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MASTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY

In a disrupted world, there has never been a more critical time to understand security.

The Master of National Security Policy degree offers a world-class and policy-oriented qualification in national security, in line with the vision of the National Security College (NSC) as a joint initiative between The Australian National University and the Australian Government.

Our students learn about policy analysis, policy making and policy leadership.

Core courses provide foundations in concepts and practical policy skills, with a focus on navigating the national security landscape in Australia and the wider world.

Electives examine the horizon of present and future risks, from pandemics, foreign interference, terrorism and cyber-attacks through to Indo-Pacific geopolitics, geoeconomics, US-China tensions, information warfare, technological disruption, energy and environmental concerns. To address these challenges, students may develop a policy grounding in security-related aspects of such areas as bureaucracy, politics, ethics, history, risk-management, leadership and civil-military relations.

In recognition of the multidisciplinary and dynamic nature of contemporary national security, we also allow a wide range of electives elsewhere at ANU: our students shape their own security journey.

This Master's degree offers a signature teaching model: each course integrates academic expertise from NSC, the Crawford School of Public Policy and across ANU with the insights of leading policy practitioners from Australia and internationally, drawing on the NSC's trusted networks. Scenario and simulation exercises apply your knowledge to real policy challenges. This policy-oriented teaching provides our students with direct access to the world of government, enabling informed career choices. Our students become part of a supportive community of national security alumni, with opportunities to get involved in the wider public policy activities of the National Security College in Australia's capital.

This degree equips graduates for careers in government — across the full spectrum of policy departments and intelligence agencies. It also prepares students for the many other professional pathways — in academia, the private sector, international organisations, media and civil society — where it matters to understand 21st century security.

PROGRAM DETAILS

CRICOS Code: 0101473
Program Code: 7871 MNSEP
Units/Duration: 72 Units / 1 – 1.5 years
dependent on previous
studies

Admission requirements

A Bachelor degree or international equivalent
with a minimum GPA of 5.0/7.0.

Program requirements

The Master of National Security Policy
requires the completion of 72 units which
must consist of:

*12 units from completion of the
following compulsory courses:*

NSPO8006 National Security Policymaking
NSPO8007 National Security: Concepts
and Methods

*A minimum of 18 units from completion
of any of the following national security
policy courses:*

NSPO8008 Ethical Challenges
for National Security
NSPO8009 Cyber and Emerging
Technologies in
National Security
NSPO8012 Leadership, Risk and National
Security Crisis Management
NSPO8028 History for Policymakers
NSPO8032 Geoeconomics and
National Security
NSPO8033 Climate, the Environment
and National Security

NSPO8034 China, America and
National Security
NSPO8035 Australia's Strategic
Environment and Future
Security Challenges
NSPO8036 Australian National Security
Law: An introduction for
policymakers

*A minimum of 6 units from completion of any
of the following 3-unit national security issues
courses:*

NSPO8040 Gender and Security
NSPO8041 Borders, Migration and Security
NSPO8042 Civil Military-Relations
NSPO8043 Pandemics, Infectious Diseases
and National Security
NSPO8044 Energy Security
NSPO8045 Propaganda and
Information War
NSPO8046 Terrorism and National Security
NSPO8047 How Canberra Works: a guide
for security policymakers
NSPO8048 The Future of Intelligence
NSPO8049 Security in the Indo-Pacific

*A minimum of 6 units from the following
experiential courses:*

ANIP6503 Australian National Internships
Program Internship A (Graduate)
POGO8140 Practice-Based Project
CRWF7000 Applied Policy Project
CRWF8019 Public Policy and
Professional Internship
NSPO8037 Research Project

Further specialisation

Students can choose from approved security, strategy and policy courses:

Cyber Studies

- LAWS8035 Cyber Warfare Law
- LAWS8077 Cyber Law
- SOCY6064 Surveillance and Society
- SOCY6066 Social Science of the Internet

