

PSCI 3603A  
Strategic Thought and International Security  
Wednesday 11:35 a.m. – 2:25 pm  
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

**Instructor:** Alex McDougall  
**Office Location:** B645 Loeb  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday 2:00-4:30 or by appointment  
**Phone:** 613-520-2600 x1657 (no voicemail)  
**E-mail:** admcdoug@connect.carleton.ca

**Course Content:** This course introduces students to a range of concepts, debates, and issues in the field of international security studies. In doing so, this class covers some of the enduring issues of security studies such as war, peace, and nuclear weapons, as well as some 'new' emerging issues such as the privatization of security, state failure, and nation-building.

The fundamental objective of this course is to familiarize students with issues, theories, and debates that belong to the field of security studies. The assignments in this class are designed to help students improve their reading, writing, research, communication, and analytical skills. After completing this class, students will be better equipped to critically engage with political science literature, research and write about political science issues, and debate and discuss these and other topics in international relations.

The instructor will present the course content primarily through lectures, which will occupy 1.5 hours of each 3 hour class. These lectures will generally cover the readings. There will be opportunity throughout for student discussion and engagement. In the second part of the lecture, the class will precede in one of two ways. 1) The instructor will organize the class into smaller self-moderated seminar groups, in which the students will have an opportunity to discuss the topics in presented in the lecture among themselves. 2) The class will watch a video on a topic related to international security or strategic studies.

**Texts:**

- John Baylis et al., *Strategy in the Contemporary World: An Introduction to Strategic Studies* (Oxford University Press, 2007).

This textbook is available in the Carleton University Bookstore.

Other specific readings will be made available on reserve. Some are available through the electronic journal databases at the Carleton library. Reserve readings are marked with an R while online readings are marked with a W. Students must complete all of the required readings before coming to class.

**Journals:** The following is a list of scholarly journals in the field of security studies and strategic studies. This is not an exhaustive list. Students should search these journals when writing their research papers.

*International Security, Security Studies, International Journal, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Survival, World Politics, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Studies in Conflict and Terrorism, Terrorism and Political Violence, Canadian Defense Quarterly, International Peacekeeping, Journal of Military and Strategic Studies*

**Evaluation:**

Critical Reviews (2):	40%(20% each)
Research proposal:	5%
Research Essay:	40%
Participation:	15%

**Participation in Class:** Grades are based on attendance and participation. In order to succeed in this aspect of evaluation, students must attend class and participate in class discussions and debates. The instructor will take attendance at the beginning of each class, and this will constitute a portion of the overall participation grade.

**Critical Reviews:** Students must write two critical review papers. These papers should evaluate and advance an argument about the readings for one of the lecture topics. The papers can focus mainly on one article or it can focus on drawing out an issue raised in several articles for that week. The reviews **MUST NOT** focus on a reading from the textbook. The papers should not exceed 4 pages in length. Students should advance only one or two arguments, preferably one. Your critical review can dispute argument(s) advanced in the reading; can assess or concur with argument(s) advanced in the reading; can assess or explain policies or historical events described in the reading; or can relate current events in the press today to ideas or events in the readings. Papers must include a 1-2 sentence abstract summary on the title page. The reviews will be evaluated in terms of quality of argument, use and understanding of course materials, style/writing, and format. **Due dates:** Each critical review is due on at the beginning of the class that covers the topic that the student has chosen to write about. Therefore, the due dates for the critical review papers depend on the topic of the paper. For example, if a student chooses to write his/her paper on ‘the nature of security studies’ (a topic covered in week 2), then the paper will be due at the beginning of that class (Sept 17, 08). Similarly, students who write about ‘international terrorism’ (a topic covered in week 7), must submit their reviews at the beginning of that class. The instructor will return the critical review essays to students one week after they were submitted. \* **Important note:** Students must submit their first critical review essay before **10/15/08**; and must submit their second critical review before **11/26/08** and after **10/15/08**.

**Research Essay:** Students are required to write a 10-12 page research essay on a subject of their choosing (that must somehow relate to contemporary international security). This paper will provide an analytical study of an aspect of security or strategic studies. Students must make use of a minimum of 10 scholarly sources that are part of the required class reading. **Due date:** 12/01/08

**Research Proposal:** Students must also submit a 1-2 page research proposal outlining their topic, thesis, basic approach and preliminary bibliography. **Due date:** 10/01/08. The instructor will return the proposals in the following week.

**Submission of Term Work:** All assignments should be submitted at the beginning of class. If this is not possible, students can use the department drop off box. Please note that the cut off time for the drop off box is 4:00pm any papers submitted after 4pm will be dated the next day. Assignments will be returned in class and will also be available for pickup during office hours. Students who wish to have their final research essay returned by mail should leave a self-addressed, stamped envelope with the instructor.

**Late Policy:** Late papers lose one letter grade category per day. (For example, a B+ paper that is handed in one day late will be reduced to a B).

