

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	Jay Hwang Ed Frettingham
Title of clinic:	Maritime and Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea: Faces of Power and Law in the Age of China's Rise
Number of students:	2
Major (<i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i>):	n/a
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	This Research Clinic would suit students in the IJ or WP majors

Research context

This Research Clinic involves work on a project rethinking the relationship between power and law in the age of China's rise. Specifically, the project examines how power and law have featured in recent maritime and territorial disputes in the South China Sea. Disputes over the status of islands claimed by a number of states in the region, and over freedom of navigation in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, have increased tension in recent years as China has been pressing in its claims more strongly while the United States has signalled its determination to maintain the status quo. Most analyses of these events have understood them as a strategic contest in which power is the primary tool and ultimate objective, or as a problem that will ultimately be resolved through appeal to a correct interpretation of international law. The project seeks to overcome this artificial separation of power and law by exploring how the themes of power and law intersect in the strategic, diplomatic, and legal policies of states involved in the disputes.

Students' tasks and activities

Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.

The student will be involved in two tasks:

1. Close reading draft chapters in an edited book on power and law in the South China Sea, to assist in the final production phase. This will involve proofreading and copy editing the final draft of the book, and producing an index.
2. By the end of the project, writing a 2000 word research essay on the maritime and territorial disputes in the South China Sea that reflects on the themes of the edited book.