Global Security

- DIPL8006 Diplomacy, Politics and the United Nations
- INTR8062 Humanitarianism in World Politics
- INTR8065 Writing International Relations
- INTR8067 U.S. Security Policy in the Asia-Pacific
- MEAS8115 Islam in World Politics
- REGN8007 Violence Against Women in Australia, Asia and the Pacific
- STST8002 The New Power Politics of Asia

Public Policy

- IDEC8021 The Chinese Economy
- INTR8017 Issues in Australian Foreign Policy
- INTR8068 Foreign Policy Analysis
- POGO8402 Political and Institutional Architecture of Public Policy
- POGO8401 Foundations in Public Policy
- POGO8136 Participating in Public Policy: Citizen Engagement and Public Talk
- POGO8083 Policy Advocacy
- POGO8076 Corruption and Anti-Corruption
- POGO8045 International Policymaking in the Shadow of the Future

- POGO8138 Science, Technology and Public Policy
- POGO8235 Engaging China: Working with Policymakers in the PRC
- POGO8233 Policy Tools & Mixes
- POGO8234 Unpacking Policy Capacity
- POGO8231 Leading in Public Administration
- POGO8021 Public Sector Ethics
- POGO8062 Public Sector Management
- REGN8052 Regulation and Governance

Strategy and Defence

- STST8001 Strategic Studies
- STST8004 Australian Strategic and Defence Policy
- STST8013 China's Defence and Strategic Challenges
- STST8021 Intelligence and Security
- STST8026 Nuclear Strategy in the Asian Century
- STST8027 Insurgency & Counterinsurgency in Modern Warfare
- STST8056 Strategy and Southeast Asia: Defence and Security Dynamics
- STST8068 Asian Strategy and Security: History, Theory, and Practice

Resources and the Environment

- EMDV8009 Asia Pacific Environmental Conflicts: Causes and Solutions
- EMDV8079 Water Politics on a Modified Planet
- EMDV8080 International Climate Change Policy and Economics
- EMDV8081 Domestic Climate Change Policy and Economics
- EMDV8124 Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
- IDEC8089 Energy Economics

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Since 1946, the Australian National University's mission has been to make a profound difference for Australia as it makes its way in the world.

In that spirit, the National Security College was established at ANU as a unique institution to advance the national interest — engaging minds for a secure Australia.

The College has proven itself an essential part of Australia's security and policy story.

The NSC ethos is of thinking holistically about the security of state and society to manage the challenges of a disrupted world, an approach ideally suited to the era of COVID-19 and beyond.

The NSC convenes vital discussion between government, academia, industry and civil society, in a trusted and independent environment. And most importantly, the College prepares the next generation of security practitioners — thinkers and doers.

Alumni of the National Security College already perform key roles in government departments and agencies, in Australia and internationally.

The skills and knowledge developed at the ANU National Security College will be vital for Australia in the uncertain years ahead.

Multidisciplinary learning is a core value of the University, and the fully redesigned Master of National Security Policy degree typifies this. We bring together leading academics and policymakers to combine



insights across such diverse fields as policy, history, economics, technology and law, to generate new thinking about security for the 2020s and beyond.

Each course integrates academic expertise from National Security College, the Crawford School and across the University with the insights of leading policy practitioners from Australia, and across the globe, drawing on the NSC's trusted networks.

The Master of National Security Policy degree offers a world-class and policy-oriented qualification in national security.

This degree embodies the vision of the National Security College as a joint initiative between The Australian National University and the Australian Government.

The National Security College is an exceptional place to start — or advance — your career in making a difference for a secure and resilient future.

Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC FAA FRS
Vice-Chancellor & President
The Australian National University

MESSAGES FROM NSC BOARD MEMBERS



Australia is facing one of the most challenging security environments in its history.

National security is no longer about only military matters or international relations, but the whole spectrum from economics to geopolitics, technology to law, and the challenges of managing risk in crisis and complexity.

The National Security College is a joint initiative of the Commonwealth Government and The Australian National University, uniquely placed to develop the future leaders who will respond to these challenges.

For a decade the College has been engaging minds for a secure Australia, and its mission is now more pressing than ever.

