change' in Australia's foreign, defence and trade policies over the past millennium, key regional and international relationships will be analysed and the questions of national borders and international legal obligations examined. The final weeks of the unit will consider Australia's response to contemporary global issues such as the 'War on Terror'; the environment; nuclear affairs; and Australia's place in the global economy today.

CISS6012 Civil-Military Relations

6 Credit Points

Prohibition: CISS6011 Special Topic in International Security when the special topic is Civil-Military Relations **Offered:** Semester 2 **Classes:** 3hrs per week **Assessment:** Participation; essay; exam

This unit assesses the nature and effectiveness of civil-military cooperation and coordination in preparing for, responding to, and averting the impact of natural disasters (such as the 2004 tsunami) and conflict, particularly in Australia's nearer region. The new realities of intra-state conflict and support to fragile states have seen Australia commit increased resources to enhance prospects for stability and reduce population displacement, while promoting economic development and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals to reduce poverty. Students in this unit will examine the nexus between state-centric and human security, as well as the difficulties for military forces and humanitarian actors in navigating the 'space' in which they are co-located. Policies, principles and practices of the Australian Government, the United Nations, and other key international actors and non-government organisations are considered. Attention is also given to disaster risk reduction and peace-building strategies to help minimise the severity of natural disasters and the reversion of fragile states into conflict. Focus is given to the problems and severity of population displacement, and to the civil-military requirements to implement population protection, particularly under the Responsibility to Protect framework. The overall aim of the unit is for students to gain a better understanding of the boundaries and complexities of civil-military relations in disaster and conflict situations, and to consider initiatives relevant to Australia.

GOVT6108 Development Dilemmas in Southeast Asia

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Short written assessment; analytical essay/report; exam

Southeast Asia's economic experiences and socio-political challenges will be examined within an historical and comparative context in order to better appreciate the economic continuities, understand the major socio-political dilemmas and changing patterns of development. Themes such as the significance of colonialism on post-colonial economies and polities, role of the

state in the national and global economy, causes of the region's high-speed growth in the 1980s and 1990s, subsequent economic downturn and future prospects, changing complexion of foreign investment, significance and operational dynamics of the Overseas Chinese Business Networks, salience of socio-economic and ethnic tensions, contradictions associated with the promotion of open economies within authoritarian political structures, the relationship between economic and political corruption, prominence of political Islam, rise of civil society actors, implications of the national and regional reserve army of labour, efficacy of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the region's economic and security links with Northeast Asia will be analysed.

CISS6005 Ethics, Law and War

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** 3hrs per week **Assessment:** Class participation; Essay; Exam
This unit examines ethical and legal norms relating to the use of armed force for political purposes by states and non-state actors. In particular, it explores the ways in which ethics and law influence or fail to influence strategic and tactical decisions. After an introduction to the nature of ethics and law and their relationship with politics and strategy, the course examines a wide range of topics, drawing on historical and contemporary case studies. The topics covered include: conscription and conscientious objection; law of armed conflict in international and internal conflicts; the concept of inhumane weapons; the use of private contractors to support and wage war; ideas of Just War and self-defence; forceful intervention in other states for humanitarian and other purposes; ethics and the 'war on terror'; and the enforcement of ethical and legal norms.

GOVT6147 Foundations of International Relations

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** Two hour seminar per week **Assessment:** Essay; exam; tutorial paper.

This unit will examine the major theoretical approaches to understanding international relations: liberalism; realism; Marxism; the international society ('English') school; constructivism; and, post-modernist and critical theory. It will include the contributions of writers in the classical tradition like Thucydides, Machiavelli, Hobbes and Kant; and those of the 'moderns' like Carr, Morgenthau, Waltz, Keohane, Nye, Bull, Cox and Wendt. The unit will also examine the significance for international relations theory of the end of the Cold War. The unit will conclude with an evaluation of the major 'images' of international relations ('End of History', 'Clash of Civilizations', 'Back to the Future', 'Coming Anarchy', etc.) that have figured in analyses of the post-Cold War world.

