The 15 years’ crisis – Studying International Relations after the Cold War

by Dr Carl Ungerer

Since the end of the Cold War, international relations scholarship in Australia has lurched dangerously back down the pathway of the utopianism which dominated the discipline in the 1920s-30s and was the catalyst for the ‘first great debate’ between realists and idealists. This is nowhere more evident that in the growth of critical security studies and its focus on global terrorist threats and responses. But instead of a robust intellectual debate, the new idealism has become entrenched as orthodoxy in the teaching and publication of international relations. As a result, a yawning gap has emerged between academics and practitioners of international politics. This paper analyses the current idealism in international relations scholarship in Australia, and argues that providing a bit more balance in the debate might be a good outcome.

Æ Thursday 29 March 2007
Æ Room N72_-1.18 (Business 2)
Æ Nathan campus,
Æ 12.30-1.50pm

A light lunch will be served on arrival. To RSVP, please contact Jo Gilbert on (07) 3735 3730 or j.gilbert@griffith.edu.au no later than 5.00pm Monday 26 March.