The College has recently updated its Master of National Security Policy degree to ensure students are equipped with the skills and foresight they need to deal with the difficult policy choices ahead.

There's never been a more consequential time to become a security professional. The National Security College will help you get there.

Caroline Millar

Deputy Secretary, National Security
Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet



Recent events have highlighted that effective public policy is not only necessary, but vital, to democratic life.

The wellbeing of both citizens and nations rests heavily on its successful practice.

Nowhere is its value more conspicuous than in the field of national security — the primary responsibility of Governments the world over.

Elected officials need guidance through this increasingly contested world — presented with a complex menu of risk, often with scant time to deliberate. Policymakers are under increasing pressure to step up to address this need.

I am delighted that the National Security College, in partnership with the Crawford School of Public Policy, is adapting to these disrupted times to prepare the next generation of national security policymakers.

We are making certain they are up to the challenge with the fully redesigned Master of National Security Policy. This degree is more practical, immersive and flexible than ever before.

Professor Helen Sullivan

Director, Crawford School of Public Policy
The Australian National University

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The Master of National Security Policy requires the completion of 72 units which must consist of:

12 units from completion of the following compulsory courses:

National Security Policymaking (NSPO8006)

This course examines the structures, processes, actors and norms of national security policymaking, with reference to the Australian experience.

In line with the College's signature pedagogy, this course is delivered as a collaboration between an academic convener and a policy practitioner. Guest presentations are included, both from other national security academics and from current and former senior policymakers.

A highlight of the course is a fully-fledged exercise simulating whole-of-government national security policymaking in a crisis scenario.

National Security: Concepts and Methods (NSPO8007)

This course equips students with conceptual and analytical skills and frameworks to address these core questions surrounding national security.

Students will interact with policy practitioners to understand how conceptual frameworks help explain the ways in which contemporary security challenges are understood by government. The course concludes by setting the scene for a subsequent course

on translating conceptual analysis into making policy.

A minimum of 18 units from completion of any of the following national security policy courses:

Ethical Challenges for National Security (NSPO8008)

This course examines the ethical norms that both underpin and limit national security. It has a particular focus on the way that the relationships between those ethical norms pose challenges for national security policy and practice. It explores how, and the extent to which, ethical considerations can and should influence decisions about national security.

Cyber and Emerging Technologies in National Security (NSPO8009)

This course examines cyber and other emerging technologies as a domain where states project power and protect their interests. It considers the interaction of state and non-state actors, cyber enabled conflict and cooperation, as well as cyber-enhanced tools of statecraft including espionage and information operations. It also considers how states are adapting to the threats and opportunities in this new domain, including those presented by emerging technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), drones and artificial intelligence. Throughout, it explores the future of cyberspace and emerging technologies and the potential to disrupt ideas of national security.

Leadership, Risk and National Security Crisis Management (NSPO8012)

Crises are endemic to national security policymaking. The modern era is punctuated by crises emanating from the natural and social worlds that threaten local, national and international security.

This course considers this backdrop of threats alongside changing notions of ‘threat’, ‘risk’ and ‘crisis’ and challenges participants to determine how leadership and policymaking can reconcile the competing imperatives of national security and the public interest in the midst of crisis. The course involves (1) exploration of definitions and theories of national security and approaches to leadership, risk assessment/mitigation and crisis management; and (2) the application of this conceptual material to empirical cases of domestic, international and transnational crises from bushfires to pandemic, confrontation to conflict.

History for Policymakers (NSPO8028)

Contemporary policy issues often have long historical precedents. History can therefore provide policymakers with some perspective through the knowledge of past patterns, and when used responsibly, it can have a constructive influence on policy. Historical evidence can benefit policymakers as it provides not merely insight into the past, but also a basis for informed decisions, which can be drawn through the examination of continuity and change. This course looks

at how history can be relied on to enhance an understanding of the present as well as raise awareness of the dangers of the negative abuse of history. It will encourage innovative ways to use historical knowledge to address present and future policy issues.

