

Masters in International Security Studies

Programme Requirements

International Security Studies - MLitt	
IR5001 (30 credits) and IR5036 (30 credits) and 60 credits from Module List: IR5004 - IR5095, IR5403 - IR5449, IR5526 - IR5528, IR5721 - IR5749 and IR5099 (60 credits)	
Further requirements Choose 180 credits in academic year	

MPhil:

120 credits from the Taught Element, 30 credits from IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

Compulsory modules:

IR5001 International Security				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	one of 10.00 am - 12.00 noon Wed or 11.00 am - 1.00 pm Thu - In week 1 Thu session changed to Tue 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm.			
This module introduces students to important issues and significant debates in security studies. We begin by examining the nature of war, strategy, and alliances. We then analyze the structure and impact of military power, including both conventional and nuclear weapons. We then probe the causes of interstate war, from domestic politics to the structure of the state system, to bargaining models. Finally, we turn to domestic conflict and delve into the dynamics of insurgency, counterinsurgency, and peacekeeping.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for International Security Studies Postgraduate Programme. Optional for International Relations MRes Programme			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 40%, Midterm Examination = 20%, Coursework = 40%			
Module coordinator:	Dr H Tamm			

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IR5036 Critical Security Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	10.00 am -11.00 am Mon			
This module will examine the challenge to traditional conceptions of security presented by the emergence of Critical Security Studies since the end of the Cold War. Students will explore what it means to study the concept and practice of security from a critical perspective. They will examine the various theoretical traditions that have informed critical security studies and the methodological implications for the analysis of different types of security contexts, ranging from alliance relations, terrorism, the environment, migration, famine, etc.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for International Security Studies Optional for International Relations MRes Programme. Optional for other Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr C Gentry			

IR5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	5.00 pm - 6.00 pm Thu or 11.00 am - 12.00 noon Fri			
Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies MLitt Postgraduate Programmes and International Relations MRes Programme. Optional for Central and East European Studies Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Individual Supervision			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%			
Module coordinator:	TBC			

Compulsory for MPhil:

IR5601 Research Methods in International Relations				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Tue			
This is a required module for all MRes, PhD and MPhil students in the School of International Relations. It is designed to assist students in understanding the purpose and approaches of international relations scholarship, and to assist them in developing and carrying out their research. As such, it addresses a range of topics, from the history and philosophy of the social sciences to specific research methods.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for the completion of the MRes, PhD and MPhil Programmes in the School of International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof T Lang			

Optional modules:

IR5007 Terrorism and Liberal Democracy				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
This module addresses: conceptual and definitional issues concerning terrorism; the relationship of terrorism to other forms of political violence; the origins, dynamics and development of contemporary terrorism; the efficacy of terrorism as a political weapon; the dilemmas and challenges of liberal democratic state responses to terrorism; and case studies in terrorism and counter-terrorism. The module is convened by specialists from the Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV) and the School of International Relations.				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies and Terrorism and Political Violence Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 hour lecture, 1.5 hour tutorial per week + advertised office hours			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr N Brooke			
Module teaching staff:	Various			

IR5030 Religion and International Politics				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module explores the so-called 'global resurgence' of politicised religion, moving out from traditional studies of church-state relations in the West to selected case studies of religio-political interactions in the wider world. After an examination of various theoretical approaches to politics and religion emanating from both sociology and the study of international relations, the focus will be on themes - such as religion and the state, the nation, the international system, religious violence and peacemaking - and on cases - such as the role of the New Christian Right in the United States, political Islam, religious nationalism in the Indian sub-continent, or religious contributions to democratisation in Latin America. The use of specific themes and cases may vary from year to year, depending upon current developments in this area.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Security Studies Postgraduate Programme. Optional for Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Prof J P Anderson			

IR5036 Critical Security Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	10.00 am -11.00 am Mon			
<p>This module will examine the challenge to traditional conceptions of security presented by the emergence of Critical Security Studies since the end of the Cold War. Students will explore what it means to study the concept and practice of security from a critical perspective. They will examine the various theoretical traditions that have informed critical security studies and the methodological implications for the analysis of different types of security contexts, ranging from alliance relations, terrorism, the environment, migration, famine, etc.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for International Security Studies Optional for International Relations MRes Programme. Optional for other Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr C Gentry			

IR5039 Political Economy of Conflict				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module provides a political economy perspective on conflict in a developing economy, introducing concepts and theoretical approaches of political economy and their application to situations involving conflict and violence. Economic arguments for a 'resource curse' and the explanatory binary of 'greed versus grievance' are interrogated and challenged for the absence of political, hence political economic, contextualisation and analysis. The complex network of commodities and goods traded between developed and developing economies are explored through a series of case studies and the increased securitisation of development in the twenty-first century is examined.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr W B Vlcek			

