

Spring 2018

International Conflict and Security

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DIPL 2120 AA- Spring 2018

International Conflict and Security

Instructor: Binneh s Minteh
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Class: Friday 11:00am - 1:30pm
Office Hours: Friday 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Course Description

This course explores central issues regarding the use of military force in international politics. Why do states turn to military force and for what purposes? What are the causes of war and peace? What renders the threat to use force credible? Can intervention in civil wars stall bloodshed and bring stability? How can states cope with the threat posed by would-be terrorists? What is the nature of counterinsurgency doctrine? What is the future of military force in global politics? Through theoretical readings, concrete historical cases, and contemporary policy debates, this course examines these questions and others.

The themes covered in this class are often contentious, and fraught with ethical and moral issues, concerning the proper role of violence, and the value of human existence. Much of the course is discussion based, so civility, respect for others, and a respect for the value of free speech and a frank exchange of ideas are all important. As such, you should expect to hear ideas that may make you uncomfortable. I am responsible for ensuring that that we stick to ideas and not personal attacks, but all viewpoints are welcome as long as the presentation remains civil. That includes viewpoints that some might disagree with, or even find offensive.

Readings and Materials

Required readings are listed below for each class session. Most articles and book chapters will be posted online.

Peter Hough, Shahin Malik, Andrew Moran, Bruce Pilbeam, 2015. *International Security Studies: Theory and Practice*, Routledge; 1 edition, ISBN-13:978-0415734370

Course Objectives

1. Familiarize students with the nature of strategic interaction between states and the major causes of international conflict, both historical and contemporary;
2. Enable students to analyze the main theories and concepts that scholars of international relations use to explain conflict between and among states and non-state actors;

3. Allow students to critically evaluate the ability of these theories and concepts to explain modern warfare, diplomacy, and other elements of international security.

Requirements and Grading

Grading: 500 points

Course Components	Possible Points	Letter Grade
Attendance/ Participation (20%)	50	As = ≥90%
Debates (30%)	150	Bs = ≥80%
Mid-Term Exam (20%)	100	
		Cs = ≥70%
Final Exam (30%)	200	Ds = ≥60%

Participation - 20%

Active and informed participation in class discussion and activities is extremely important. The grade for participation includes the grade for in-class quizzes and debates. Students will be assigned discussion groups at the beginning of the semester. At the end of the semester, students will rate the other members of their discussion group on the quality of their participation and this will be factored into the grade.

Also, students may not use their laptop or other electronic device during active class time (this does not include any mid-class breaks).

Debates - 30%

There will be in-class debates throughout the semester. Students will sign up for debate sessions and will write a 3-5 pages' paper on that topic (Typed, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins). The papers must be on the debate topics listed on the syllabus. These papers should lay out the core of at least one argument on the issue at hand and evaluate it critically. Papers should be submitted in class before beginning of debates. Late papers are subjected to a penalty, including marking down 1/3 of a letter grade (for example from a B+ to B).

Midterm Exam - 20%

Midterm Exams will be available to students on the schedule date. Students will respond to questions provided and submit a 3-5 pages paper on blackboard. The paper will be graded based on rubrics provided by the instructor. Late papers are subjected to a penalty, including marking down 1/3 of a letter grade (for example from a B+ to B. Papers should be 3 pages (typed, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins) and submitted on blackboard on Friday, April 14, 2017.

Final Exam - 30%

This will be a take home exam. The exam will be distributed on a day in the exam week and will be due on blackboard 24 hours later. For this exam you are expected to answer two essay questions drawn from readings covered in class.

Policy on Incompletes

Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases for emergencies. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request accompanied by a Course Adjustment Form (available from the Diplomacy Main Office) to the professor before the date of the final examination. If the incomplete request is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving the Incomplete or by the time of graduation (whichever comes first) automatically becomes an "FI" (which is equivalent to an F). It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

Communications Policy

The primary mode of communication between students and instructor is by email and by phone. I will endeavor to respond to email within 48 hours, but usually I will be able to do so within 24 hours. You can also reach me by phone.

Accommodations Policy

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Civil Rights Restoration Act, students at Seton Hall University with disability may be eligible for accommodations in this course. Should a student require such accommodation, he or she must self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 67, Duffy Hall, provide documentation of said disability, and work with DSS to develop a plan for accommodations. The contact person is Ms. Diane Delorenzo at (973) 313-6003.

Academic Integrity

Thinking about cheating? Don't do it.

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible dismissal from the School of Diplomacy. See university and school standards for academic conduct here:

<http://www.shu.edu/offices/student-life/community-standards/community-standards.cfm>

<http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>

Please see me if you have any questions about the academic violations described in the Code in general or as they relate to particular requirements for this course.