Geoeconomics and National Security (NSPO8032)

This course introduces students to the intersection of economics and security, captured in the concept of ‘geoeconomics’. It focuses on the uses — and limitations — of economic relations as an instrument of state power. Students are introduced to the longstanding connection between economics and national security; basic principles of economic theory; the mechanisms/instruments of geoeconomic statecraft (such as trade, finance and institutions); contemporary geoeconomic challenges, such as economic coercion, critical infrastructure and critical technologies; and the policy challenges involved in developing national responses that integrate security and economic considerations.

Climate, the Environment and National Security (NSPO8033)

Climate change is one of the most defining — and contested — issues of the 21st century. While catastrophic weather events such as fires, cyclones, and droughts increasingly tax state capacity, the political, economic and social consequences pose potentially grave risks for state stability and global order. This course examines

climate change and environmental security from a national security lens, examining the potential for conflict, confrontation and cooperation. Students will closely examine the securitisation and politicisation of climate change issues, the flow on effects for national security, and policy options for adaptation.

China, America and National Security (NSPO8034)

This course examines the relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China (PRC), which will likely shape international security — and heavily influence Australia's interests — for the foreseeable future. It is organised around four core questions: how do the United States and China respectively understand national security; how have changing power dynamics between the two affected their geopolitical, geoeconomic and institutional preferences; how might this impact their handling of potential flashpoints in their relationship; and what are the implications for the security interests of third countries, notably Australia?

Australia's Strategic Environment and Future Security Challenges (NSPO8035)

The core focus of this course is the horizon of risk facing Australia's national security policy planners in the context of a changing regional and global strategic environment. The course draws on established scholarship on 'traditional' security challenges, as well

as new and emerging 'black swan' events that will require swift action from the national security community to protect Australian interests. Students taking this course will gain an understanding of both conceptual and applied knowledge, as well as key debates on how to situate Australian national security policy in an uncertain Indo-Pacific and global order. As a result they will develop the ability to make informed policy-focused evaluations of the subject matter.

Australian National Security Law: An introduction for policymakers (NSPO8036)

This course is designed specifically for students of national security policy — including serving and prospective policymakers. It will examine the intersections between Australian laws and legal systems and national security issues. After setting out the foundations and basic legal architecture of Australia's national security institutions and agencies, this course will focus on specific areas where the law has been used as a key mechanism for implementing national security policy. Students will gain in-depth understanding of the process by which Australian national security law is made, and how (and why) the use of this body of law is oversighted.

A minimum of 6 units from completion of any of the following national security issues courses:

Gender and Security (NSPO8040)

This course will address the importance of analysing gender perspectives in national security-related policy and decision making, implementation and practice. Students will gain an enhanced understanding of gendered policies in national security communities in government, the private sector, non-government organisations and the media. Students will engage with critical gender theory and empirical research from a range of interdisciplinary sources and perspectives.

Borders, Migration and Security (NSPO8041)

This course examines a theme frequently identified as a significant security challenge for policymakers: the role of borders and migration in security. The course draws from the interdisciplinary nature of scholarly writing on this topic to provide students with the conceptual and empirical knowledge to make informed and policy-focused analyses. The course will consider human movement, territory, citizenship and borders through critical, practical and national security lenses. Students will be provided frameworks for understanding contemporary events and evolving issues. Alongside academic teaching, engagement with policy practitioners will underscore the challenges in formulating and implementing border and migration policy in an Australian context.

Civil Military-Relations (NSPO8042)

In this course students will examine the difficulties for military forces, civilian agencies and humanitarian actors in navigating the 'space' in which they are co-located. Policies, principles and practices of the Australian Government, the United Nations, and other key international actors and non-government organisations will be considered. Attention will also be given to disaster risk reduction and peace-building strategies to help minimise the severity of natural disasters and the reversion of fragile states into conflict. The overall aim of the course is for students to gain a better understanding of the boundaries and complexities of civil-military relations in disaster, stabilisation and conflict situations, and to consider initiatives relevant to Australia and its region.

