Global Security
Spring 2016
Preliminary draft syllabus

This course introduces students to the basic concepts and issues of security in the contemporary world. After briefly reviewing the historical development of war, the course examines deterrence, alliances, collective security, conventional war, and the nuclear revolution. The course then analyzes emerging transnational threats such as terrorism, the challenges of the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, the tensions between economic globalization and the imperatives of homeland security and the technological changes giving rise to new weaponry such as military robotics as well as the prospects of cyber warfare.

Master of International Affairs program core course: The course is designed for professional students in the Master of International Affairs (MIA) degree program. It is designed to provide a foundation for courses in the Global and Homeland Security concentration as well as a broad overview of key concepts and information that will be useful to students who chose other concentrations in the program. Graduate students from other Rockefeller College and UAlbany masters programs are more than welcome to join the class.

PhD students: Although this class is designed to meet the needs of masters students preparing for professional international affairs careers, PhD students with an academic vocation are more than welcome. PhD students will receive additional reading assignments (See Appendix 1 below) that will help prepare for International Relations comprehensive exams of the Political Science PhD program. If PhD students are interested, the instructor will arrange some additional sessions to discuss these readings. With these additional readings, the course is comparable to RPOS 582.

Prerequisites: There are no formal prerequisites. Ideally, students will have taken at least a general course in international relations at the undergraduate level. Those who have not yet studied international relations should consult the instructor for a few additional readings that the student should complete at the beginning of the semester or just before.

Course Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should:

- Understand the historical development of warfare
- Be able to identify major contemporary security issues and understand how the major theories of international relations address these security issues
- Understand the functioning of deterrence as opposed to defense and appreciate the consequences of the nuclear revolution for deterrence
- Appreciate the role of non-state actors and new technology in transforming state capabilities to provide security
- Be able to effectively read government documents and extract relevant information
• Be able to critically evaluate common readings in discussions with fellow students and collectively produce policy research deliverables
• Be able to orally present policy research findings
• Be able to write concise memos and reports that can be understood by members of the policy community and educated laypeople.

Teaching and learning modalities:
In addition to class discussions and online discussions via Blackboard, we will utilize synchronous distance-learning tools Zoom and Skype to enable members of the class and guest lecturers to join class from remote locations as well as to enable groups of students to work together on group projects. Students aspiring to professional international affairs careers should be able to express themselves and communicate in a range of formats and modes from email exchanges and informal dialogues with co-workers to formal written reports and oral presentations to the leadership of their organizations and that of other organizations with whom they may need to negotiate. While presentations often take place in conference rooms similar in size to our classrooms, they may also be done on conference calls and through videoconferences. Hence, teleconference and videoconference sessions of class should be considered opportunities to practice and learn effective communication and presentation skills. Similarly, PhD students who learn to use synchronous distance learning tools may subsequently use those skills in research teams and co-authoring as well as the courses that they will teach. Depending on the number of PhD students and their schedules, additional sessions to discuss PhD readings may be by webconference.

Required textbooks:


(Books will be available at the UAlbany Bookstore)

Additional required readings: The bulk of the readings will be journal articles. Unless noted, all required journal articles can be accessed on-line and at the UAlbany Library via “e-journals.” This includes articles in International Security, Security Studies, Foreign Affairs, Washington Quarterly, Foreign Policy, etc.

Readings that are not available in the UAlbany e-journal collection and are marked with an asterisk (*) will be made available on Blackboard.

Description of requirements:

Class participation: All students are expected to attend all classes, complete all assigned readings in advance of class and be prepared to discuss them, including cold calls. The base line grade for class participation is a D. Routine attendance with minimal participation will earn a C. Regular contributions to class discussion that are appropriate and draw on readings will earn a B. Students who are consistently well prepared to discuss the assigned readings nearly every class and actively participate in discussions will receive an A for class participation.
**Personal statement:** All students are asked to submit a 250-word statement describing their interests and professional background as they relate to this course. These should be posted on the discussion forum on Blackboard. Although this is a mandatory assignment, it will not be graded; its purpose is to allow the instructor to organize class discussions effectively, and for students to get to know one another better.

**Extemporaneous speech:** All students will give an extemporaneous speech of 5-7 minutes on a topic related to the course at the beginning of a class session. Students will select the date of the speech but students will need to arrive to the instructor’s office 40 minutes in advance of the class at which time he or she will draw a topic from a basket. The student will then have approximately 30 minutes to prepare and practice the speech. Students may review newspapers, journal articles and online resources, etc., however, the student may only use 50 words of notes on a 3x5 index card when delivering the speech. After all students complete their speeches for the class session, the instructor and classmates may offer comments and suggestions. The assignment will be graded on a pass/fail basis and will only impact the student’s grade if it is not completed. More information about extemporaneous speaking can be found at the National Forensic League website: [http://www.nationalforensicleague.org](http://www.nationalforensicleague.org)

**Questions for discussion:** All students should formulate at least one but no more than three thoughtful questions about the required common readings for each week of class (aside from the first class, i.e., 12 weeks worth). These questions should be formulated with the audience of the entire class in mind and with the objective of generating discussion. Students must post the questions on the Blackboard discussion board by 12:00 noon on the day of class. Over the course of the semester, students should paste the questions in a word document that lists by date all of the students’ questions (A schedule of class session dates and titles will be posted and can be used for organization). This inventory of questions must be submitted to the instructor via email on the last day of class.

