“To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace.” President George Washington

“We will not waver; we will not tire; we will not falter, and we will not fail. Peace and freedom will prevail.” Philosopher-King George W. Bush.

“In a world of complex threats, our security and leadership depends on all elements of our power—including strong and principled diplomacy.” President Barak Obama

“War is the continuation of politics by other means.” Carl von Clausewitz

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Why do states go to war? What causes conflict rather than peace? How do states assess the international system to determine whether war is beneficial and self-interested or not? What are the major threats to the international system and how are the great powers dealing with these threats? This course is the basic introductory level course; it hopes to provide you with the foundation needed to start answering these critical questions of international security. It will cover the basic approaches to security studies, including realism, liberalism, post-structuralism, and emerging/alternative trends in security studies including critical thought, the English school, feminism, societal and human security; it also investigates current global threats to US national security, including terrorism, WMDs and Cyber-War, and policy responses to such threats. It will look at security from both the macro and micro level, covering systemic security theories and also focusing upon emerging threats to US security, non-traditional threats, and an introduction to US security strategy. Regional issues and threats will also be discussed, including China, Russia, and Iran. The course ends with a prominent scholar’s suggestion for a new US grand strategy and as a class, we will debate his suggestion of great power restraint and the end to liberal hegemonic tendencies of US foreign policy. With the rise of ISIS and the Islamic State (IS), the rise of China, the war in Ukraine, the recent Israeli-Gazan War, we will ask, is now the time for the US to step down as the global leader and allow alternative approaches to international peace, or should the US, now more than ever, resume its role as “Team America, world-police?” What will the long-term effects of the Obama Doctrine look like and how will President Obama’s presidency shape the world?
STUDENT-LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the term, you are expected to illustrate that you:

1. Have a basic understanding of security and power and all that encompasses international security.
2. Understand the basic theoretical approaches and paradigms to security studies.
3. Understand the emerging trends in security studies, including critical security studies.
4. Understand the basic global threats to the US’ national security, including terrorism, WMDs, and rising great powers.
5. Understand US foreign policy, grand strategy, and national security responses to global security threats.
6. Understand the major regional threats to international peace and security.
7. Can understand and apply any security theory to any particular case-study for purposes of threat-analysis.
8. Can think analytically, critically, and creatively.
9. Demonstrate that you know how to write an analytical essay for political science, using its style-guide, and demonstrating breadth and depth of knowledge and critical/creative thinking skills.

COURSE GRADES

Quizzes/On-line assignments: 20%
Class Participation: 20%
Paper I: 15%
Paper II: 20%
Final Paper: 25%

I expect class participation by all students. This goes beyond attendance. Simply coming to class gets you no points. You are required to ask questions and actively engage your classmates and myself. I am strict with participation but I want everyone to earn an A. However, if you do not talk regularly in class, and participate in on-line discussions, your participation grade will be negatively affected. You will have daily quizzes on the reading material. The readings should be completed before the class period for which they are assigned. You can use separate notes that you took from your readings during your quiz.

Additionally, you will have several class days on-line, rather than in class. Therefore, you will have substantial on-line assignments throughout the semester. These assignments will be two-fold: posting discussion points on-line and, more substantial assignments consisting of short-essay questions. These will be timed and no late submissions will be accepted. If you miss an assignment, I reserve the right to give you an automatic “F” in the class. These assignments will be posted on our D2L class page and you will be notified of these days on the syllabus below.

You have three papers this semester. You will have about ten days to write each of them, and they will be between 4-6 pages, each. These papers will force you to think creatively and analytically about international security, and will only include materials we have read for the class. If you miss a paper, you will receive an automatic “F” in the class. No late papers will be accepted—meaning, if you are late on a paper, I reserve the right to fail you in the class.
The questions contained within this syllabus should guide your reading. You should try to answer each question for every page you read. The three main questions that should guide your readings besides those listed above are: 1) what are the major challenges to international security; 2) what are the best policies to address these challenges; 3) what is the US’s proper role in the international system? These questions will help you situate each of the readings, and prepare you for the papers.

ANY MORE THAN 3 ABSCENCES WILL AUTOMATICALLY RESULT IN A FULL LETTER DROPPED FROM YOUR FINAL GRADE AND POSSIBLY YOUR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE CLASS.

I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO COUNT ANY TARDIES AS AN ABSENCE; SO, DO NOT COME TO MY CLASS LATE.

NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS/PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED; NO MAKE UPS ARE ALLOWED EXCEPT UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES, AT MY DISCRETION; FAILURE TO TURN IN ANY ASSIGNMENT MAY RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC F IN THE CLASS AND/OR A WITHDRAWAL.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS


IMPORTANT WEBSITES

3. [http://www.foreign.senate.gov/](http://www.foreign.senate.gov/) (Senate Committee on Foreign Relations)
4. [http://www.state.gov/](http://www.state.gov/) (US Department of State)

SEMESTER SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, August 18</td>
<td>Introduction to the course and each other</td>
<td>Readings to be completed for today’s class, None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 20</td>
<td>Current Threats to International Security</td>
<td>Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, Introduction; 2014 US Threat Assessment (D2L—skim heavily); ISIS (skim heavily); Ukraine (skim); Ebola (skim); Israel-Gaza (video). Live web-briefing from Jeffrey Dressler, Professional Staff, House Foreign Affairs Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, August 25</td>
<td>Realism</td>
<td>Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 9-18.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

1 Subject to change at my discretion without much notice. Changes will be announced on-line. Further, you are responsible for notifying me if you see any reading mistakes in the syllabus; in other words, if a reading is missing, or pages are wrong, or you have the same reading listed twice, you need to let me know so I can fix the problem. If you do nothing, you will be held accountable.
Wednesday, August 28: Asia Rising? China and the Koreas
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 257-277.