Pandemics, Infectious Diseases and National Security (NSPO8043)

This course assesses the political and security significance of infectious diseases, pandemics and public health. From the historical experiences with smallpox, plague and cholera, to the contemporary challenges posed by new diseases like HIV/AIDS and SARS or the COVID-19 pandemic, it is clear that pathogenic micro-organisms exercise a powerful influence over the security of people, societies and states. The aim of the course is to provide students with a stronger understanding of the scientific and political nature of these problems, why and how they might threaten security, and the conceptual and empirical connections between them.

NSC STUDENTS



As a correspondent of CNN Philippines, I reported on security issues concerning the Philippines and

Southeast Asia.

My reporting on the policy gaps and their impact on vulnerable populations motivated me to pursue the Master of National Security Policy degree.

I want to have a deeper understanding of, and keep up with, the evolving meaning and landscape of national security to help me make sense of my practical experiences.

What impressed me the most about the Master of National Security Policy degree is the students' ability to customise their program. I was allowed to cross-enrol in courses on climate change, cyber security and law. The program allowed me to align my interests with my desired specialisation.

Makoi Popioco

Student, Master of National Security Policy



Studying the Master of National Security Policy degree at the Australian National University has been a fascinating and

singular experience.

I began the degree as Australia faced unprecedented threats to its national security — the widespread bushfires across Australia, the health crisis of COVID-19, and the economic crisis that followed.

The Master of National Security Policy degree has taught me how to analyse and understand these complicated national security concerns for our region, which includes everything from terrorism, to cyber security, to climate change, to energy security, to threats from rising powers.

I've had the opportunity to learn from some of Australia's leading policy practitioners, such as former heads of intelligence agencies, members of parliament, and journalists. I've also been surrounded by a diverse, inspiring and supportive cohort of fellow students, who come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences.

Louisa Bohner

Student, Master of National Security Policy
Inaugural recipient, Office of National Intelligence and National Security College
Scholarship for Women

NSC ALUMNI



It may seem strange but making the leap from corporate counsel to cyber security seemed like the most natural

thing for me.

I started my career as a lawyer and worked in the private sector for more than a decade.

My interest in national security — and cyber security specifically — began while I was at Telstra, where I advised on data breaches and the rise of cyber-related issues, which were rapidly emerging.

The area was fascinating and new. It ultimately led me to undertake the Master of National Security Policy because I wanted to think less like a lawyer and have a broader perspective of threat, risk and national security. I wanted to be part of the conversation surrounding the evolving area of cyber security and its relationship to national security.

At the time, the telecommunications sector was one of only a handful that regularly engaged with the national security community. But times have changed and so has the threat landscape — now security experts are commonplace throughout the private sector.

And as industry continues to adapt to legislative changes — driven by constantly changing threat vectors — private sector opportunities for students of the Master of National Security Policy degree will continue to grow.

Rachael Falk

CEO, Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre



Australia's security environment is volatile — and we face historic tipping points — meaning the decisions

policymakers take in coming years will be pivotal to Australia's security for the remainder of the century.

The complex security challenges confronting Australia — at home and abroad — demand that the next generation of security professionals be bold critical thinkers, with a capacity to advocate creative solutions to wicked problems.

Due to its flexible structure and unparalleled access to international thought-leaders, the Masters of National Security Policy presents an essential opportunity for you to be among this next generation of practitioners, leaders, and scholars.

Not only did the degree introduce me to traditional national security problems, but it also helped me engage with emerging national security issues like those relating to the environment, economics, and human security. The program has therefore equipped me to engage with a diverse range of public policy problems throughout my career.

Dr. William Stoltz

NSC Visiting Fellow

Energy Security (NSPO8044)

This course provides a critical understanding of energy security — its various conceptualisations, its relationship to other forms of security, and its embeddedness in the structures of the modern state. In the format of an intensive unit, this course examines energy security in terms of supply, demand, critical infrastructure, environment, as well as the flow on effects for the political, economic, commercial and military realms. It considers a range of potential threats from geostrategic tensions to the destabilising consequences of global climate change.