Course Schedule

Many readings will be posted electronically. If you are unable to access a reading, please contact me in adequate time before the class session in which the reading is due. This schedule of readings may be changed with appropriate notice.

Week 1. January 19, 2018 - Introduction

Instructor and Student Introduction

Course Introduction

Discussion: Critical Thinking and writing good papers.

Week 2. January 26, 2018 - Conceptual and theoretical formulations of Security

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 1: Framing a discipline
 - Chapter 2: The traditional routes to Security – Realism and Liberalism
 - Chapter 3: Critical Security Studies
 - Chapter 4: Feminist Security Studies
 - Chapter 5: Human Security
 - Chapter 6: Constructing Security

Week 3. February 2, 2018 -New Dimensions of Human Security

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 15: Environmental Security
 - Chapter 16: Crime and Security
 - Chapter 17: Food Security
 - Chapter 18: Health and Security
 - Chapter 19: Disasters and Security

Week 4: -. February 9, Causes of War - Anarchy, Power, and Bargaining

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 7

- Kenneth N. Waltz, 1989. "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory," in Rotberg and Rabb, eds., *Origin and Prevention of Major Wars*, pp. 39-52.
- Dan Reiter, 2003. "Exploring the Bargaining Model of War," *Perspectives on Politics*, 1(1), 27-43.

Week 4- February 16, 2018 - Domestic and International Institutions

Readings

- Bruce Russett, 1996. The Fact of the Democratic Peace, in Michael E. Brown, ed., *Debating the Democratic Peace* M.I.T. Press, 58-81.
- Michael McFaul and Francis Fukuyama, "Should Democracy be Promoted or Demoted?" *The Washington Quarterly* (winter 2007-2008), pp. 23-45.
- Gregory Gause, "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?" *Foreign Affairs* (Sept./Oct. 2005), pp. 62-76.

Debate 1: Would the spread of democracy be a good thing for global peace and security? Can it be done?

Week 5. February 23, 2018 - Causes of War: Psychology and Personality

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 7: Reflecting on war and Peace
 - Chapter 8: New Wars, Globalization and Failed States
- Daniel L. Byman and Kenneth M. Pollack, 2001. "Let Us Now Praise Great Men: Bringing the Statesman Back In," *International Security* 25(4): 107-146.

Debate 2: Discuss the Foreign Policy of President's *Barack Obama and Donald Trump*? Which one is more likely to cause or prevent war?

Week 6. March 2, 2018 - Fighting and Winning modern wars – Terrorism

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 11- Terrorism
 - Chapter 12: Religion and International Conflict
 - Chapter 13; The Rise of Private Military and Security Companies

Debate 3: *COIN (counterinsurgency) is touted as a form of warfare more sensitive to local politics. Is it more successful? More humane and less bloody?*

- Thomas E. Ricks, "The Lessons of Counterinsurgency", *New York Times*, Thursday, February 16 2006.
- David J. Kilcullen, 2010. *Counterinsurgency*, Oxford University Press, pp. 1-50.
- Douglas Porch, 2011. "The Dangerous Myths and Dubious Promise of COIN," *Small Wars and Insurgencies*, 22(2): 239-257.

Week 7. March 5 -10, 2018 Spring Recess

Week 8: March 16, 2018: Institutions and Security – Part I

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 20: The United Nations and the Responsibility to Protect
 - Chapter 21: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization – Continuity and Change
 - Chapter 22: Regional Security Organizations
 - Chapter 24: Russia, The Black Sea Region and Security

Debate 4: Has the growth of institutions challenged or contested the concept of sovereignty?

WEEK 9. March 23, 2018: Institutions and Security - Part II

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 26: Security in Europe
 - Chapter 27: Security in Africa
 - Chapter 28: The Arctic
 - Chapter 29: The Arab Spring and Democracy
 - Chapter 30: The Israel Palestinian Conflict

Debate 5: Has institutions succeeded or failed in supporting the efforts of citizens in promoting democracy in the Middle East?

Week 10: March 30, 2018- Coercion and Deterrence I – Post Cold War Era

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370
 - Chapter 23: The United States – Finding a Role in Post-Cold-War and Post 9/11
 - Chapter 24: Russia, The Black Sea Region and Security
 - Chapter 25: China- Security and Threat Perception
- “The One-China Principle and the Taiwan Issue,” Peoples Republic of China, Feb. 2000 <http://www.gov.cn/english/official/2005-07/27/content_17613.htm >.
- Robert S. Ross, “The Stability of Deterrence in the Taiwan Strait,” National Interest (Fall 2001), pp. 67-76.
- **Debate 6:** Will violence erupt in the Taiwan strait in the near future? Can the United States deter China from attacking Taiwan?