**A briefing paper** (maximum 1,500 words) You are a staff person for a member of the state assembly who has just won your party's nomination to run for Congress. The candidate was a civil engineering major in college, held state government positions overseeing transportation infrastructure and has been a very effective local politician but never studied international relations, did not serve in the military, never travelled abroad (and does not have a passport). In one month, the candidate will need to debate an opponent who is a veteran. The candidate has learned that you are studying for a Masters degree in international affairs and wants you to provide a briefing paper on deterrence and nuclear weapons in order to prepare for the debate. The paper should explain the difference between defense and deterrence, explain the consequences of the nuclear revolution for deterrence, review the current status of nuclear weapons (number, deployment, US, Russian, other countries) and evaluate effectiveness of deterrence today. You can write a perfectly good paper drawing from the assigned course readings but you should feel free to review recommended readings and other sources.

**Team project:** Students working in teams will produce a group presentation (15 minutes) and report (2,000 words) analyzing a security issue discussed in part II of course. Students will be assigned to groups and the instructor will distribute topics. The presentations will take place as part of the class sessions. Groups should use group Skype or other synchronous distance-learning tool to meet outside of class to work together on the project.

**Issue brief:** Each student will select an issue from one of the three session topics of part III and write a paper (1,500 words) that summarized key aspects of the issue selected, related challenges that confront policymakers and policy options that address those challenges. Students should review recommended government documents in addition to required readings. The paper is due at the beginning of the session selected and students will give the class an 8-10 minute briefing during that class.

**Final exam:** The first part is an in-class exam of term identification/short answers on the last day
of class (one hour); second part is take-home with one or more essay questions (2,000-words total).

**Term paper for PhD students:** In lieu of the team project, issue brief and final exam, PhD students are expected to write a paper of about 8,000 words (approx. 30 pp. double-paced, 12 pt, one inch margins). PhD student papers should demonstrate a command of the theoretical literature relevant to the topic selected and develop an analytical argument related to debates in that literature. Students may write any one of the following: 1) a paper that is based on secondary sources; 2) a paper based mostly on primary sources or 3) a paper based on the analysis of existing data sets or data that the student has collected. PhD students should model their paper on articles published in *International Security* or *Security Studies*. Students are expected to draw on material from the syllabus but students should also incorporate significant additional research on the topic chosen (which would be reflected in a majority of references to material not listed as required reading on the syllabus). All students may select a topic of their own choosing as long as it is within the confines of the course and approved by the instructor. For those students having difficulty selecting a topic, a good approach would be to consider a paper topic that delves into the details of one aspect of one of the session topics. At the very beginning of the course, students should carefully review the entire syllabus and scan readings for possible topics.

PhD students are expected to submit a one sentence paper topic by 2/8. Students are expected to submit a full paper proposal comprised of a 100-150 word abstract, outline and bibliography by 2/22. The proposal should be emailed to rkosowski@albany.edu. If students miss this deadline, a half letter grade will be subtracted from the final grade for the paper. Students will give a presentation (10-15 minutes) of their preliminary findings during the second half of the course at times to be determined. Final seminar papers are due on 5/2. All sources must be in a bibliography at the end of the paper and properly referenced in the text (author, date, page number) or in footnotes. Papers without proper references are unacceptaible and will not be read. Papers should be emailed to rkosowski@albany.edu (An additional hard copy may also be handed in.)

**Masters Student Grading:**
- Class participation: about 20%
- Questions: about 5%
- Briefing paper: about 15%
- Group project: about 15%
- Issue brief: about 15%
- Final exam: about 30%

**PhD Student Grading:**
- Class participation: about 20%
- Questions: about 5%
- Briefing paper: about 15%
- Term paper: about 60%

**Late assignments will be penalized.**

**Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated.**
Students must properly reference all sources, including assigned readings, in all written assignments.
References to all sources must be clearly indicated. Direct quotations must be marked with double quotation marks (e.g. "...") and the source cited. Indirect quotations must have source cited. Sources require citation each time they are referred to.
Class Schedule:

1/25 Introduction

Part I Security in a Nuclear World

2/1 History and Nature of Warfare
Carl von Clausewitz, "War as an Instrument of Policy" from *On War*, Book 5, Ch. 6. (4 pp)
Watch: *The Fog of War* (Director: Erol Morris, 2004, 95 minutes)

2/8 The Use of Force and Nuclear Deterrence
Watch: *Dr. Strangelove* (Director: Stanley Kubrick, 1964, 95 minutes)