Propaganda and Information War (NSPO8045)

This course examines a theme frequently identified as a difficult security challenge for policymakers: the rise of propaganda, populism, and information war, especially in the digital age. The course draws from the interdisciplinary nature of writing on this topic in order to provide students with the conceptual and empirical knowledge to make informed policy-focused assessments and analyses of the subject material.

Terrorism and National Security (NSPO8046)

This course explores the nature and causes of terrorism as well as individual (state) and collective (international) responses. It does so through an explicitly multi-disciplinary approach that incorporates historical; conceptual; and geographical frameworks.

We begin by examining the historical evolution of terrorism, its causes/rationales, and the major theoretical and conceptual approaches to help understand it. We then explore the development of historical and contemporary terrorist groups. The final part of the course focuses explicitly on counter-terrorism responses and counter-terrorism policies in the context of national security policy formulation.

How Canberra Works: a guide for security policymakers (NSPO8047)

How is security policy in Australia really made? This course is a primer on the institutions, actors and their interaction – sometimes outside formal structures – that shape decision-making in Canberra on key issues related to national security. The course takes advantage of the National Security College's privileged access to the policy community. Policy practitioners will guide students through the intersection of politics, bureaucracy, intelligence and external influences, tying together this foundational knowledge in a policy simulation exercise in which students will formulate, and afterwards critique, a government response to a hypothetical national security problem.

The Future of Intelligence (NSPO8048)

Knowledge is integral to security, but the value of intelligence — access to scarce and protected information — is under challenge. In an era of disruption, complexity and information saturation, the changing role of intelligence is a central concern for national security policymakers and analysts. This course provides students with sufficient foundational awareness of intelligence issues to enable them to critically evaluate the utility of 21st century espionage and thus anticipate its evolution. The course will focus heavily on future-oriented intelligence issues, notably the rise of open source intelligence and big data analytics, the ubiquity of cyber, the collapsing distinction between domestic and foreign intelligence, growing public transparency expectations, and the challenge to 20th century intelligence-sharing alignments, especially the Five Eyes.

Security in the Indo-Pacific (NSPO8049)

This course introduces students to the challenges and choices facing national security policymakers in an era of connectivity and contestation across the Pacific and Indian oceans. The debate about the Indo-Pacific as a coherent regional framework will be introduced, along with implications for the security interests of key regional powers, notably China, India, Japan, Indonesia, the United States and Australia. The interstate and transnational dimensions of Indo-Pacific security challenges will be considered, including how risks related to climate change, maritime resource

management, pandemics and piracy connect with interstate competition.

A minimum of 6 units from the following experiential courses:

Australian National Internships Program Internship A (Graduate) (ANIP6503)

The Australian National Internships Program provides students from any discipline with the opportunity to undertake a significant research project within a work place. Academic credit will be awarded towards the students' degrees. Placements are in national institutions peak industry bodies, large industry organisations, public policy-focussed NGOs, or international organisations. As part of a real-world experience, students will have the opportunity to work in an office environment, learn to prioritise tasks and deadlines, develop the skills to express themselves concisely and provide a succinct précis of a complex topic.

Practice-Based Project (POGO8140)

The Experiential Research Project is part of a range of 'capstone experience' courses from which students can select to complete requirements for the Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree. The course is designed principally for students currently in the workforce, and bridges classroom and practice environments by having students undertake an applied research project — on a policy or administration topic of relevance to their current employer.

Applied Policy Project (CRWF7000)

The APP involves small groups of students undertaking applied research for real-world policy organisations. Each project is initiated by clients from the public or non-government sectors, for example government departments, think tanks, peak bodies, advocacy groups, and advisory institutions. The course is designed to give students an opportunity to extend their academic skills into the professional world. Working in groups, students learn about the inner workings of policy organisations through the process of designing and conducting research on their behalf. In each project, students are required to understand client research needs, define research problems, formulate research questions, gather and analyse policy relevant data, and structure and produce a research report for the client.

