Money, Guns, and Power

What is the relationship between money and war? Money as a critical and necessary component of warfare is unquestioned. Yet the relationship between money and war is tenuous. Resource poor states have gone onto fight much longer and more victoriously than anticipated and resource rich states have lost more often than anticipated. This class will explore the relationship between money, guns, and power through the lens of American and European military spending and through larger theoretical conversations on the concept of power.

In addition to learning about the politics of military spending and its wartime consequences, this course is structured around a 40-page research paper that is due at the end of the semester. You will learn about research design, receive and give peer review, practice presenting your work, and foster a relationship with your assigned professor.

Books Required for Purchase and Readings:


All other readings can be found on Blackboard.

Course Requirements and Grades:

1. **Prospectus: 25% - Due Thursday, March 17th**
   a. Please upload to Blackboard

2. **Class Participation + Prospectus Peer Review: 25% - Due Thursday, March 24th.**

3. **Research Paper Presentation: 20% - Due in Class XXXX.**

4. **Final Research Paper: 30% - Due Day of Final Exam (XXXX) Via Email to Your Assigned Professor by 5pm EST.**
Class Participation: You are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and prepared for thoughtful discussion. We also expect active participation. We want you to learn from both us and your peers!

Prospectus Peer Review: When the final prospectus is turned in, they will be circulated amongst the other students in the course for comments. You are to provide constructive criticism that you feel would make others’ projects stronger.

Prospectus: You are to develop a 5-8 page prospectus as your guide for the final paper. The prospectus should include your research puzzle – both theoretical and empirical, your dependent variable and how you will assess it, potential hypotheses, your research design, sources for your research, and a timeline.

Final Research Paper: Your final research paper is to be 40 pages (12 point font; double spaced) not including your bibliography. Your questions will be drawn from the United States Department of Defense’s National defense Budget Estimates for FY2016 Green Book - http://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/Documents/defbudget/fy2016/FY16_Green_Book.pdf and NATO military spending data. There are tables in usable form on Blackboard. You will be graded on application of concepts from the course, depth of discussion of topic chosen, logical cohesion, and sources used.

Research Paper Presentation: You have worked hard and it's time to present your findings! You will present your work to your peers using a power point presentation (sample slides on Blackboard). The presentation should be between 10-15 minutes, please leave time for Q&A. The presentation will be graded on effective use of text (less is more!), presentation skills, command of material, and response to questions.

One-on-one meetings: You will be assigned to either Professor Cappella Zielinski or Professor Schilde at the beginning of the semester. You will meet with them once a week starting Week 4 for a minimum of 15 minutes to discuss the research paper. These meetings are designed to help you through your research paper. Come prepared for a discussion! If you feel you do not need help in that moment then you are to present your progress and discuss your research experience. While you are assigned professor, you are expected to meet with the other one to discuss your research at least twice through the semester.

Grading: Given that there are two professors in the course, we will be jointly evaluating all material. It should also be noted that there is a Plus/Minus system of grading for this course –

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Discussion: Both professors will be participating in the course every meeting. For clarity, we have indicated on the syllabus which professor will be formally leading discussion that day.

Disabilities: Boston University is committed to providing equal access to our coursework and programs to all students, including those with disabilities. In order to be sure that accommodations can be made in time for all exams and assignments, please plan to turn in your accommodations letter as soon as possible after the first class. If you have further questions or need additional support, please contact the Office of Disability Services (access@bu.edu).

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism and cheating are serious offences and will be punished in accordance with BU’s Academic Conduct Code: http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/

Part I – Learning the Landscape

Section 1: What is Power? Who has it? Who wants it? What are the costs of getting it? In addition to the big questions, we get into the weeds, how does economic power and resources become military and national power. What is the bureaucratic process? What government institutions are responsible for this process?

Week 1 (January 21): Course Introduction

- To familiarize yourself with some more specific defense and national security terminology that will be used in the next few weeks, see the Glossary in Sapolsky, Harvey M., Eugene Gholz, and Caitlin Talmadge, U.S. Defense Politics: The Origin of Security Policies, 2nd edition, New York: Routledge, 2014: PP. 166-171

Week 2 (September 28): What is Power? Why do states want it? Where do states get it? What are the tradeoffs in acquiring it? Professor CZ to lead discussion.

- **Recommended:**

**Week 3 (January 28): History of Money, Guns, and Power. The politics of US and European defense spending prior to WWII, changes brought by WWII mobilization, challenges and reforms of 1960s. Professor CZ and Professor Schilde to lead discussion.**


**Week 4 (February 4): Money, Power, and Guns: Politics and Institutions. Professor CZ to lead discussion.**

- **One-on-One Meetings with Assigned Faculty Begin**
- Familiarize yourself with the Green Book

**Week 5 (February 11): Spending Money, Acquiring Guns, and Producing Power. Professor Schilde to lead discussion.**

Part II: What explains changes in the relationship between Money, Guns, and Power?

What is the relationship between economics and power, and between defense spending and military power?

Week 6 (February 18): Economic Interests, Money and Power. Professor Schilde to lead discussion

- Andrew Moravcik, “Arms and Autarky in Modern European History,” Daedalus, Vol. 120, No. 4 (Fall 1991), PP. 23-45

Week 7 (February 25): Military Innovation. Professor Schilde to lead discussion

• Adamsky, Dima. The Culture of Military Innovation: The Impact of Cultural Factors on the Revolution in Military Affairs in Russia, the US, and Israel. Stanford University Press: 2010, TBA.


Week 9: SPRING BREAK

Week 10 (March 17): Class Canceled Due to International Studies Association Conference
• Prospectus Due to be uploaded on Blackboard by 5pm.

Week 1 (March 24): “External” Explanations of Military Spending and Grand Strategy and Peer Review. Professor CZ to lead discussion.
• **Meet One-on-One with Other Professor**
Section 3: Disruptions and Unintended Consequences in the Relationship between Money, Guns, and Power

Week 12 (March 31): Saving Money, increasing Guns and Power? Privatization and Non State Actors. Professor Schilde to lead discussion


Week 13 (April 14): Costs of Money, Guns, and Power. Professor CZ to lead discussion

- **Meet One-on-One with Other Professor**

Week 14 (April 21): Presentations

Week 15 (April 28): Presentations

Final Paper Due May XX by 5pm.
Additional Materials

Federal Budget Website:
Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Budget of the United States Government
Analytical Perspectives volume includes summary of spending for homeland security
Historical Tables of the Budget
Prior-Year Budgets

DOD Comptroller’s website: http://comptroller.defense.gov/
- Historical tables for DoD Spending: by appropriation, by Service, in constant dollars and current dollars; BA, TOA, and Outlays
- Deflators to convert current to constant dollars
Program acquisition costs by weapon system (not averages, but costs this year)
Procurement Programs (P-1)
Operation and Maintenance Programs (O-1)
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) Programs (R-1)
Military Personnel Programs (M-1)
Links to Service budgets

Congressional Budget Office: http://www.cbo.gov
CBO reports, including economic and budgetary analyses, long-term economic and budgetary outlook, policy reports

GAO Reports including:

Congressional Research Service Reports – Selected reports available at:
- http://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/CRSR/browse/
- http://www.fpc.state.gov/c18185.htm

Non-governmental organizations studying the budget
- www.csbaonline.org
- http://www.stimson.org/budgeting/programhome.cfm
- http://www.cbpp.org/
- http://www.heritage.org/research/nationalsecurity/