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Asia-Pacific Center for
Security Studies

Senior Security Studies Course

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Strategic Studies Center,
National Defence Studies
Institute

Topic Overview

CYBERSECURITY

Virginia B. Watson, Ph.D.

Overview

The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) is upon us and well on its way to bringing fundamental transformations in all aspects of societal life. With Information and Communications Technology (ICT) at its core, the emerging technologies of 4IR are critical elements shaping the geopolitical landscape, the socio-economic discourse of everyday life, global technology governance, etc. This lecture proposes that there are at least six modalities in the study of 4IR cybersecurity:

- Non-state actors as change drivers;
- Geopolitical shifts and, in, for the virtual domain;
- The cyber dynamics of socio-economic transformations;
- Emerging technologies and governance; and
- International vs cyber order

Objectives

- Explore the security implications of 4IR, focusing on the strategic challenges and opportunities defining cybersecurity.
- Examine the current developments and trends in both concept and context that define the cybersecurity domain of the Indo-Pacific region.

Required Reading

Bacay Watson, Virginia. "The Fourth Industrial Revolution and its Discontents: Governance, Big Tech, and the Digitization of Geopolitics," in [Hindsight, Insight, Foresight: Thinking About Security in the Indo-Pacific](https://apcss.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/03-watson-25thA.pdf), ed. Vuving, A. (Honolulu HI: DKI Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, 2020): 37-48. <https://apcss.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/03-watson-25thA.pdf>