Public Policy and Professional Internship (CRWF8019)

This course provides students with an opportunity to gain credit towards their degree in the Crawford School of Public Policy by undertaking a self-sourced internship.

Research Project (NSPO8037)

As an individual research project, this course provides students with an opportunity to acquire an advanced level of knowledge concerning their own choice of a national security issue and build the student's skills in research and complex writing.

Regular supervisory sessions will help facilitate and support the completion of the research project. Research projects will be supervised by the course convenor and supported by class and supervisory discussions. Students will identify their own research topic in discussion with the course convenor, present their research questions to the rest of the class and write an academic research paper.

A maximum of 24 units from completion of a research thesis:

Thesis (24 units) (NSPO8031)

Thesis is a 24-unit course available in the Master of National Security Policy program. In relation to relevant thesis topics, the notion of national security (together with any policies related to it) is understood in broad terms and students are therefore welcome to investigate traditional and/or non-traditional security issues. The completion of this thesis will demonstrate an advanced aptitude for conducting innovative research and producing high quality writing with minimal supervision. This program is also equally suitable for students who may be interested in continuing with further research work or as a PhD candidate.

NSC HEAD



Professor Rory Medcalf has been Head of the NSC at the ANU since January 2015.

He has led the expansion of the

College into policy engagement and futures analysis, as well as executive development, education and research. This has positioned the College as ‘more than a think tank’ and a widely-trusted institution bridging academia and government to foster a more inclusive and holistic approach to Australian national security.

His professional background involves three decades of experience across diplomacy, intelligence analysis, think tanks, academia and journalism, including as founding Director of the International Security Program at the Lowy Institute.

In government, Professor Medcalf worked as a senior strategic analyst with the Office of National Assessments (now the Office of National Intelligence), Canberra’s peak intelligence agency. He was also an Australian diplomat, with wide experience including a posting to New Delhi, a secondment to the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, truce monitoring after the civil conflict in Bougainville and policy development on Asian security institutions. He has contributed to three landmark reports on nuclear arms control: the 1996 Canberra Commission, 1999 Tokyo Forum and 2009 International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament.

His earlier work in journalism was commended in Australia’s leading media awards, the Walkleys, in 1991.

Professor Medcalf and the NSC convene strategic dialogues to develop Australia’s relations with Indo-Pacific powers. He has been recognised as a thought leader internationally for his work on the Indo-Pacific concept of the strategic environment, as articulated in his acclaimed 2020 book *Contest for the Indo-Pacific* (released internationally as *Indo-Pacific Empire*).

Professor Medcalf was a member of the expert panel providing independent advice on the Australian Government’s 2016 Defence White Paper. He is chief investigator in a 2018–2021 research project funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, examining the risks to nuclear stability from new submarine-detection technologies. He is also chief investigator in a 2019–2021 research project on Indo-Pacific strategy in the Indian Ocean, funded by the Australian Department of Defence.

He is a member of the editorial boards of the *Australian Journal of International Affairs* and *Asia Policy*. He has been a Nonresident Senior Fellow with the Brookings Institution and retains affiliations as a Nonresident Fellow with the Lowy Institute and the Seapower Centre of the Royal Australian Navy. His is a serving board member of the National Foundation for Australia-China Relations, and an Australian representative on the ASEAN Regional Forum Register of Experts and Eminent Persons. He is also a member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs.

NSC ACADEMIC CONVENERS



Dr. Sue Thompson is the convenor of the academic program at the NSC.

Associate Professor Sue

Thompson has extensive experience in academia, government, the media and the non-government sector. She previously worked for the Department of Defence as research coordinator for the Australian Civil Military Centre.

Prior to completing a PhD at the University of London, Sue worked for a minister in the Australian Government and then as an international news journalist for the Associated Press. She also worked in the non-government sector, notably as a corporate affairs officer for the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) and as a communications and policy officer for the Mental Health Council of Australia.



Dr. Michael Cohen is convenor of the NSC's PhD program.