**Schedule and Class Readings:** [the instructor reserves the right to add or subtract from this list]

### **09/10/08 - Lecture 1: Introduction**

*No required reading*

### **09/17/08 - Lecture 2: The history and nature of security studies**

- \* Stephen Walt, "The Renaissance of Security Studies," *International Studies Quarterly* 35 (1991): 211-239 **W**
- \* Richard Kolodziej, "Renaissance in Security Studies? Caveat Lector!" *International Studies Quarterly* 36 (1992): 421-438 **W**
- \* Keith Krause and Michael C. Williams, "Broadening the Agenda of Security Studies: Politics and Methods," *Mershon International Studies Review*, Vol. 40, No. 2 (Oct. 1996), 229-254. **W**
- \* Mark Duffield, "the Merging of Development and Security," in *Global Governance and the New Wars: the Merging of Development and Security* (London: Zed Books, 2001). **R**

Baylis et al, "Chapter 16: A new agenda for security and strategy?" and "Chapter 17: The future of strategic studies," in *Strategy in the Contemporary World* (Oxford, 2007).

### **09/24/08 - Lecture 3: causes of interstate war**

Baylis et al, "Chapter 1: The causes of war and the conditions of peace" in *Strategy in the Contemporary World* (Oxford, 2007).

- \* Brad Thayer, "Bringing in Darwin: Evolutionary Theory, Realism, and International Politics" *International Security* 25(2) Fall 2000, pages 124-151 **W**
- \* Kenneth N. Waltz, "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory," in *Journal of*

*Interdisciplinary History* Vol. 18, No. 4 (Spring 1988), pp. 615-628. **W**

- \* Niles Petter Gleditsch, "Peace and Democracy" in *Encyclopedia of violence, Peace, and Conflict* Vol 2 (Academic Press, 1999): 643-652 **R**

#### **10/01/08 - Lecture 4: causes and dynamics of intrastate war and ethnic conflict**

Research Essay proposals are due today!

- \* Daniel Byman and Stephen Van Evera, "Why they Fight: Hypotheses on the Origins of Contemporary Deadly Conflict," in *Security Studies* 7:3 (January 1998): 1-50. **W**
- \* Barry Posen, "The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict", in *Survival* vol. 35, no. 1, Spring 1993, pp. 27-47. **W**
- \* Chaim Kauffman, "Possible and impossible solutions to ethnic conflict," in *International Security* 20(4) (Spring, 1996), pp. 136-175. **W**
- \* Peter W. Galbraith, "The Case for Dividing Iraq" in *Time Magazine* (November 5, 2006). **W**

#### **10/08/08 – Lecture 5: The politics of failed and fragile states**

Essay Proposals Returned Today

- \* Jeffrey Herbst, "Chapter 9: the Past and Future of State Power in Africa," in *States and Power in Africa: Lessons in Authority and Control* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001). **R**
- \* Robert I. Rotberg, "The Challenge of Weak, Failing and Collapsed States," in Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela Aall (eds), *Leashing the Dogs of War: Conflict Management in a Divided World*. (Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace Press, 2007), pp 83-95. **R**
- \* Seth G. Jones, "The Rise of Afghanistan's Insurgency: State Failure and Jihad," in *International Security* 32:4 (Spring 2008), pp. 7-40. **W**
- \* The Fund for Peace and FP magazine, "The Failed States Index 2007," in *Foreign Policy Magazine* (July/August 2007), (9 pages). **W**  
[http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story\\_id=3865](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=3865)

Government of Canada, *A Role of Pride and Influence in the World: Defense Policy Statement* (2005). Read section entitled "international security environment at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century" (1 page) **W**  
[http://www.dnd.ca/site/reports/dps/main/01\\_e.asp](http://www.dnd.ca/site/reports/dps/main/01_e.asp)

- \* Angela Mitropoulos, "The Failure of Political Theology" in Mute: Culture and Politics after the Net (2008). (2 pages) **W**  
<http://www.metamute.org/en/The-failure-of-political-theology>

## **10/15/08 Lecture 6: Economics, Resources, and Conflict**

Final date to hand in first critical review

- \* Ted Gurr, "Relative Deprivation and the Impetus to Violence" in *Why Men Rebel* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1970), pp. 19-40. **R**
- \* Paul Collier, "Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and their Implications for Policy" Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela Aall (eds), *Leashing the Dogs of War: Conflict Management in a Divided World*. (Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace Press, 2007), pp: 197-219. **R**
- \* Thomas Homer-Dixon, "On the Threshold: Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict," in *International Security* 16:2 (Fall, 1991), pp. 77-115 **W**
- \* Jeremy Weinstein, "Chapter 1: the Industrial Organization of Rebellion" in *Inside Rebellion: the Politics of Insurgent Violence* (Cambridge, 2007), pp: 27-52. **R**

## **10/22/08 – Lecture 7: International Terrorism**

Baylis *et al*, *Strategy*, Chapters 8 and 9 (particularly pages 164-167, 183-185, 194-197, and 203-207).

