This seminar will introduce students to the subfield of international relations frequently referred to as international security. We will begin studying the causes of war and peace in the international system. We will then turn to contemporary security concerns such as terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and the challenges to global governance. In our final section, we will explore broader conceptions of human security dealing with economic development, health and education.

Students will be evaluated by short response papers, class participation, and one major paper that reviews a body of contemporary research on global security. Grading will be based on the following: one-page weekly response/question papers based on the week’s assigned readings (10%), participation (20%), a two-page critique of a peer’s paper draft (10%), a 20 page review essay (50%), and an oral presentation of this essay (10%).

Required Books:


Howard, Michael War in European Society. Oxford University Press, 1976. (0-19-280208-9)


Other readings will be available on-line through the University Library or will be distributed in class.
COURSE POLICIES

Participation:

One of the most striking differences between graduate and undergraduate education is the level of student participation. Simply put, it is essential that graduate students are prepared to actively participate in the seminar. It is also common for students to voice opposition to others in the seminar--Professors included. Given the difficulty of learning anything from someone who is in agreement, I welcome lively but civil and reasoned opposition and debate. There are many sides to each of the issues we discuss. Clarifying both weaknesses and strengths will only enhance our understanding. And in the spirit of Karl Popper's stress on falsification, being wrong can be a virtue since it provides one of the best ways to learn. I stress that the participation grade is not a freebie. It is impossible to get an ‘A’ in this class without active participation informed by the readings. At the midterm, I will assign participation grades for the first half of the semester. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding participation.

To ensure wide participation, each of the readings will be introduced by a student. These introductions will be brief overviews with questions to initiate discussion.

Response Papers:

These are short (1 page single-spaced, two paragraph) responses to the readings. The first paragraph should articulate the puzzle(s) or question(s) from this week's readings. The second paragraph will consist of some questions you have about the evidence or logic the author(s) use to support arguments. The objective of these papers is to prepare you to discuss the works in seminar. These papers must be emailed to the instructor before 3:00 PM on Wednesdays. They will be graded and returned in class.

Review Essay:

The structure of the review essays will be based on those published in World Politics. Four to six works will be reviewed in a cogent and critical manner. The objective is to identify common themes as well as tensions within one issue area in global security. Like all good review essays, this one should also identify how future research could contribute to our understandings. Given the breadth of the concept of security, this leaves an overwhelming number of possibilities. I recommend that you carefully review the syllabus and start considering issue areas for a review essay early in the term. We will spend considerable time going over what makes a good review essay and will use some examples in class.
COURSE SCHEDULE:

January 23
Course Introduction and Central Concepts
Sovereignty, Anarchy, Power, Cooperation, and Globalization

January 30
Old and New Conceptions of Security


February 6
The Historical Evolution of International Conflict


February 13
Causes of Interstate War


February 20
States, War Making and its Consequences

February 27
Culture and National Security
Katzenstein, Peter (Ed.) The Culture of National Security. New York: Columbia University Press, 1996. [Chapters 1-2; 6-7; 9; 12-13]
March 5
Governance and Order in a Globalized World
Slaughter, The New World Order.

March 12
Coercion, Nuclear Deterrence, and the Long Peace
Schelling, Thomas (1962) Arms and Insecurity (pp. 1-35)


March 19
Nuclear Proliferation and Terrorism


March 26 NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK

April 2
Terrorism and Initial Topics for Review Essays are Due.


April 9
Enhancing Human Security through Foreign Aid: The Development Record
Riddell, Does Foreign Aid Work?

April 16
Enhancing Human Security through Health and Education


Lewis Maureen and M. Lockheed (2007) "Getting All Girls into School: New Ways are Needed to Educate Excluded Girls in Developing Countries." Finance and Development

April 23
Security Futures and Brief Discussions of Progress on Papers
Huntington, Samuel (1993) "Clash of Civilizations?" Foreign Affairs (Summer)


April 30
Student Presentations and First Drafts of Review Essays are Due.
Peer Reviews are due May 2—to be delivered via email to Professor and Author.

Final Papers are due May 12th