

Security Studies

Module Information

2022.03, Approved

Summary Information

Module Code	7151PS
Formal Module Title	Security Studies
Owning School	Justice Studies
Career	Postgraduate Taught
Credits	20
Academic level	FHEQ Level 7
Grading Schema	50

Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery
Justice Studies

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Online	48

Module Offering(s)

Display Name	Location	Start Month	Duration Number Duration Unit
APR-MTP	MTP	April	12 Weeks
JAN-MTP	MTP	January	12 Weeks
SEP-MTP	MTP	September	12 Weeks
SEP_NS-MTP	MTP	September (Non-standard start date)	12 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	The modules key aims are as follows: Appreciate what is at stake in security, both as a theoretical concept and as an ontological category. Gain a detailed understanding of how the concept of security has been rearticulated and challenged in our contemporary context through an engagement with some of the most pressing issues of our day. Be able to question the ethical dimensions of the Westphalian order based on notions of sovereignty and narrow State interests and determine whether theories highlighting human emancipation need to be strengthened. Be able to demonstrate a good grasp of public policy, especially the processes and structures of decision-making in the area of international security. Be able to critically examine the contemporary themes in international security, such as the ramifications of the Cold War, terrorism, the proliferation of dangerous weapons and globalisation.
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After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	Critically analyse the historical development of the discourses in security.
MLO2	2	Critically assess the theoretical, historical and scientific explanations for the causes of war.
MLO3	3	Critically identify and evaluate the capabilities and limitations of military power as an instrument of policy.
MLO4	4	Critically assess the sources of conflict and co-operation in the international system.
MLO5	5	Critically identify the place of security studies as a sub-discipline of international relations.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus	PART 1: THE CONCEPTUAL BASIS OF SECURITY STUDIES • Lecture 1: Traditional Definitions of Security. The State as the referent object. • Lecture 2: Shifting the focus away from the State as referent object – deepening the concept and considering the individual. PART 2: TRADITIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS • Lecture 3: The Causes of War (1). • Lecture 4: The Causes of War (2) • Lecture 5: The Theory of Deterrence and Nuclear Proliferation in the post-Cold War Era. • Lecture 6: Collective Security, Peacekeeping, Peace Enforcement, and Humanitarian Intervention. Historical Evolution and Development. The promise or otherwise of Multilateralism.
Module Overview	
Additional Information	Defining security remains a difficult academic task and it is this ambiguous nature of the concept which forms the basis for this core unit. Security Studies is one of the most important sub-disciplines within the overarching field of International Relations and stands alongside other sub-disciplines such as International Political Economy and Foreign Policy Analysis. Its close association to International Relations and its theories ensures a rich and vast array of subject matter. At the same time, however, it remains distinct in terms of its central objectives, theories and approaches despite being able to draw on International Relations for support. Security Studies begins by addressing a number of fundamental issues, the most important of which is perhaps defining what we actually mean by the concept. This pursuit is dominated by debates between a variety of discourses: namely, those who seek to retain the discipline's focus purely on military conflict and those who argue that in a globalised world Security Studies needs to be expanded to a consideration of economic, environmental as well as social issues. This Module will seek to address these debates in the context of both national as well as international security issues. At the same time this Module will show that the debates between the traditionalists and the advocates of "new thinking" are having a profound impact on the discipline as both military and non-military issues begin to compete for the attention of academics and policy elites.

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping

Essay	2500 word essay	60	0	MLO2, MLO4, MLO1
Essay	2000 word report	40	0	MLO2, MLO5, MLO3, MLO4

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Ann Stevens	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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