

Course Staff

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I am available for consultation during normal working hours, either face-to-face or by email. If you would like to meet with me, please email or phone first to make a time.

Introduction and Context

What roles can air power play in the diverse types of operations undertaken for national security: wars, anti-terrorism, stabilisation and humanitarian missions? How can a flexible and responsive air power capacity be developed within strict resource and political constraints? What is the role of air power in the new security environment? How can air power contribute to national security in a whole-of-government approach? How can a strategic air force be developed? What are the challenges of joint operations with other services or in coalition with other defence forces? These are among the strategic and policy issues examined in this course. (UNSW@ADFA Handbook 2010)

This subject is an elective course in the Masters of Arts program. It is designed to introduce students to a range of issues concerning the legitimate application of force from the air – that is air power – in the 21st Century. The course adopts an historical as well as thematic approach so as to lay a foundation of understanding of the genesis, historic application and theoretic development of air power. The course is developed in three broad sections:

- the development of air power theory and practice;
- air power in the emerging security environment;
- key issues and challenges in the application of air power for national security in the 21st Century.

The discussion of air power contained in this course is largely confined to that of western powers with a particular focus on the Australian national security context. This is not, however, a course about the RAAF or any particular air force.

Student Learning Outcomes

It is intended that students completing this course will appreciate the complexity of applying military power, especially air power, in the 21st Century.

At the end of this course it is hoped that students will be able to:

- comprehend the relationship between the development of air power theory and air power practice,
- understand the principles of applying air power in the modern context, and
- comprehend the role of air power in a whole-of-government approach to national security.

Teaching Strategies

The course is conducted through 12 weekly seminars and three assessable assignments which draw together the threads of the course. Key readings are provided for each seminar, as are a set of questions which are designed to stimulate discussion in seminar both on campus and online. The seminar discussions are intended to enable students to pursue aspects of the course in greater detail based on their reading, and to clarify points of uncertainty.

Assessment

There are **3 written** assessment items in this course. The table below provides a timeline of assignments.

Assessment title	Weight	Length	Due date
1. Essay 1	30%	2000	09 Apr
2. Essay 2	30%	2000	14 May
3. Main paper	40%	3000	11 Jun

Details of the set assessment are found elsewhere in the Course Outline.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism is a type of intellectual theft. It can take many forms, from

deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

For more information, please refer to the UNSW@ADFA Academic Misconduct website <http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/student/misconduct>.

Resources for Students

UNSW@ADFA will supply students with a course outline and a Learning Guide which will detail essential reading for this course.

Students are expected to utilise a library, ADFA bookshop, community sources and online sources to obtain additional resources.

While much of the required reading is provided, students are encouraged to read widely. In particular relevant magazines such as *Jane's Defence Weekly* and *Aviation Week & Space Technology* are good sources of contemporary information, as are online sites such as *Joint Forces Quarterly*, *Center for Strategic and International Studies*, *Air & Space Power Journal* and *Strategic Studies Quarterly*.

There are no prescribed texts for this course, although the following are useful works:

- Phillip Melinger, *The Paths of Heaven: The Evolution of Air Power Theory*, Air University Press, Maxwell AFB, AL, 1997.
- Alan Stephens, *War in the Air 1914 -1 1994*, Aerospace Centre, Canberra, 1994.

Course Evaluation and Development

The lecturer or the Course Convenor may ask students to complete an evaluation form for this course. Completing an evaluation form is students' opportunity to contribute to the development of this course and let the lecturer know how effectively it supported student learning.

A sample of students may also be contacted by the staff of Educational Technology Services to comment on elements of the course that ETS has been involved in. This directly impacts on how ETS assists with future course and resources development as well as the distribution of materials and general support for off campus and intensive mode students.

Course Schedule

The course will follow the schedule below. Specific readings for each topic will be included in the Learning Guide:

Timeline	Topic	Dates
	• Foundations – Theory & Practice	Week beginning
Week 1	• Introduction and Administration • War in the Air	01 Mar
Week 2	• Air Power Theory – The Foundations	08 Mar
Week 3	• Air Power Theory – Warden and Boyd	15 Mar
Week 4	• Air Power at the Turn of the Century: Desert Storm, Deliberate Force and Allied Force	22 Mar
Week 5	• Air Power in Irregular War	29 Mar
	• Emerging Security Environment	
Week 6	• The Limits of Air Power: Political Constraint, International Law and Resources	05 Apr
Week 7	• The Air Campaign and Joint Operations	12 Apr
Week 8	• Technology, Theory and Application	19 Apr
Week 9	• The Emerging Security Environment	26 Apr
21st Century Challenges		
Week 10	• Contemporary Air Strategy	03 May
Week 11	• Air Power in a Whole-of-Government Approach to National Security	10 May
Week 12	• Future Air Power: Towards a Strategic Air Force?	17 May
Week 13	• Summary and wrap up	24 May

Further Information

For further information, please consult the UNSW@ADFA Handbook and <http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/student>.

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The University of New South Wales
at the Australian Defence Force Academy

course outline