- \* Daniel Byman, "Why do states support terrorism?," in: Daniel Byman (2005) *Deadly Connections. States that Sponsor Terrorism*. Cambridge University Press, pp.21-52. **R**
- \* Pablo Policzer and Ram Manikkalingam "Al Qaeda, Armed Groups, and the Paradox of Engagement," in Transnational and Non-State Armed Groups: Legal and Policy Challenges Portal, (Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research at Harvard University and the Graduate Institute of International Studies at the University of Geneva, 2007). **W**  
<http://www.tagsproject.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=793&nodeID=12>

Special Features:

*Video*: Battle of the Algiers

## **10/29/08 - Lecture 8: Mercenaries**

- \* Peter Singer, "Why has Security been privatized?" in *Corporate Warriors: the Rise of the Privatized Military Industry* (Cornell, 2003), pp, 49-73. **R**
- \* Scott Fitzsimmons, "A Private Solution to a Humanitarian Catastrophe," *Vanguard* (August-September 2006): 18-20. **W**
- \* Deborah Avant, "Think Again: Mercenaries," *Foreign Policy* (July/August 2004): 20-28. **W**

### Special Features

Video: Shadow Company

### **11/05/08 Lecture 9: Nation-building**

George W. Bush, "Chapter VII: Expand the Circle of Development by Opening Societies and Building the Infrastructure of Democracy", in *National Security Strategy of the United States of America* (Washington, 2002), (3 pages). **W**  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/nsc/nss.html>

\* Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, "Dictatorships and Double Standards," in *Commentary Magazine* (November, 1979), pp: 1-9. **W**

\* Michael Ignatieff, "Nation-Building Lite" in *New York Times Magazine*, July 28, 2002, 26-31. **W**

\* Barbara F. Walter, "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement," in *International Organizations* 5: 3 (January 1997): 335-363. **W**

\* Francis Fukuyama, "The Missing Dimensions of Stateness" in *State building: governance and world order in the twenty first Century*. **R**

\* Samuel Huntington, "Political Order and Political Decay"

### Special Feature:

Video: Thomas Barnett, [The Pentagon's New Map for War and Peace](#)

### **11/12/08 - Lecture 10: Humanitarian Intervention and Human rights**

\* Martha Finnemore, "Changing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention", in *the Purpose of Intervention: Changing beliefs about the use of force* (Ithica: Cornell University Press, 2003). **R**

\* Stephen Krasner, "Chapter 1: Sovereignty and its discontents" and "Conclusion: not a Game of chess" in *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy* (Princeton: Princeton University press, 1999). **R**

\* Mohammed Ayoob, "State Making, State Breaking, and State Failure," in Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela Aall (eds), *Leashing the Dogs of War: Conflict Management in a Divided World*. (Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace Press, 2007)

International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, *the Responsibility to Protect* (Ottawa: Government of Canada, 2001). **W**

Baylis et al, "Chapter 15: Humanitarian intervention and peace operations" in *Strategy in the Contemporary World* (Oxford, 2007).

### **11/19/08 – Lecture 11: Nuclear Weapons**

\* Kenneth Waltz, "More maybe better" and Scott Sagan, "More will be worse" in *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: a Debate Revisited*, (New York: Norton, 2003), pp. 3-88

John Balyis (eds), "The control of weapons of mass destruction" in *Strategy in the Contemporary World* (Oxford, 2007).

#### Special Feature:

Video: Fog of War Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara

### **11/26/08 - Lecture 12: The post-Cold war international security environment**

Final Date to hand in Second Critical Review

\* Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History" in *the National Interest* (Summer, 1989). **W**

\* Samuel Huntington, "Clash of Civilizations?" in *Foreign Affairs* (Summer, 1993). **W**

\* John Mearsheimer, "Back to the Future: Instability in Europe after the cold war," in Sean M. Lynne Jones and Steven Miller (eds), *the Cold War and After: Prospects for Peace* (Cambridge: MIT press, 1994). **R**

\* John Mueller, "The Essential Irrelevance of Nuclear Weapons: Stability in the Postwar World" in Sean M. Lynne Jones and Steven Miller (eds), *the Cold War and After: Prospects for Peace* (Cambridge: MIT press, 1994). **R**

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### **Academic Accommodations**

**For students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities 9500 University Drive) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your letter of accommodation, **no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 7, 2008**, for December examinations, and **March 6, 2009**, for April examinations."

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual

basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: <http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html>

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Course Requirements:** Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Connect Email Accounts:** The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.

**Carleton Political Science Society:** The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email

[carletonpss@gmail.com](mailto:carletonpss@gmail.com), visit our website at [poliscisociety.com](http://poliscisociety.com), or come to our office in Loeb D688.