New Modules for Semester Two – Senior Honours

IR4571 Conflict and intervention in world politics

Dr M Peter

Lecture Time: Thursdays, 10am to 11am and Thursdays, 10am to 12noon (module runs during weeks 1 to 7, as a one-hour lecture and tutorial; during weeks 8 to 11, as a two-hour seminar).

This module critically engages with evolving landscapes of armed conflict. It provides students with the theoretical and conceptual foundation to understand change and continuity in contemporary conflict and intervention. We will use recent and on-going cases to examine the theoretical and policy implications of multiple and often contradictory tendencies surrounding armed conflicts. New developments in conflict and intervention will be historicised within a longer trajectory. The module’s analytical aim is to explore two interconnected questions pertaining to the core values of the international system: (1) how are the shifts in the global order altering conflicts and interventions; and (2) what are the implications of new trends in conflict and intervention for the state system and collective security. The module includes a simulation of the UN Security Council.

Assessment: 50% Coursework, 50% Take Home Exam
IR4564 Strategic Studies

Dr M von Bülow

Lecture time: Mondays, 4pm to 5pm

Tutorials: Tuesdays, 2pm to 3pm (group A) and 3pm to 4pm (group B)

The aim of this course is to discuss the major shifts and developments in modern strategic thought and practice, as well as some of the powerful factors that determined and are still determining military possibilities in the modern era. We will examine historical case studies and the reasons for changes in the use and application of military force along two axes: chronological and thematic. Starting from the Second World War, we will analyze the evolution of strategic thought and practice in response to political, technological, cultural and other developments. The combination of historical analysis and thematic issues will allow students to develop a more comprehensive picture of the evolution of strategy as well as a better and more critical understanding of major strategic trends and of the strategic challenges of recent history.

Assessment: 50% Coursework (two 2,500-word essays), 50% Take Home Exam