

Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (International Politics)

1 Background

The proposal is for a new Postgraduate Diploma program in International Politics. International Studies does not offer the same Graduate and Postgraduate Certificates and Diplomas as other programs offered in the Faculty of Arts (eg Sociology). This course will be an entry pathway and an exit award for International Studies. In 2005, an external review of the Department's International Politics undergraduate and postgraduate programs was carried out, with recommendations relating to a curriculum review and the appointment of staff. The review states 'While the Department has a number of fine individual intellectual assets in the IR field, overall this has not been an area of programmatic strength – either by comparison with International Relations elsewhere in Melbourne and Australia, or by comparison with other fields within the Department itself.' The Report makes recommendations on how to improve the Department's performance. The proposed changes follow the recommendations of the Review and will bring the program to international standards.

2 Course/Program Objectives

The Postgraduate Diploma allows students to undertake a research project in a specialist field of study. Students will gain advanced knowledge of International Politics and engage in a critical assessment of the major theoretical claims of the discipline. The course provides a pathway to higher degree research for students who have not completed a BA (Honours) in International Politics.

3 Entry Requirements

1. The Selection Committee will evaluate the applicant's ability to pursue successfully the course using the following criteria-
 - An undergraduate degree with a major in International Politics, or a cognate discipline, with at least H2B (70%) average in the major, or equivalent; or
 - A Graduate Diploma in Arts (International Politics) with at least H2B (70%) average, or equivalent.
2. The Selection Committee may conduct interviews for short-listed applicants and may call for referee reports and employer references to elucidate any of the matters referred to above.

4 Course/Program Structure

Students must complete 100 points comprising the Politics honours thesis (37.5 points) plus five subjects from the following list:

166-401	International Contexts: Competing Ideas
166-402	International Politics: Key Contexts
166-410	Approaches to Political & Social Inquiry
166-407	Contemporary Political and Social Theory
166-413	Network Society
166-416	Justice, Democracy and Difference
166-418	Corruption in Today's World
166-421	Politics 4A
166-422	Politics 4B
166-429	Dilemmas of European Unity
166-444	The Emerging World (Dis)Order
166-547	Politics and Business in post-Mao China
166-548	International Political Economy

5 Availability of Course

The course is available on a part-time and full-time basis from semester 1, 2007. It will be available to fee-paying domestic and international students.