GOVT6135 Global Environmental Politics

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Policy review; report; essay
This unit examines the environment as a political and policy issue. Although relatively recent, the environment has become a full-fledged public policy issue exerting influence in local, national and international arenas. The unit will first focus on the specific features of the policy that influences the capability of contemporary societies to enhance the management of environmental resources and of public goods in general. Second, it discusses the development of environmental policy in Western countries, with a particular emphasis on the European Union. Third, a grid for the analysis of environmental policy will be presented, with a discussion of the main actors (political, institutional and socio-economic) involved in it and of the factors (interests and ideas) influencing their positions. Fourth, the unit briefly discusses environmental conflicts and consensual approaches used for tackling them.

GOVT6123 Globalisation and Governance

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Short papers; essay; in-class assignment/test

It is widely believed that we are entering a new era in which the transborder flows of capital, goods, ideas, and people are rapidly transforming human society. 'Globalisation', many claim, threatens the autonomy of nation-states and erodes the power of national governments to provide social protection and promote the nation's economic prosperity. This unit examines not only the causes and mechanisms of this process, but also assesses its social, economic, and political impacts. The views of radicals, transformationalists, skeptics, and institutionalists

are compared and criticised. While globalisation is often viewed as a singular process, trending towards a global society, this unit offers a distinctive approach. Globalisation has uneven and highly differentiated impacts, whether harmful or beneficial, and this unevenness is closely associated with the nature of institutions of governance, at both the domestic and international levels.

GEOS5501 Human Rights and the Environment

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** One 1-hour lecture per week, one 2-hour tutorial per week and 4-hours per week personal study **Assessment:** 3000 word essay 70%, Seminar paper 30% This core unit of study addresses the nexus between human rights and the environment. The unit has a geographical focus on Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. Human rights and environmental concerns intersect in diverse and complex ways. Rights to a healthy environment and rights to resources forge a common cause between human rights advocates and environmental activists. Projects such as dams and mines have on-site and wider environmental impacts that displace marginal groups and impact on their rights to livelihood. On the other hand, creation of protected areas and other forms of environmental protection that alienate indigenous and other groups from their customary land and livelihoods create an uneasy relationship between human rights and environmental movements. Public and private access to urban space is also bound up with rights around race, sexuality and class. There are also human rights issues associated with climate change, the fate of South Pacific islands and environmental refugees. The unit of study deals with the human rights - environment nexus around such themes through a series of lectures, seminars and case study based assignment work.

GOVT6116 International Organisations

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Essays (theoretical and empirical); examination This unit aims to introduce students to how states and other actors in the international arena cooperate to build institutions as a response to common problems. After completing the unit students should be able to analyse contemporary international organisations to see how they work, whose interests they serve, and to what degree they attenuate or enhance the power of sovereign states.

GOVT6117 International Politics of Human Rights

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Literature review; research project; in-class assignments/tests This unit introduces students to the notion of human rights, outlines international human rights enforcement mechanisms and the application of human rights standards globally. Throughout the course we consider the evolution of human rights and consider questions about the adequacy of existing human rights machinery. We examine criticisms by a range of commentators of the UN and other international rights institutions and discuss alternatives for protecting international human rights. We also look at the role played by Non-Government Organisations in advancing and protecting human rights throughout the world.

GOVT6119 International Security

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Two essays This unit reviews developments in international security since before World War I, to recent events like September 11 and its aftermath. The principal focus is on developments since the end of the Cold War and the collapse of Communism. The unit takes account of traditional notions about the causes of war and the conditions of peace, as well as changes in the structure and process of contemporary international relations.

CISS6013 Middle East Conflict and Security

6 Credit Points

Prohibition: GOVT6154 Conflict and Peace in the Middle East **Offered:** Semester 1 **Classes:** 3hrs per week **Assessment:** Essay; simulation; briefing paper; reflective journal The Middle East has been plagued for more than a century by a series of national, ethnic and religious conflicts, reflecting shifting regional alliances and the unresolved legacy of the

collapse of the Ottoman Empire and the end of colonial rule. The security of this region will always remain a focus of those concerned with energy security for as long as it remains the location of the world's largest known reserves of oil and gas. This unit examines the causes and manifestation of conflict and insecurity in the Middle East today by starting with a theoretical framework for examining the process of state-formation in the region followed by an analysis of specific intra and inter-state conflicts with a view of considering, at the end of the semester, the probability of the region becoming more secure in the foreseeable future.