He has expertise in International Security with an

empirical focus on the Indo-Pacific and, more specifically, the causes and implications for armed interstate conflict of nuclear weapons proliferation and international alliance dynamics, the role of political leaders and how their foreign policy decision-making can be improved and the efficacy of signalling and coercion in National Security affairs.

Dr. Cohen has over a decade of teaching experience in Australia, Canada and Denmark. Prior to joining the National Security College in 2018, he was Senior Lecturer and Coordinator of the Bachelor of Security Studies program at the Department of Security Studies and Criminology at Macquarie University (2015–2017) and Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and Center for War Studies at the University of Southern Denmark (2012–2015). He was also a visiting scholar at the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University (2014).

THE NSC NETWORK

The Master of National Security Policy degree incorporates unique access to a combination of multidisciplinary academic experts and policy leaders with extensive practical experience — the following is just a sample.



Laura Rosenberger is director of the Alliance for Securing Democracy at the German Marshall Fund of the United States. She was foreign policy advisor for

Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign and a Distinguished Visitor to NSC in 2019.



Alastair MacGibbon is Chief Strategy Officer, Cyber CX. He was recently National Cyber Security Adviser, Head of the Australian Cyber Security Centre and Special

Adviser to the Prime Minister on Cyber Security.



Richard Maude is Executive Director Policy at Asia Society Australia. He was Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and

Director-General, Office of National Assessments. He led development of Australia's 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper.



Michelle Price is the inaugural CEO of AustCyber, the Australian Cyber Security Growth Network Ltd. She was the first Senior Adviser for Cyber

Security at the National Security College.



Kerri Hartland is a former senior public servant with posts across eight federal departments and agencies, including as Secretary of the Department of Employment.

She was the first female Deputy Director-General of ASIO.



Meru Sheel is an infectious disease epidemiologist at the ANU Research School of Population Health. Her speciality is in health

emergencies, vaccine-preventable and emerging infectious diseases.



Jane Halton AO PSM is a member of the National Covid-19 Advisory Board and Chair, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations. She is a former

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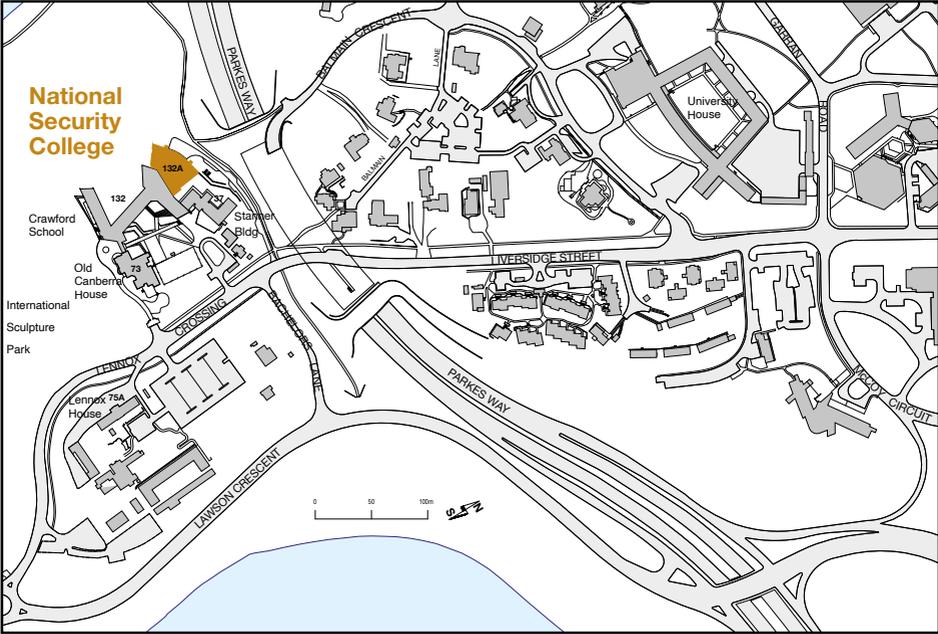
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MAP



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