Monday, September 1: Holiday—No Class
Readings to be completed for today’s class, NONE.

Wednesday, September 3 (On-line Class 1): Complete Assignment 1 on D2L and Post Discussions
The Limits of Realist Analysis?
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 180-187; 221-228; 243-251.

Monday, September 8: Realism: Confronting Security Challenges and Iran
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 282-402; 319-327.

Wednesday, September 10: Terrorism and WMDs
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 127-137; 139-147; 232-240.

Monday, September 15: India and The Stans
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 279-307.

Wednesday, September 17: Liberalism
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 21-30.

Monday, September 22: State Failure/State Building and Iraq
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 159-167; 329-336.

Wednesday, September 24: Liberalism: Confronting Security Challenges
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 371-378; 404-412; 439-449.
PAPER TOPIC I HANDED OUT VIA DROPBOX

Monday, September 29: The English School, International Security and The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 34-41; 339-347.

Wednesday, October 1 (On-line Class 2): Complete Assignment 2 on D2L and Post Discussions
Feminist Security Studies and Trafficking
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, 84-90; 149-157.

Friday, October 3: PAPER TOPIC I DUE VIA DROPBOX

Monday, October 6: Critical Security Studies and Post-Structuralism
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 45-53; 73-81.

Wednesday, October 8 (On-line Class 3): Complete Assignment 3 on D2L and Post Discussions
GRU Middle School MUN (Please come and observe in-lieu of class time today: agendas will be given later in semester).
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 415-425; 452-460.

Monday, October 13: Russia
Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 349-356; Independent Research/Assignment on Ukraine Crisis
Wednesday, October 15: Constructivism and Securitization Studies
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 56-68.

Monday, October 20: National Security, Culture, and Identity and the Middle-East
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 95-102; 309-317.

Wednesday, October 22: Societal Security and Humanitarian Intervention
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 105-113; 428-437.

Monday, October 27: Human Security and Diplomacy
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 115-123; 190-198.

Wednesday, October 29: The Privatization of International Security
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 200-206.
    **PAPER TOPIC II HANDED OUT VIA DROPBOX**

Monday, November 3: Energy Security
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, RHSS, pgs. 211-218.

Wednesday, November 5 **(On-line Class 4)**: Complete Assignment 4 on D2L and Post Discussions
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Quinn, *The Art of Declining Politely*—Obama Doctrine (D2L).

**Friday, November 7: PAPER TOPIC II DUE VIA DROPBOX**

Monday, November 10: Restraint
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Posen, pgs. 1-24.

Wednesday, November 12: The Perils of Liberal Hegemony
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Posen, pgs. 24-50.

Monday, November 17: The Perils of Liberal Hegemony
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Posen, pgs. 50-69.

Wednesday, November 19: The Case for Restraint
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Posen, pgs. 69-100.

Monday, November 24 **(On-line Class 5)**: Complete Assignment 5 on D2L and Post Discussions
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Gerges, *The Obama Approach to the Middle East* (D2L).

Wednesday, November 26: Thanksgiving Break (No Class)
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, NONE.

Monday, December 1: The Case for Restraint
    Readings to be completed for today’s class, Posen, pgs. 100-131.
    **FINAL PAPER TOPIC HANDED OUT VIA DROPBOX**
Wednesday, December 3: Command of the Commons
Readings to be completed for today’s class, Posen, pgs. 131-End.

Monday, December 8: Final Paper Due in Dropbox by 8:00 PM.

CLASS ETIQUETTE

As a courtesy to your fellow students and myself, please do not carry on conversations with one another during my lectures. Do not speak unless you raise your hand and I recognize you. I also consider sleeping in class, for any reason, to be inappropriate. Do not use foul, sexual, profane, or any offensive language on-line or in class. These behaviors will be publicly reprimanded and punished with extreme prejudice. Tardiness is unacceptable. This is college – please do not come late to my class unless you have informed me beforehand. I am a compassionate professor, so please come to me beforehand if personal issues or conflicts arise.

Cheating or plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated (Review your student handbook on this subject or other concerns and questions). If I even think you are cheating or have plagiarized, you will receive an F in the class and a formal complaint will be filed with the University.

For students with disabilities, please review your handbook for proper procedures and university policies. You must follow University protocol for accommodations.

No cell phone, lap-tops, or any other technologically smart devices allowed during class unless otherwise noted.

Dress code: Style of dress is primarily a matter of individual judgment and taste. However, students are expected to be neat and clean and to exercise good judgment in their appearance pursuant to (or consistent with) our professional setting. Colleges and programs may have a more discipline-specific dress code for students enrolled in that college. Please wear clothing that is appropriate for the classroom setting.

Please be respectful at ALL time and refrain from any types of slander, offensive comments, harassment and or discriminatory comments and or behaviors towards your fellow classmates and towards me. Any offenses against this will result in the most serious punishment possible. Please review your student handbook for more details concerning this. If you have any questions, and/or concerns, please contact me.

I take seriously and follow GRU’s policy on discrimination and harassment which reads:

Georgia Regents University (GRU) is strongly committed to ensuring that its learning and working environments are free of harassment and discrimination because of a person’s race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or disability. GRU shall respond in a swift and effective manner, with a goal of eliminating such conduct.

My classroom and office are Safe Zones and I seek to provide a diverse and all-inclusive environment. Behave accordingly.

If someone in class has seriously offended you regarding this conduct, please notify me immediately.