

PSCI 3603A  
International Security and Strategic Thought  
6:05pm-8:55pm Monday and Wednesday  
Face-to-Face  
Check brightspace for class location

I General information

Instructor: Alex McDougall  
On-line Office Hours: 9:00-10:00 am Monday  
Email: alex.mcdougall@carleton.ca

This course introduces students to issues in contemporary international security studies. In doing so, it covers traditional security issues such as the causes of war, nuclear proliferation and arms control, and the uses of military force; as well as some new issues, such as private military companies, technology and war, and non-state armed groups in conflict.

II Course Format

This is a face-to-face (live, in person) class. As a matter of format, the class will follow a hybrid lecture/seminar style with periods of lecturing interspersed with opportunities for student discussion and participation.

III Texts

All readings will be posted on brightspace and the library reserve system. There is no textbook or anything to purchase at the bookstore.

IV Evaluation at a glance

<b><i>Item</i></b>	<b><i>Description</i></b>	<b><i>Due Date</i></b>	<b><i>% of total</i></b>
<i>Participation</i>	Students should be prepared to participate class as required. Grading will be based on the quantity and quality of participation. To earn discussion points, students should make contribution to class discussion throughout the semester. To prepare, students should complete the required reading and bring with them any	Continuous through the semester	15

	questions or thoughts about the issues raised in the readings.		
<i>Short answer Assignments (X2)</i>	Each assignment consists of four short answer questions (roughly 800 words per assignment) based on course readings.	May 30, June 15	50
Critical Review Essay	Students will write a ~1250 word essay, choosing among questions to be distributed by the instructor. The review essays require only that the students draw upon course material, not outside research.	June 23	35

#### VIII Course schedule

Date	Topic	Course Material
		<b>** are recommended/supplementary readings that may be referred to during the lecture but are not required.</b>
May 9	Introduction	Biddle, Stephen. "Strategy in war." <i>PS: Political Science &amp; Politics</i> 40.3 (2007): 461-466.  Intro - Chris Blattman, <i>Why We Fight: The Roots of War and the Paths to Peace</i> . University of Chicago Press (2022).
May 11	Theories of war	Chapter1-3 of Chris Blattman, <i>Why We Fight: The Roots of War and the Paths to Peace</i> . University of Chicago Press (2022).  **Fearon, James D. "Rationalist explanations for war." <i>International organization</i> 49.3 (1995): 379-414.
May 16	Geopolitics, strategy and great power politics	Allison, Graham. "The Thucydides trap: are the US and China headed for war?." <i>The Atlantic</i> 24.9 (2015): 2015.  Mearsheimer, John J. "Why the Ukraine crisis is the West's fault: the liberal delusions that provoked Putin." <i>Foreign Aff.</i> 93

		<p>(2014): 77.</p> <p>**Götz, Elias. "Putin, the state, and war: The causes of Russia's near abroad assertion revisited." <i>International Studies Review</i> 19.2 (2017): 228-253.</p>
May 18	Deterrence and arms control	<p>Waltz, Kenneth N. "The spread of nuclear weapons Revisited: More may be better" (2003):</p> <p>**1, 2 of Lieber, Keir A., and Daryl G. Press. <i>The Myth of the Nuclear Revolution</i>. Cornell University Press, 2020.</p> <p>Watch: Fog of War, 13 lessons in the life of Robert MacNamara</p>
May 25	Deterrence and arms control	<p>Sagan, Scott D. "The perils of proliferation: Organization theory, deterrence theory, and the spread of nuclear weapons." <i>International Security</i> 18.4 (1994): 66-107.</p> <p>**3, 4 of Lieber, Keir A., and Daryl G. Press. <i>The Myth of the Nuclear Revolution</i>. Cornell University Press, 2020.</p> <p>Watch: Dr. Strangelove: How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb</p>
May 30	Economic statecraft and sanctions (the case of China)	<p>Richard Hanania, 2021. "American Sanctions: Immoral, ineffective, but politically convenient" in <i>Public Choice Theory and the Illusion of Grand Strategy: How Generals, Weapons Manufacturers, and Foreign Governments Shape American Foreign Policy</i>. Routledge, 2021.</p> <p>Scholvin, Sören, and Mikael Wigell. "Power politics by economic means: Geoeconomics as an analytical approach and foreign policy practice." <i>Comparative Strategy</i> 37.1 (2018): 73-84.</p> <p>**Drezner, Daniel W. "Bad debts: assessing China's financial influence in great power politics." <i>International Security</i> 34.2 (2009): 7-45.</p>
June 1	Non-state and ethnic wars	<p>Ch 2, 3 of Biddle, Stephen. <i>Nonstate Warfare: The Military Methods of Guerillas, Warlords, and Militias</i>. Princeton University Press, 2021.</p> <p>Kaufmann, Chaim. "Possible and impossible solutions to ethnic civil wars." <i>International security</i> 20.4 (1996): 136-175.</p>

