IR/PO 374: International Security

Fall 2016

Thomas U. Berger

Time: MWF 11-12 STH B220
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Office Hours: Weds/Thurs 2:00-3:30
and by appointment

The purpose of this course is to introduce undergraduate students to some of the central issues and concepts in the study of international security, with the main emphasis on military security and the use of force. Among the topics that will be covered are the different theories regarding the systemic and state level causes of war, the impact of cognitive patterns on security policy decision making, nuclear deterrence and the challenges of nuclear proliferation, ethnic conflict, counterinsurgency, state building and humanitarian intervention, terrorism as well as the expanding definition of “security.”

Required Texts:

The following books will be available at Barnes & Noble at Boston University:


All journal articles are available electronically through the Boston University library system <http://www.bu.edu/library/ejournals/index.html>. All book chapters will be placed on reserved and will be available in the reserve reading room at Mugar Library.
Requirements

There will be two short, in-class exams based on the required readings – split evenly between identification of key terms and short answer. Students will also write a 12-15 page term paper. I will send out a set of guidelines for writing term papers later in the semester. The term paper is due on the last day of class – December 12. Finally students will participate in a team exercise in which 3-4 students identify a topic that is of interest to them and role play presenting a policy memorandum on how to deal with it.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>(October 17)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>(date to be arranged by the registrars)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Exercise</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>(Teams to be formed by)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>(Topic memo due November 14, Paper due the last day of class, December 12)</td>
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Students should make an appointment during the first half of the course to discuss possible term paper topics. A brief written summary of the progress made on the term paper, with tentative bibliography, is to be e-mailed to me by November 14th. I am willing to look over drafts of the term paper up to one week before they are due and offer general comments.

Students are expected to participate in class discussion. In order to do so effectively, they will need to do the readings in advance of class. Active and informed participation in class discussion will be rewarded with a bonus to the final grade. Unconstructive interventions in class discussion, or other behavior not appropriate to the class room environment, will be penalized.

Students are expected to attend class and attendance will be taken. Students will be allowed up to two unexplained absences. Beyond that, a penalty will be imposed for each additional day missed.

Students are required to adhere to the academic code of conduct. Cheating, plagiarism, handing in the same work to more than one class, destroying or interfering with the work of other students, and so forth will not be tolerated. Please refer to the on-line code for further guidance, available at http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/. If you have doubts or questions regarding such issues as how to footnote your sources, please consult with me.
Course Outline

I. Course Introduction – Concepts of Security – September 7 and 9

Colins, Security Studies – introduction (10 pages)

Baylis, et.al., Strategy – introduction and (16 pages)

II. The Problem of Civil Military Relations – September 12, 14 and 16

Clauusewtiz, On War chapter 1, available at
https://www.clausewitz.com/readings/OnWar1873/BK1ch01.html


http://www.cfr.org/content/member/PSQ2013_Broken_Dialogue_Davidson.pdf

http://www.fpri.org/articles/2011/01/us-civil-military-relations-after-911-renegotiating-civil-military-bargain

III. Causes of War - Systemic Approaches I Realism and Liberalism– September 19, 21 and 23

Colins, Security Studies – chapter 2, 3 (52 pages)

Baylis, Strategy, Chapters – 2, 3, 4 and 6 (49 pages)

Recommended:
Re Realism:
Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War, especially the Melian dialogue.
Randall Schweller, *Deadly Imbalances* (Columbia University Press, 1998)

Re Liberalism:
Immanuel Kant, “Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch”

**IV. Causes of War – Constructivism and Peace Studies – September 26, 28 and 30**

Colins, *Security Studies* chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
Baylis, *Strategy* chapter 5 (17 pages)

Recommended:
Jack Snyder, *Myths of Empire* (Cornell University Press, 1993)
Alexander Wendt, *Social Theory of International Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 1999)

V. Causes of War – The Individual Level – Cognition and Misperception – October 3 and 5

Yuen Foong Khong, *Analogies at War* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992), chapters 2 and 7 (62 pages) (will be placed on reserve at Mugar)


Recommended:
Graham Allison, *The Essence of Decision*

October 7 – Guest lecture by Professor Kaija Schilde

VI . Nuclear Deterrence and Disarmament – October 11, 12 and 14 (Note there is no class on Monday the 10th, instead class ins on Tuesday the 11th – what is known at BU as a “substitute Monday”)

Baylis, *Strategy* chapters 11 and 12 (35)
Recommended:
Colin S. Grey, The Second Nuclear Age (Boulder, CO: Lynne Reinner, 1999)

October 17 – In Class Midterm

VII. Debating Non-proliferation – October 19 and 21

Read Waltz and Sagan, The Spread of Nuclear Weapons entire book

October 24 – Memo on Term Paper topic due – will count as part of your Term paper grade – specify what you want to look at, what you want to ask, what possible answers to your research question might be and include a tentative bibliography – 2-3 pages

VIII. Terrorism – October 24, 26 and 28

Collins, Security Studies chapter 21 (16)
Baylis, Strategy, chapters 10 (42)

Recommended:
IX. Underdevelopment, Ethnic Conflict, State Building and Humanitarian Intervention - October 31, November 2 and 4

Collins, Security Studies chapters 14, 15, 18 and 22

Baylis, Strategy, chapter 15

Recommended:
Barbara Walter and Jack Snyder, eds., Civil Wars, Insecurity and Intervention (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999), chapters 1, 2.

By November 4 will need to form teams for team exercises

X. Widening the Definition of Security – Human Security, Gender, Environmental and Globalized Security – November 7, 9 and 11

Collins, Security Studies chapters 11, 12, 16, 25, 26

XI. Problems in Intelligence – November 14, 16 and 18

Baylis, Strategy chapter 8, 16

Arthur Hulnik, "What's Wrong with the Intelligence Cycle" Intelligence and National Security December 2006, Vol. 21 #6

Collins, Security Studies chapter 27
XII. The Use of Force – Coercive Diplomacy and the Revolution in Military Affairs – November 21, 28, 30 and December 2

Thanksgiving Break from November 23

Collins, Security Studies chapter 19
Baylis, Strategy chapters 7, 13 and 14

Recommended:


XIII. In Class Presentations – December 5, 7 and 9

We will have in class presentations – each should last about half an hour, including 15 minutes of Q &A

XIII. Course Conclusions – December 12

Collins, Security Studies Chapter 28
Baylis, Strategy Chapters 18-21

Term Paper December 12