

PSCI 3603A
Strategic Thought and International Security
8:35 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. Monday
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Alex McDougall
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Office Hours: Monday, 5:15-6:00 pm
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Overview: This course introduces students to a range of concepts, debates, and issues in the field of international security studies through both reading and film. 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.

Readings and films: All course readings are available through the electronic journal databases at the Carleton library, through the library's reserve system, or accessible online. Students must complete all of the required readings before coming to class. Films will be viewed in class, and made available to students for out of class viewing. I have also included material from other media sources, including podcasts, video lecturers, and short reports.

Evaluation: The grading structure is as follows. Each item is described in detail below.

- **Video Response essay x 2: 50%**
- Final Take Home Exam: 35%
- **Attendance and participation: 15%**

Video Response essays: Students will submit two (2) 2000 word essays relating a film from the course syllabus to applicable course material. More detailed instructions will be distributed in class and on culearn. **Due: in class, February 8, March 28**

Final Take Home Exam: On the last day of class, the instructor will distribute a final, take home exam. The exam will consist of long form essay questions. Students must answer the questions in a regular essay format, complete with citations. The exams will require students to draw on all of the required reading material and the lecture material. Therefore, students should do the readings every week, and take careful notes during class. Although not required, students may draw upon material from outside the course if they so choose, providing that they include full citations and a bibliography.

Due Date for take home exam: April 23

Submission method: email instructor; Students must attach exam as a single document, named **3603_firstname_last name.doc**

Participation and Attendance: Students should attend the lectures and make regular contributions to class discussion when required. Students also should prepare for class by completing the required reading/viewing material. The instructor will record attendance and participation. Students will be assigned a final grade based on their score. It is suggested that students also keep a record of their own participation and attendance.

Late assignments: Late assignments will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade per day (ie. A- to B+).

Class Schedule

Jan 11: Week 1: Introduction to Class

- Human Security Report 2013, http://www.hsrgroup.org/docs/Publications/HSR2013/HSRP_Report_2013_140226_Web.pdf.
- Walt, Stephen: the Renaissance of Security Studies, in *International Security* (1991)
- Van Crevald, "the Transformation of War: Revisited", 2003.

Jan 18: Lecture 2 – Causes of War and Peace

- Human nature: Brad Thayer: "bring in Darwin in, evolution in international relations"
- The international system: John Mearsheimer, "Chapter 1: the anarchic international system; and Chapter 9: Great Power War" in *the Tragedy of Great Power Politics*.
- Regimes: Nils Gleditsch: "on the democratic peace"
- On perception: Jack Snyder, "Chapter 1" of *Myths of empire*

Jan 25, Feb 1: Week 3 and 4–Nuclear Proliferation and International security.

- Waltz: more may be better
- Sagan: More will be worse
- Kroenig: The case for attacking Iran

Viewing: Dr. Strangelove, Fog of War (part 1), The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming

Feb 8, 22: Week 5, 6: Ethnic Conflicts and civil wars

- Kauffman: Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Conflicts, in *International Security*
- Walter, Barbara: "the critical barrier to civil war settlement", in *international security*

- Van Evera and Byman, “hypotheses on the causes of deadly conflict”, in *security studies*
- Stathias Kaylvas, “Chapter 2, 3” of *The Logic of Violence in Civil Wars* (Cambridge, 2006)

Viewing: Blackhawk down, Hotel Rwanda, Frontline: The Rise of ISIS,

Feb 15: No class, reading week.

Feb 29, 7 March : Week 7,8: Armed Groups and Insurgencies

- Collier, economic causes of conflict
- Gurr, why men rebel
- Kaylvas, Stathias: “Chapters 4-8” in *the Logic of Violence*

Viewing: City of God, Omar, Battle of Algiers

March 14, 21: Week 9/10: Foreign intervention, state building, and counterinsurgency

- Paris, Roland, “liberal peacebuilding” in
- Benjamin Miller, “The Logic of U.S. Military Intervention in the Post-Cold War Era
- Jeffrey Herbst, “Let Them Fail: State Failure in Theory and Practice, Implications for Policy,” chapter 14, in Robert Rotbergs’ *When States Fail: Causes and Consequences* (Princeton University Press, 2004), pp. 302-319
- ISAF (2009), *Commander's Counterinsurgency Guidance*, August 2009, (Kabul: Headquarters ISAF), 7 pages
- Jeffrey, James F. (2015), “Why Counterinsurgency Doesn't Work, The Problem Is the Strategy, Not the Execution”, *Foreign Affairs*, Vol 94 (2), March/April 2015, pp. 178-180, 3 pages.
- Chapter 6 of *No good men among the living*.

Viewing: Charlie Wilsons War, Battle of Algiers, Apocalypse Now,

March 28, April 4: Week 11/12 - Future Trends and Private Military Companies

- Kalyvas, Stathis N. 2001. “‘New’ and ‘Old’ Civil Wars, a Valid Distinction?” *World Politics*, 54(1): 99-118.
- Singer, “Chapter 3” of *Corporate Warriors*.
- Fitzsimmons, Scott, “a private solution to a humanitarian catastrophe”, in *Vanguard*
- Fukuyama, Francis “The end of history”, in *The National Interest*
- Huntington, Samuel, “the clash of civilizations”

Viewing: Blood diamond

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

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).

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 University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

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 include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

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.

Grading: Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

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

Grades: Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

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.

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 cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

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 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, visit <http://facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.