

Comparative National Security Policy

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Course Objectives:

This course presents an overview of national security policy and examines security issues from a number of different theoretical perspectives. After exploring some leading theories that explain the basic security strategies states employ, we will consider the historical development of security concerns of a number of specific states in order to determine how strategies translate into specific policies. We then explore more contemporary issues linked to human security, identity politics, and rogue states. Comparative analysis will allow students to recognize patterns and draw generalizations that can then be used to develop a broader understanding of national security.

Password: Securitypolicy

Core Readings: Available at Mary Jane's Books

- Patrick M. Morgan, *International Security, Problems and Solutions* (CQ Press, 2006)
- Michael Sheehan, *International Security, An Analytic Survey* (Boulder: Reinner, 2005)
- Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007)
- Allison Stenger, *One nation under Contract: the Outsourcing of American Power and the Future of Foreign Policy* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009)
- Assessments, articles and reports from NGOs, the UN, OSCE available on e-reserve and blackboard.

Requirements

Attendance & Participation	10%	Final Exam	30%
Midterm	30%	Class/Paper Assignments	30%

Learning Objectives

- Understanding of classical definitions and approaches to national security as these are understood in developed and developing countries
- Understanding of more contemporary definitions of security (including of human security) in developed and developing countries
- Understanding of how individual policy makers and governments make policy concerning security and how to examine the effects of these policies

- Understanding of how individual leaders relate their basic value orientations to decisions taken about security
- Development of research skills: finding materials, reading closely and summarizing texts and drawing inferences concerning motivations and causation of policies and events
- Development of writing skills: how to summarize and synthesize source materials into a coherent argument with support from diverse sources

Writing and Plagiarism. Plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional use of another's words or ideas without giving credit to that person. While this includes copying text word for word without the use of quotation marks, it also includes paraphrasing another person's work without proper citation. Intellectual honesty is a core value of university and the foundation of faculty and student development. Students guilty of plagiarizing **any** material will receive a failing grade for the **course** and the evidence will be automatically turned over to the *Office of Student Conduct*. During the first week of class, all students **must** review the UAlbany Library's tutorial on plagiarism entitled: Plagiarism 101 (<http://library.albany.edu/usered/ncplaga/index.html>). It is really far easier to do your own work than to plagiarize and students would be most unwise to consider it.

Participation. Class participation consists of preparation for and engagement in class discussion. It entails regular class attendance, completing assigned readings, asking relevant questions, and taking positions on issues raised in class

Midterm and Final Exams: These essay exams will give the opportunity to present views on the material covered in class and in readings.

Written Assignment: Comparative Perspectives on Security. Students will address a security problem from different national and international perspectives. A more comprehensive description of the assignment will be passed out in class.

COURSE OUTLINE

January 20: Introduction

- Speeches by Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy, Handout
- QDDR: ERES

January 25, 27: National Interests, Security Dilemma, Levels of Analysis

- Morgan, Chapters 1 -3
- Thomas Hobbes, Excerpts from *The Leviathon*, on E-Reserve

- Arnold Wolfers, "National Security as an Ambiguous Symbol," "Actors in International Politics" and "The Pole of Power and the Pole of Indifference," on E-Reserve

February 1: Cheap Victories?

- Morgan, Chapter 4
- Andrew Mack, "Why Big Nations Lose Small Wars," *World Politics* (1975), on E-Reserve

February 3, 8: Deterrence and Arms Control

- Morgan, Chapter 5
- Harry Truman, "The Policy of Containment: The Truman Doctrine," E-Reserve
- George Kennan, "The Sources of the Soviet Conduct," *Foreign Affairs* (July 1947) – E-Reserve

February 10, 15 Hegemonic Concerts and Collective Security

- Morgan, Chapters 6-8

February 17, The new post-cold war order

- Thomas P.M. Barnett, *The Pentagon's New Map* ERES
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3xlb6_00Es

March 1, 3: Bringing Society In - Models of Policy -Making

- Graham Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," *APSR* (September, 1969), E Reserve
- William Zimmerman, "Issue Area and Foreign Policy Process: A Research Note in Search of a General Theory," *APSR* (December 1973), E-Reserve

March 8, 10: Individuals, Ideology, Culture and Movements

- Alexander George, "The 'Operational Code': A Neglected Approach to the Study of Political Leaders and Decision Making," *International Studies Quarterly* (June, 1969)
- Robert Axelrod, Excerpt from *The Evolution of Cooperation*, on E-Reserve

March 15, 17: Transformation of US Security Policy

- Allison Stanger, *One Nation Under Contract: The Outsourcing of American Power and the Future of Foreign Policy* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009)

March 22: Troubled Partnerships: US, Europe, China, Russia

- Robert Kagan, "Power and Weakness," *Policy Review* <http://www.hoover.org/publications/policyreview/3460246.html>
- Wyn Rees and Richard J. Aldrich, "Contending Cultures of Counterterrorism: transatlantic convergence or divergence?" *International Affairs* (2005), E-Reserve
- Sheehan, Chapters 1-3.

March 24: MIDTERM

March 29, 31, April 5: National Security as Human Security

- "The Responsibility to Protect," Report of the Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (2002) on E-Reserve
- Sheehan, Chapters 4-8

April 5, 7: Poverty and Security

- Collier, Whole Book

April 12, 14, 26: Modern Warfare

- Morgan, Chapters 9-12
- Catherine Newbury, "States at War: Confronting Conflict in Africa," *African Studies Review*, vol. 45, no. 1 (2002), E-Reserve
- George Packer, "The Lesson of Tal Afar," *New Yorker* – *E Reserve*
- Richard Haass, "The New Middle East," *Foreign Affairs* (2006) – E-Res

APRIL 28: PAPER DUE

May 3: Conclusion: Great Powers, Small Powers and Security