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IR5040 Emergent Great Powers				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Mon			
<p>This module provides a comparative analysis of the emergence of India and China as great powers within the international system. Focusing upon the factors integral to such a phenomenon (from both theoretical and historical perspectives), students will build up a comprehensive understanding of these two states' past, contemporary and future global significance. After an assessment of differing orientating concepts from IR theory, the module will evaluate key factors concerning how India and China measure up as great powers, leading to an evaluation of the future challenges these two states will face as they define their emergent roles in the twenty-first century.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr C Ogden			

IR5051 Human Rights, Politics and Power				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Wed			
<p>International legal discourses of human rights have evolved markedly since 1945 with the codification, implementation and enforcement of human rights as international public law. Despite this progress, human rights seem more pivotal in the world today than ever. What the 'war on terror' has highlighted is that military measures are hopeless if they ignore universal aspirations for social justice and human rights. As the title of the module suggests, the principal focus of this module is to explore the relationship between human rights, political discourses and power. More people than ever before believe strongly in the necessity of the inclusion of human rights considerations when thinking about actions at every level of societal interaction; personal, local, national and international. The use of the concept is, however, frequently misused and the outcome of rights campaigns is often far from the original intention. In exploring these complex issues the module is divided into three parts. In PART I attempts to ground rights in philosophy and international law will be explored. In PART II many theorists are now attempting to go beyond this divide to think through the potential for the concept in the process of social transformation. The social constructionist human rights and power will be introduced, as will postcolonialism. Drawing on this theoretical discussion a series of contemporary issues will be explored in PART III and the focus will be on suitability of the concept in any programme of social transformation by considering the role - nationally and internationally - of the legal system, economic relations, government and non-government organisations.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1-hour lecture, 1-hour seminar/tutorial			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr G S Sanghera			

IR5053 The First World War and Its Impact on the Global System				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Wed			
<p>The 100th anniversary of the First World War gives us a chance to reflect on how that conflict affected the domestic circumstances and the international system of both the contemporary period and since. International scholars often claim the world system fundamentally changed in 1914. This module will explore how that claim has been dealt with by international historians and by students of international order. It will therefore give an opportunity for students to reflect on the links between the history and political implications of a particular event as well as to look at how theorists of international order have built the Great War into their analyses. Students will be encouraged to examine both the War's contemporary (1914 - 1939) impact on international relations as well as the more recent debate on order and international society led by IR scholars from the 1990s and up till now, but also by international historians, looking in particular at the lasting impact of the war on issue areas like the Middle East, European Union and Great Power rivalry</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 1-hour lectur and 2 x 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof A Williams			

IR5055 Agency and Strategy in Non-Western Political Thought				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Thu			
<p>Eastern political strategies and thought, while often resting on different assumptions to their Western counterparts, have in a context of globalization spread into very different contexts than those from which they originated. Sun Tzu is included in the canon of realist thought and often informs contemporary corporate strategy; Gandhi's satyagraha has provided impetus to nonviolent movements across the globe; Thich Quang Duc's self-immolation in Vietnam (1963) has been imitated in a number of contexts since. Jihad has become a global phenomenon. These are strategies with origins in ancient Eastern thought that have been put to use in contemporary political struggles. The question of agency is important in so far as non-Western societies have for the last several hundred years been in a structurally weak position vis a vis the expansion of Western power across the globe. Non-western philosophies have informed strategies of resistance or independence but may, in very different ways, become significant as India and China become global players. There has been a lively debate within International Relations theory about the potential importance of alternative modes of thought, more indigenous to these cultures, in the evolution of the future strategies of these emerging powers. The purpose of this module is to explore a range of 'classic' and secondary texts that express different elements of non-Western thought, both ancient and contemporary, to understand the underlying assumptions about the body, political community and the world, the objectives and workings of various strategies, both violent and nonviolent, the relationship between strategic choice and, on the one-hand, the contextual, social and/or political location of the agents, and, on the other hand, the relevance of these strategies for understanding contemporary global politics, ethics and science.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory and International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour lectures and 2 office hours.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof K M Fierke			