CISS6001 New Security Challenges

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** 3hrs per week **Assessment:** Briefing paper or debate summary; Research essay; Exam

This unit considers the evolving nature of security in the context of global politics. It focuses on non-military challenges to security while acknowledging the relationships between these and traditional security concerns. Among the topics considered are: international law and security; the privatisation of security; economics and security; energy resources; environmental degradation; the burden of infectious diseases; population dynamics; gender and age perspectives on security; the dilemmas of fragile and failing states; transnational organised crime; and new modes of warfare. The overall objective of the unit is to engage with issues and arguments that challenge how security is traditionally understood. Teaching and learning take place via a combination of lectures, student-led seminars, independent research, debates and case studies.

GOVT6125 Politics of the World Economy

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** 2 hours per week **Assessment:** Option A: Essay, final exam, policy brief, participation; Option B: Three policy briefs, final exam, participation.

The objectives of this unit are to introduce students to the various approaches to the key institutions and processes in the areas of production, trade, and finance at the global and regional levels. After completing the unit, students should be able to analyse current international political-economic developments in their historical context and form an informed opinion on contemporary issues. This unit introduces students to the key theoretical approaches and contemporary issues in the discipline of international political economy and the political structuring of the present global economy. The unit focuses on how inter-state cooperation and competition mediated through the main multilateral economic institutions (the WTO, BIS, IMF and World Bank) both constrain and allow global market forces to expand. This is a unit on international politics not international economics. The unit's survey nature means that students are introduced to numerous different issues from the spread of multinational production to offshore banking.

CISS6008 Population and Security

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 2 **Classes:** 3hrs per week **Assessment:** Oral and written presentation; Research assignment

This unit considers the importance of demographic factors in international security. It attempts to provide answers to the complex questions regarding how population changes affect security concerns. In particular it examines how population dynamics and characteristics such as growth rates, fertility, mortality, age and ethnic structure might be linked to national and international security. Among topics covered will be key global population trends, differing world population transitions, the significance of resource scarcity and environmental degradation, the role of natural disasters, and the significance of ethnic and religious divisions. Case studies will be presented with respect to how demographics may contribute to undermining the viability of modern states and the importance of population to security considerations in the Asia-Pacific region.

CISS6002 Strategy & Security in the Asia-Pacific

6 Credit Points

Offered: Semester 1 **Classes:** 3 hrs per week **Assessment:** Class participation; Essay; Exam
The Asia-Pacific region faces a matrix of security challenges that are seemingly unique in the early part of the 21st century. This unit will examine whether a new security dilemma is emerging in Asia commensurate with the rise of China and India as two potential superpowers by 2050, and it will assess the major strategic drivers pertinent to the Asia-Pacific. The

combination of regional security challenges to be examined in this unit include: the strategic relationships between the United States, China and Japan; the potential for conflict on the Korean peninsula, in the Taiwan Strait; concerns about nuclear proliferation; extremist violence by Muslims and others in Southeast Asia; and inadequate systems of governance in some South Pacific countries. The overall objective of the unit is to engage with issues and arguments about security that relate specifically to the Asia-Pacific region. Teaching and learning take place via a combination of lectures, student-led seminars, independent research, debates and case studies.

CISS6007 Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific Region

6 Credit Points

Offered: Winter Main **Classes:** 12 hours each week for 3 weeks of Winter School

Assessment: Essay; Threat Assessment; Exam

The unit will begin by providing a conceptual framework for understanding the phenomenon of terrorism as a form of asymmetrical warfare waged by political actors including an examination of the impact that the end of the Cold War has had on the rise of religiously inspired terrorism. In doing so, common misconceptions will be challenged, highlighting the rationality that drives terrorist behaviour and strategies. With a focus on the Asia-Pacific region, the unit will analyse terrorist organisational structures, including leadership, ideologies, motivations, capabilities, strategies, tactics and targets. Equipped with this knowledge, students will consider effective counter-terrorism strategies, including practical considerations for protecting critical functions of the state and private sector.