Week 11: APRIL 6, 2018: Nuclear Non-Proliferation

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370
 - Chapter 9: Nuclear Proliferation
 - Chapter 10: The International Arms Trade in Conventional Weapons
- Nina Tannenwald, 1999. “The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use,” *International Organization* 53(3): 433-468

Debate 7: Can the West prevent states, like Iran and North Korea from acquiring nuclear weapons? Does it matter?

Week 12: April 6, 2018 - Intervention and Peacekeeping

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370,
 - Chapter 20: The United Nations and the Responsibility to Protect
- Michael W. Doyle and Nicholas Sambanis, 2006. *Making War & Building Peace: United Nations Peace Operations*, Princeton University Press, 1-26.

Virginia Page Fortna, 2008. *Does Peacekeeping Work?* Princeton University Press, chapter 4.

- Samantha Power, Bystanders to Genocide, Atlantic Monthly (September 2001)
- Henry A. Kissinger, “The Perils of Intervention,” *Washington Post*, 3 June 2012. <<http://www.henryakissinger.com/articles/wp060312.html> >
- Anne-Marie Slaughter, “Syrian Intervention is Justifiable, and Just,” *Washington Post*, 8 June 2012.

- **Debate 8:** When should outsiders intervene in conflicts? Was US interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan appropriate?

Week 13: April 13, 2018- American Primacy

Readings

- International Security Studies: Theory and Practice (Routledge), by Hough, Malik, Moran, and Pilbeam, ISBN-13:978-0415734370
Chapter 23: The United States: Finding a role in the Post-Cold-War and Post 9/11
- Stephen Walt, 2011. “The End of the American Era”, *National Interest*, November 1.
- Joseph M. Parent and Paul K. MacDonald, “The Wisdom of Retrenchment,” *Foreign Affairs* 90, 6 (Nov/Dec 2011): 32-47.
- Stephen G. Brooks, G. John Ikenberry, and William C. Wohlforth. “Lean Forward: In Defense of American Engagement,” *Foreign Affairs* (Jan/Feb 13).

Debate 10: Will the United States’s hegemony endure? And is American primacy good for the world?

Week 14: April 20, 2018 – International Security and World Order

Readings

- Anne- Marie Le Gloannec, Bastien Irondele and David Cadier, “New and Evolving Trends in International Security, Transworld” [ISSN 2281 -5252] April 2013, available on Blackboard
- John Macha, What to Watch for US-China Relations, *Chicago Council on Global Affairs* January, 2017 available at <https://www.thechicagocouncil.org/blog/global-insight/what-watch-us-china-relations>
- Asthon Carter, “Resurgent Russia may be New Reality” *Association of The United States Army*, 2017 available at <https://www.ausa.org/news/carter-resurgent-russia-may-be-new-reality>

Week 15: April 27, 2018 - Cyber Security

Readings

Taylor, R. W., Fritsch, E.J., and Liederbach, J. (2015) *Digital Terrorism and Information Warfare, Digital Crime and Digital Terrorism* (3rd edition), Pearson Prentice Hall, Chap 2, available on Blackboard

- Taylor, R. W., Fritsch, E.J., and Liederbach, J. (2015) *Information Security and Infrastructure Protection, Digital Terrorism and Information Warfare, Digital Crime and Digital Terrorism* (3rd edition), Chapter 14, available on blackboard
- Taylor, R. W., Fritsch, E.J., and Liederbach, J. (2015): *A Forecast of Trends and Policy Implications, Digital Terrorism and Information Warfare, Digital Crime and Digital Terrorism* (3rd edition), Chapter 15, available on Blackboard

Week 16: May 4, 2018 –Evolving Trend of International Security

Readings

Michael MacDonald, 2014. *Overreach: Delusions of Regime Change in Iraq*, Harvard University Press.

Suggested Reading:

- John Podesta & Peter Ogden, “The Security Implications of Climate Change,” *The Washington Quarterly* 31(1) (Winter 2007/08) pp. 115-138.
- Valeriano, Brandon and Ryan Maness. 2012. “The Fog of Cyberwar: Why the Threat Does not Live up to the Hype,” *Foreign Affairs* (11.21.2012) Snapshot
- Joshua S. Goldstein and Steven Pinker, “War Really Is Going Out of Style”, *New York Times Sunday Review*, December 17 2011.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/18/opinion/sunday/war-really-is-going-out-of-style.html>

- Thomas Carothers, Lizza Bomassi, Amr Hamzawy, Ariel Levitius, Douglas H. Paal, George Perkovich et al , “ US and Allies and Rivals Digest Trumps Victory” *Carnegie Endowment For International Peace*, December 2016, available at <http://carnegieendowment.org/2016/11/11/u.s.-allies-and-rivals-digest-trump-s-victory-pub-65117>

Class Wrap Up

Final Exam TBA