IR5059 Political Order and Violence in the Middle East				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
<p>This module examines the causes and consequences of political order and violence in the Middle East. What constitutes a political order? Why and how are political orders established? What role does violence play in constituting political orders? Why and how does violence ensue with the breakdown of political orders? Drawing on IR, Sociological, and State-formation theories, we will examine different episodes of order and violence in contemporary Middle East politics: from the collapse of the Ottoman Empire to the latest Arab Uprisings, looking at colonial orders, regime-society violence, violent resistance against occupation, and civil wars.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for all Postgraduate programmes in the School in International Relations.			
Anti-requisite(s):	IR4601			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 lecture and 1 seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Take-home Written Examination = 40%, Coursework (Essay 50%, Presentation 10%) = 60%			
Module coordinator:	Dr A Saouli			

IR5061 Security and Justice Institutions in World Politics				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Tue (except week 1, Tue 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm)			
<p>This module examines the development and efficacy of institutions in the fields of peace, security, and justice. The module has three core objectives. It first provides a brief survey of the range of actors (including states, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organisations) involved in contemporary global governance. It then seeks to familiarize students with leading theoretical accounts of the origins and impact of international institutions. Particular attention is given to realist, institutionalist, and constructivist approaches, but other views are incorporated as well. Finally, the module turns to a close consideration of a series of contemporary case studies such as the United Nations Security Council, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, nuclear weapons disarmament, International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court, and the human rights regime.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for all Postgraduate programmes in the School in International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar and 2 optional consultation hours			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr A Bower			

IR5062 Transitional Justice and Post-Conflict Reconstruction in Latin America				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm Tue			
<p>The module will present a detailed introduction to the processes of transitional justice and peacebuilding in Latin America since the Third Wave of democratisation during the 1980s. The approach taken in the module will be to analyse transitional justice and, ultimately, to contrast the theory and practice of TJ, peacebuilding and postconflict reconstruction. The module will engage with four detailed empirical case studies: Argentina, Chile, Guatemala and Colombia. The module addresses and evaluates key theoretical frameworks relating to TJ, peacebuilding and postwar reconstruction, and will be relevant to students interested in developing a career in public policy and policymaking in national and international institutions.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for all Postgraduate programmes in the School in International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar and 2 optional consultation hours			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr R Brett			

IR5063 Spaces of Securitization				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	12.00 noon - 2.00 pm Tue			
<p>The module explores the relationship between space and securitization. Taking stock of existing literature, it is plain that many scholars are calling for greater attention to be paid to contextual considerations and practices. Indeed most 'second generation' scholars argue that context is vital for understanding how (de)securitization is constructed, enacted and contested. This module will contribute to these ongoing conversations by highlighting that space remains an understudied aspect of how securitization unfolds in theory and in practice. Introducing the 'spatial' turn into securitization studies is fruitful as it casts new light on everyday dimensions at play when security speech acts are uttered and enacted. This allows us to investigate a number of banal spaces from critical perspectives and begin to discover even more improbable spaces where securitization can occur. By undertaking such a journey they will start to cultivate their own ethnography, voice, views and insights.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Peace and Conflict Studies, International Security Studies and other MLitt programmes within the School of International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 lecture (x 11 weeks), 1 tutorials (x 10 weeks) and two office hours (x 12 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr F Donnelly			

IR5064 The Military in Politics				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Fri			
<p>Military forces are called upon to defend against armed aggression, both foreign and domestic. Yet militaries can also disobey civilian leaders, allow governments to fall, and even overthrow the political order themselves. The loyalty and effectiveness of security forces are thus vital to government security and stability. This module introduces students to the study of civil-military relations, beginning from the perspective of the armed forces and when they directly intervene in politics, examining the techniques, causes, and means for preventing coups d'état as well as the consequences of coup-proofing for other dimensions of military effectiveness. We then analyze how armed forces impact states' domestic politics, including their behaviour during uprisings and their affect on democratic governance. Finally, we examine different theories of how civilian leaders should manage armed forces and assess the acute challenges that leaders face as they respond to international crises.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Security Studies and all other programmes in the School of International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminars (x 11 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr K Harkness			
Module teaching staff:	Dr K Harkness, Dr M De Vore			

IR5066 The Global Politics of Everyday Life				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Mon			
<p>IR has traditionally focused on supposedly 'official' actors, sites and practices. But increasingly IR is exploring 'ordinary' individuals, their 'mundane' practices and quotidian behaviours. Following the recent turn to everyday IR, this module explores how everyday life and global politics are co-constitutive. Drawing on a range of interdisciplinary theoretical perspectives, students will critically interrogate how it is in the everyday that the global is situated and produced. Whether travel, fashion, or popular culture, this module reveals how these everyday objects, structures and practices mutually constitute global power relations that are messy, complex and bolster often problematic logics of militarisation, gender, race, class, and so on. This module will therefore introduce students to (and encourage them to engage in) alternative and creative ways of thinking, and also alternative and creative sites and forms of scholarship, learning and assessment.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Security Studies, International Political Theory and Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminars (x 11 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr L Mills			

