Course Outline


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Note: This outline should not be used by students currently enrolled in this course. The current schedule, assigned readings, and requirements are available to enrolled students on the course Moodle.

For information on my grading policies, expectations, and the drop/add wait list process, see http://dfoyle.faculty.wesleyan.edu/.

Course Description

Although we no longer fear central threat of global nuclear war that infused the Cold War, we now face a myriad number of threats that appear to belie easy solutions. This course considers alternative ways to conceive of "international security" and how differences in these perspectives can affect our response to international threats. The course focuses on the relationship between force and international security, the prospects for peace and conflict in specific regions of the world such as Asia, Latin America, and Africa and some vexing issues such as terrorism, nuclear proliferation, nationalism and ethnic conflict, economics, environmental issues, and disease.

Requirements and Course Grading

Grades will be based on: (1) a take-home final (35%), (2) 2 essay papers (20% each), and (3) participation (25%).

Class periods will be devoted to a mixture of lecture and discussion. Students must come to class prepared to discuss the day's assigned reading.

Essays and Final Exam

Essays: You must write one essay from the first part of the course and one essay from the second part of the course (see schedule for due dates). You may turn in your essay paper at any point up until the deadline. Students may respond to any of the daily discussion questions. Students may construct a topic of their own choosing with permission of the instructor.
Each paper should be between 2000-3000 words in length. (That is approximately 5-8 pages in length using Times New Roman 11 point font). Turn it in on the Moodle.

Take-home Final: The essay has a page limit of 2500-3000 words (about 10 pages). My expectation is that answers should be written in the format of an essay from an in-class final, but with higher expectations in terms of editing (spelling, grammar, etc.). You do not need to footnote anything. No reference to material from outside the course is expected, but you may consult any source you wish (except for other people). Given space constraints, it would be best not to quote any of the readings verbatim, but references to them will be expected. Be sure to integrate the concepts from the course into your answers.

Excused (no penalty) late exams will be allowed only for significant and verifiable personal emergencies. No unpenalized extensions will be granted due to the pressures of academic life (such as work due in other classes) so plan accordingly.

Unexcused late exams will be penalized 3 points out of 100 on the assignment in question for each day it is late (every full 24 hours from the due time is a one grade step). Please inform me immediately through e-mail that your exam will be late under this provision. No unexcused late exams will be accepted after 7 days.

Participation

Participation will be evaluated based upon the student’s contribution to discussion, responsiveness to other students, and quality of insight. Class attendance is a basic requirement of the participation grade.

Readings

There are two books for purchase.

Example Schedule

Differing Conceptions

Day 1: Overview of course


Caldwell & Williams, Preface to Third, Second, and First Editions, Chapter 1 "The Meaning of Security Today."


Traditional Approaches: “National Security” and “International Security”

Day 4: Instruments and Purposes: War

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 2 Conventional Weapons and War


Edward N. Luttwak, “Give War a Chance,” Foreign Affairs 78 (July/August 1999): 36-44.
Day 5: Instruments and Purposes: The Uses of Force


Day 6: Nuclear Diplomacy

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 3, "Nuclear Weapons, Deterrence, and Arms Control."


Day 7: Economics and National Security

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 11 "Economics and Security."


Day 8: Great Power Relations: Structure


**Day 9: Great Power Relations: Interactions**


**Regional Security**

**Day 10: Regional Security as a Concept**

Day 11: Asia


T.V. Paul *South Asia's Weak States* 2010 (selections)

Day 12: Middle East

Elizabeth Monier, editor, *Regional Insecurity After the Arab Uprisings*, 2015 (selections).


Day 13: Latin America


Essay #1 Due

Day 14: Africa


Day 15: European Security and Regional Security Conclusions


Philip M. Breedlove, "NATO’s Next Act: How to Handle Russia and Other Threats," Foreign Affairs July/August 2016.


Diehl, Regional Conflict Management, pp. 269-282.

Alternative Approaches: Global Security and Human Security

Day 16: The Environment


Hsiang, Burke, Miguel, "Qualifying the Influence of Climate on Human Conflict," Science 2013.


Day 17: Flows – Migration, Water, and Oil


Day 18: Ethnic and National Conflict

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 10 "The State of the State: National Security and Human Security".


Day 19: Nuclear Proliferation

Caldwell & Williams, Chapters 4, 6, "Chemical and Biological Weapons" and "The Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction"


Day 20: Terrorism

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 5, "The Terrorist Threat."


Day 21: Cyberthreats

Caldwell and Williams, Chapter 9, "Insecurity in Cyberspace."


Day 22: Disease

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 7, "Infectious Disease and Health Insecurity."


Jennifer Brower and Peter Chalk, *The Global Threat of New and Emerging Infectious Diseases*, 2003, Chapter 1 "Disease and Human Security."

### Day 23: Gender


Joshua S. Goldstein, *War and Gender* (selections).


### Day 24: Miscellaneous Worries

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 8, "Transnational Criminal Organizations and Trafficking" 


### Day 25: The Beginning of the End

Caldwell & Williams, Chapter 13, "Seeking Security in an Insecure World."

Current DNI Threat Assessment.
Day 26: The End – A More or Less Secure World?


Final Due: 2nd Day of Finals