

## Course Staff

**Dr Mark Hinchcliffe**

**Room E219, Building 28**

**Tel: (02) 6268 8233**

**m.hinchcliffe@adfa.edu.au**

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

In the history of organised conflict, the use of air power is a relatively recent development. Nevertheless, air power has proved to be a major element of conflicts over the past seven decades, and has now become a critical part of the national security strategies of many states. This course will examine the changing roles of air power in 20<sup>th</sup> century wars, the objectives, and the challenges of applying air power in current and future conflicts, especially those where force may not be the deciding factor. (UNSW@ADFA Handbook 2009)

Military air power was first used systematically and extensively only in 1914, following the start of World War I. Consequently, almost everything that air service commanders, strategists, pilots, and technicians had to do in 1914 was untried; and their primary weapon – the aeroplane – initially was primitive and unreliable. Yet by the end of the war four years later, military aircraft had become vastly more effective, and the war in the air had become an essential component of war on the surface. Almost every role performed by air forces in the most successful air campaign to date, the 1991 Gulf War, had been conducted. (The exceptions were air-to-air refueling and electronic warfare.)

This course studies the development of aerial warfare from 1914 to the present, examining issues such as:

- Theory and strategy
- Roles
- Major campaigns
- Air power in guerilla wars and anti-terrorist operations
- Technology
- The air 'culture'
- Commanders
- The militarisation of space, and
- The future of air power.

Special attention is paid to the history of the Royal Australian Air Force and its precursor, the Australian Flying Corps.

## Student Learning Outcomes

It is intended that students completing this course will comprehend the historic development of air power and gain an appreciation of the challenges of applying air power in current and future conflicts.

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 across the spectrum of conflict, and
- comprehend the role of air power in a whole-of-government approach to Australian national security.

## GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

The University of New South Wales will provide an environment that fosters 12 Graduate Attributes in our students. In particular, this course will foster:

- the skills involved in scholarly enquiry
- an in-depth engagement with the relevant disciplinary knowledge in its interdisciplinary context
- the capacity for analytical and critical thinking and for creative problem solving
- the ability to engage in independent and reflective learning
- information literacy – the skills to appropriately locate, evaluate and use relevant information
- the skills of effective communication.

## Teaching Strategies

The course will consist of 24 lectures and 11 tutorials. Each tutorial focuses on a particular aspect of the development and/or employment of air power from the very first forays into the air up to this present century. Key readings are provided for each week, as are a set of questions which are designed to stimulate thoughtful discussion in tutorial. The tutorials 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

Assessment will be through a combination of tutorial work and an exam. The exam questions will be issued several weeks before the exam date.

## TUTORIAL PAPERS

- Students must submit a minimum of three tutorial papers but may submit more if they wish. Assessment will be based on the three best papers.

- Each of the three papers will be worth 10% of the total grading.
- Papers are to be 1000 words long, written in essay style, typed with 1½ spacing, and fully referenced. They must demonstrate research, argument, and analysis.
- Style must conform with the directions in the course guide.
- Papers are to be submitted one week after the relevant tutorial.

### PARTICIPATION

- A mark of up to 10% will be awarded for tutorial participation.

### EXAM

- One exam of two hours will be held at the end of the course.
- The exam will be worth 60% of the total grading.
- The questions will be issued several weeks before the exam; that is, you will know the questions before you enter the examination room.

### FINAL ASSESSMENT/COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students must pass both components of the assessment to complete the course; that is, a minimum of 50% must be achieved in both the tutorials and the exam. All three assessable tutorial papers must reach an acceptable standard.

### LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT

Assessment deadlines are notified well in advance, and I expect these to be met. Generally, late submissions will be permitted only in extenuating circumstances. Consult the Student Handbook for details of this process. If you have a good reason for being unable to meet a submission deadline, please seek an extension **in advance**. Medical reasons are always acceptable, but must be supported by appropriate documentation. Late submission of work without an acceptable explanation will incur a penalty of 1 mark per day.

### 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 you with a course guide which will detail essential reading for this course.

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

While much of your required reading is provided, you are encouraged to read more widely. In particular relevant magazines such as Jane's Defence Weekly and Aviation Week & Space Technology are good sources of contemporary information which will prove useful.

### PRESCRIBED TEXTS

Warden, John, *The Air Campaign*, Iuniverse.com, 1998.

Stephens, Alan, *The Royal Australian Air Force*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 2001.

Stephens, Alan (ed.), *The War in the Air 1914-1994* Air University Press, Maxwell Air Force Base, 2001.

### Course Schedule

Timeline	Topic	Week starting
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction and Administration</li> <li>• The Great War in the Air</li> </ul>	20 Jul
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Australian flying Corps</li> <li>• The Classical Theorists</li> </ul>	27 Jul
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between the Wars</li> <li>• The Third Brother: RAAF</li> </ul>	3 Aug
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Air War in Europe and Nth Africa</li> <li>• The RAAF in WWII</li> </ul>	10 Aug
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RAAF in WWII Pt 2</li> <li>• Apocalypse Now</li> </ul>	17 Aug
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cold War</li> <li>• Air Power and Politics: Korea</li> </ul>	24 Aug
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Power and Irregular War</li> <li>• Irregular War Pt 2</li> </ul>	31 Aug
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vietnam War</li> <li>• Air Power in the Middle East</li> </ul>	7 Sep
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iran – Iraq War</li> <li>• Going Solo</li> </ul>	14 Sep
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commanding Air Power</li> <li>• The New Theorists</li> </ul>	21 Sep
<b>Mid Semester recess 26 Sep – 6 Oct</b>		
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gulf War I</li> <li>• Weapons of first choice? Kosovo, Bosnia and Enduring Freedom</li> </ul>	5 Oct
Week 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gulf War II</li> </ul>	12 Oct

	• Space power	
Week 13	• Future Air Power: Towards a strategic air force?	19 Oct
	• Exam	TBA

## Course Evaluation and Development

Your lecturer or the Course Convenor may ask you to complete an evaluation form for this course. Completing an evaluation form is your opportunity to contribute to the development of this course and let the lecturer know how effectively it supported your learning. Your opinions really do make a difference.

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.

## Other 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  
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