June 6	Armed Groups	<p>Collier, Paul, Anke Hoeffler, and Dominic Rohner. "Beyond greed and grievance: feasibility and civil war." <i>oxford Economic papers</i> 61.1 (2009): 1-27.</p> <p>(pp 1-10 of: Gurr, Ted Robert. <i>Why men rebel</i>. Routledge, 2015.</p> <p>Chapter 3, 4 of Shiffman, Gary M. <i>The economics of violence</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2020.**</p> <p>Gambetta, Diego, and Steffen Hertog. "Engineers of jihad." <i>Engineers of Jihad</i>. Princeton University Press, 2017.**</p>
June 8	Iraq	<p>Chapter 5 of Biddle, Stephen. <i>Nonstate Warfare: The Military Methods of Guerillas, Warlords, and Militias</i>. Princeton University Press, 2021.</p> <p>Chapter 6 of Shiffman, Gary M. <i>The economics of violence</i>. Cambridge University Press, 2020.</p> <p>Watch: Frontline, the rise of ISIS.</p>
June 13	Afghanistan	<p>Ch 4, 9 of Ahmad, Aisha. <i>Jihad &amp; Co.: black markets and Islamist power</i>. Oxford University Press, 2017.</p> <p>Egnell, Robert. "Winning 'hearts and minds'? A critical analysis of counter-insurgency operations in Afghanistan." <i>Civil Wars</i> 12.3 (2010): 282-303.</p> <p>**Army, U. S., and US Marine Corps. <i>Counterinsurgency field manual</i>. No. 3-24. Cosimo, Inc., 2010.</p>
June 15	Central Africa	<p>Chapter 2, 3, 4 of Stearns, Jason K. <i>The War That Doesn't Say Its Name: The Unending Conflict in the Congo</i>. Princeton University Press, 2022.</p>

## Appendix

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## **Covid-19 Information**

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

**Feeling sick?** Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you must follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

**Masks:** On the recommendation of Ottawa Public Health, Carleton will be maintaining the mandatory [COVID-19 Mask Policy](#) until further notice. The policy requires masks to be worn in all university buildings, including offices, classrooms and labs.

**Vaccines:** Further, while proof of vaccination is no longer required as of May 1 to attend campus or in-person activity, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible, and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca).

## **Requests for Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

***Pregnancy accommodation:*** Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

**Religious accommodation:** Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf).

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more information, please visit [carleton.ca/pmc](http://carleton.ca/pmc).

**Accommodation for student activities:** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who engage in student activities at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>.

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

### **Sexual Violence Policy**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated. Survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support).

### **Plagiarism**

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books,

articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **Intellectual property**

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

### **Submission and Return of Term Work**

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

### **Grading**

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5

80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

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.

### **Carleton E-mail Accounts**

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton University e-mail accounts and/or Brightspace. As important course and university information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton University email accounts and Brightspace.

### **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. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students 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 our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/>.

### **Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.

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