2/15 Nuclear Accidents, Arms Control and Nuclear Disarmament
Explore: Nukemap at http://nuclearsecrecy.com/nukemap/
Recommended:

2/22 The Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
(Briefing paper due)
Part Two: Transnational Threats, Technological Change and Rethinking Security

2/29 International Terrorism
*Bruce Hoffman, Inside Terrorism (New York: Columbia University Press, 2006), Chapter 1
National Strategy for Counterterrorism, June 2011
https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/counterterrorism_strategy.pdf
Watch: The Battle of Algiers (Director: Gillo Pontevorco, 1965, 120 minutes)

3/7 Revolution in Military Affairs and the Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq
http://marshallcenter.ciss.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16378coll5/id/256
Max Boot, War Made New, Intro (pp. 7-16) part IV (pp. 307-438)
Recommended:

3/21 Asymmetric Warfare and Insurgency
Max Boot, “The Evolution of Irregular War,” Foreign Affairs, Mar/Apr 2013
Bruce Hoffman “Return of the Jihadi” The National Interest, Jan/Feb 2016
Audrey Kurth Cronin, “ISIS is not a Terrorist Group,” Foreign Affairs, March/April 2015
3/28 Military Robotics and the Future of Warfare
Sarah Kreps and Micah Zenko, “The Next Drone Wars: Preparing for Proliferation,” Foreign Affairs, Mar/April 2014
“World of Drones” and Drone Wars: Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, New America Foundation at: http://securitydata.newamerica.net (peruse maps and data)
Read testimony of Paul Scharre and Peter W. Singer at the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on the “Future of Warfare,” November 3, 2015, posted at: http://www.armed-services.senate.gov/hearings/15-11-03-future-of-warfare and watch some of the hearing

Recommended:

4/4 Rising Powers

Part Three: Globalization vs. Homeland Security

4/18 International Travel and Migration vs. Tighter Border Controls


Kelly M. Greenhill, "Demographic Bombing: People as Weapons in Syria and Beyond," ForeignAffairs.com snapshot, December 17, 2015
https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2015-12-17/demographic-bombing


Edward Alden, "Smart Borders: How to Keep the United States Open and Safe" ForeignAffairs.com snapshot Dec. 10, 2015
https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2015-12-10/smart-borders


Watch: “Strengthening the Visa Waiver Program After the Paris Terror Attacks” Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Roundtable, United States Senate, Dec. 9, 2015 https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/hearings/roundtable_-_strengthening-the-visa-waiver-program-after-the-paris-attacks; Read (or skim) Marc Frey’s testimony for this hearing.


Recommended:
9/11 and Terrorist Travel: Staff Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States
http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/911/staff_statements/911_TerrTrav.Monograph.pdf

Vision and Strategy 2020: U.S. Customs and Border Protection Strategic Plan


4/25 International Trade vs. Increased Transportation and Port Security

9-11 Commission Report, 390-398


National Strategy for Global Supply Chain Security, January 2012 at:
http://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=698202

Watch: “Prevention of and Response to the Arrival of a Dirty Bomb at a U.S. Port” Hearing of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. House of Representatives, October 27, 2015


**Recommended:**

HSPD-13, Maritime Security Policy, December 2004 at: https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=470301

(Fact Sheet at: https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=451035)


http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-14-826


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**5/2 On-line Economies vs. Cyber Terrorism and Cyber War**


Thomas Rid, “Cyber War Will Not Take Place,” Journal of Strategic Studies, 35:1 2012


**Recommended:**

Department of Defense Strategy for Operating in Cyberspace, July 2011


The Tallinn Manual on the International Law Applicable to Cyber Warfare

https://www.ccdcoe.org/249.html
Appendix 1:
Additional readings for Political Science PhD students

Part I Security in a Nuclear World

1/25 Introduction

2/1 History and Nature of Warfare

2/8 The Use of Force and Nuclear Deterrence

2/15 Arms Control and Nuclear Disarmament

2/22 The Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
Recommended:
Steven E. Miller and Scott D. Sagan, “Nuclear Power without Nuclear Proliferation?” Dædalus Vol.138 (2009), No. 4, pp. 7-18. [This is the introduction to a special issue of Dædalus devoted to the spread of nuclear energy].
The April 2009 special issue of the Journal of Conflict Resolution, which focused on strategic approaches to nuclear proliferation.
Part Two: Transnational Threats, Technological Change and Rethinking Security

2/29 International Terrorism
Recommended:

3/7 Revolution in Military Affairs and the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

3/21 Asymmetric Warfare and Insurgency

3/28 Military Robotics and the Future of Warfare
Recommended: Singer, *Wired for War*

4/4 Rising Powers
Recommended:


Part Three: Globalization vs. Homeland Security

4/18 International Travel and Migration vs. Tighter Border Controls
4/25  International Trade vs. Increased Transportation and Port Security

5/2  On-line Economies vs. Cyber Terrorism and Cyber War