WHAT IS WAR

University of Sussex

Spring term 2021/22

Module convenor: Dagmar Rychnovská

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THIS MODULE?

- Broad perspective on the phenomenon of war and how it matters in our societies

- Different theoretical approaches and concepts

- Strong focus on independent and critical thinking

- Mix of mini-lectures, discussions, group work, and case studies

- Training of transferrable skills: presenting, moderating, independent research…

GOALS OF THE MODULE

You will gain an advanced understanding of the place of war in the political world. What is war and how, if at all, is it different from other forms of violence? What is the relationship between war and politics? We will ask what war is and then investigate its relation to the fields of law, ethics, gender, technology, culture. You will then use this knowledge to investigate specific forms of warfare in different case studies. You are provided with advanced knowledge and analytical skills that will help you to think, talk, and write in an informed and critical manner about war.

MODULE STRUCTURE

1. War and security
2. War and politics
3. War and nation building
4. War and global governance
5. War and political violence
6. War and peace
7. War and gender
8. War and technology
9. War and media
10. Essay workshop
11. Conclusion

(this only a preliminary module structure)

ASSESSMENT

- **Group activity and presentation (30%)**

- **3,500 word essay (70%)**

MODULE CONVENOR

Dr Dagmar Rychnovská

Contact: d.rychnovska@sussex.ac.uk

I am a lecturer in Global Insecurities at the Department of International Relations. My research explores the entanglements of science, technology, and security, especially in the area of global health governance and biosecurity. I draw on critical security studies and science and technology studies.