IR5408 Global Constitutionalism				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	One of 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm or 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue			
This module will explore the role of constitutional thinking at the global level. It will allow students to read theorists of constitutional thought - ancient, mediaeval and modern - in light of increasing demands for the rule of law at the global level. The module will explore specific thinkers and key themes in the area of constitutionalism. The module will draw upon legal theory and international law as well as broader themes in international political theory.				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory and Peace and Conflict Studies, Postgraduate Taught Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof T Lang			

IR5412 'Reason of State': Origin, Nature and Career of a Concept				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
The module examines the meaning, origins, development, and significance of the notion of 'reason of state' in western political thought. It explores the differences between 'reason of state', 'national interest', 'public interest' and 'common interest'. It engages with a variety of writers from different centuries (e.g. Aristotle, Cicero, Tacitus, John of Salisbury, Machiavelli, Althusius, Botero, Fichte, Morgenthau, Gramsci, Schmitt, Foucault). It encourages students to demonstrate their grasp of the concept by explaining how it works in contemporary global politics.				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programme			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr G Slomp			

IR5415 Social Movements and Ideologies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am Wed			
This module examines prominent ideologies in the modern history of the Middle East, and the role ideas play in the political mobilisation of society. The module draws particular attention to anti-colonial, nationalist, religious and liberal social movements; it compares the formation, implementation and evolution of the different sets of ideologies, and the relationships between the social movements and the state. The module aims to a) deepen students' understanding of ideologies in the region, beyond culturalist and power-political frameworks, and b) to highlight the important role of societal forces in Middle East politics.				
Programme module type:	Optional for all Postgraduate Programmes in the School of International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2 hours of seminars (x 11 weeks), 1-hour tutorial (x 11 weeks), 2 office consultation hours (x 12 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr J Gani			

IR5528 Social Movements, Revolutions and Authoritarianism in North Africa				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Thu			
<p>This module examines the dynamics and outcomes of social protests in the authoritarian regimes of North African region in the post-colonial period. It aims to describe the structural and inter-subjective features of democratic, authoritarian and revolutionary change, and to locate them in vis-à-vis the evolution of regional politics and of the international system. It describes the specificities and dilemmas of authoritarian and democratic governance in each polity with a particular focus on the developments of the last decade (post-2001). It examines in details the relationship between the state and social movements within the larger context of processes of political and economic liberalisation as well as regional (north-south) integration.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Middle East and Central Asia Security Studies and all other Postgraduate Programmes in the School.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 lecture and 1 tutorial.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr F Volpi			

IR5821 The influence of seapower on history 1805-present				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	3.00 pm - 5 pm Fri			
<p>This module will look at the theory and practice of Maritime strategy from the Napoleonic Wars to the present day. We will do this by looking at a number of works on the theory of Maritime strategy and then applying those works to a series of historical case studies from the nineteenth and twentieth century. The overall objective of the module is that the student should have an understanding of Maritime strategy and its wider context within the history of warfare and what distinguishes successful from unsuccessful Maritime strategy. The module will be taught by a weekly 2 hour seminar in which we will discuss a number of assigned readings for each week.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Strategic Studies			
Pre-requisite(s):	IR5800, IR5801			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2 seminar hours (x 11 weeks) 2 optional office hours (x 11 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr L F Middup			

IR5822 The American Way of War				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module will examine how the United States has entered, fought and then left the many wars in which it has been involved. The hope is not to come up with some overarching theory of how the US conducts itself, but to understand the different choices that it has faced and how it went about answering them. All three of these areas have been the subject of great debate. American entry into war has been examined from the point of view of economic interest, security concerns, high political decision-making and even public opinion. The way that the USA has fought wars has been even more controversial. One idea is that the country has been too reliant on equipment/technology/firepower, and has regularly lost its way politically. Finally, how the USA has ended up leaving its wars has been debated. There is a discussion over whether/how/if public opinion compels an administration to pull the USA out of war at different times, and just how 'victory' or 'defeat' should be defined.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Strategic Studies			
Pre-requisite(s):	IR5800, IR5801			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminars			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof P O'Brien			

[Other optional modules are available - see the pdf online called International Relations - optional modules 2017-2018.](#)

