

POL 132

National Security Policy

Course Meetings: Mon-Thurs, 10:00-11:15am, Hoagland Hall 113

Instructor: Jaime Jackson

Office: Kerr Hall 585

Email: jajack@ucdavis.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 12-1pm; Thursday 12-1pm, or by appointment

Course Objectives

Following the Second World War, the United States assumed the position of global superpower, a position which has carried with it a series of security benefits, obligations, and challenges. This course is designed to analyze and critique U.S. national security policies and perspectives in the post-1945 period. In the first section of the course, we will engage theories and concepts of international relations, including realist and liberal perspectives, and discuss how these theories have been influential for U.S. policy decisions. We will examine how United States security policies evolved over the course of the Cold War, and we will analyze how the fall of the Soviet Union influenced U.S. foreign policy decisions. The third section of the course focuses on the monumental shift spurred by the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. The United States now faces unconventional threats stemming from non-state actors, climate change, and cyber security in addition to recurring challenges from countries such as Russia, Iran, and North Korea. This course is designed to strengthen students' understanding of both the past and present security goals of the United States. We will examine U.S. national security policy primarily through the lens of empirical international relations research, and we will supplement our discussions with in depth engagement of real world examples.

Required Readings

There is no required book for this class. All required material (i.e. academic articles, foreign policy documents, and podcasts) will be made available to students on Canvas. Students are expected to have the material required for each day covered BEFORE arriving to class.

Grading

Your grade for my course will be based on four elements: Participation, Quizzes, and Policy Briefs. The grade breakdown is as follows:

Class Participation (30%) - Participation in my class includes class discussion questions, in-class group presentations, and attendance. Attendance to class is mandatory as is participation in class discussion. Opportunities will be provided to participate through oral or written discussion so that everyone feels comfortable participating.

- Discussion Questions - every Thursday I will post three discussion questions covering the previous week's material. Students will be asked to write up a short response to one of the three questions and post it on our Canvas discussion board on the Sunday before our next class. These responses will guide an in-class group discussion. (10%)
- Group Presentations - students will be randomly assigned to a group during the first week of class. Starting week 2, groups will be presenting information on the security policy of a US ally or rival. Your job will be to compare and contrast the policies of the US and the other state. In addition, you present information on how the actions of each state has affected the security of the other. Presentations will be 20 minutes long with 5 minutes for overview and comparison, 5-7 minutes for analysis of the effects of the policies, and the remainder of the time for q&a. (20%)

Quizzes (20%) - There will be two quizzes administered at random times during the summer session that will assess your knowledge and comprehension of course readings and lectures. One extra credit question will be available on each quiz to put towards your policy brief grade.

Policy Briefs (50%) - During the course you will complete two policy briefs. These briefs will be two pages in length and will address a security policy issue chosen from a provided list. They can cover either the US security policy, or the security policy of the state you are analyzing for your group presentation. These briefs are designed to help you apply what you've learned in the course to a practical current security policy topic. Detailed policy brief requirements as well as policy brief templates are available on Canvas. These briefs will be due on **Friday, July 12th and Thursday, August 1st**.

All written work must reflect your own scholarship, in line with the UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct. For guidelines avoiding plagiarism see the SJA at <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/>. You are expected to be aware of these guidelines, ignorance of guidelines does not excuse a violation.

Course Policies

Late Assignments: Late assignments will be docked 10% or one full letter grade for each day they are late, starting immediately after the time of the due date. After three days, I will no longer accept the assignment and the student will be given a zero for that assignment.

E-mail and Office Hours: Guidelines for e-mail correspondence with the instructor: (1) include the course in the subject line along with subject; (2) 24-hour response time during the week, 48-hour response time over the weekend; (3) please use the e-mail you would like your response to come to; (4) include any attachments you wish to have reviewed or that you have referred to in the body of the text; (5) check the discussion board on Canvas prior to submitting e-mail questions; (6) consider posting to the discussion board on Canvas if you have a general question; (7) create a prioritized list of your questions for office hours visits.

Attendance, Participation, and Weekly Readings: Class attendance and the corresponding assignments are mandatory. All students should come prepared to participate in class discussion.

Grade Appeals: Students will have one week from when grades are posted to appeal their grade. All appeals must include a typed, double spaced statement explaining why you are requesting a grade appeal, and you must justify with evidence from your exam, paper, or summaries. If you choose to appeal your grade, the instructor reserves the right to increase or decrease the existing Grade.

Academic Honesty

As a University of California student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy. Cheating and other violations of academic honesty are serious offenses. Students are expected to work independently on all graded assignments. Please refer to the UC Davis policy on integrity of scholarship for further details. Students who engage in cheating will earn an F (no pass) grade.

Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet any of the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation for individual learning needs. UC Davis will make every attempt to accommodate all qualified students with disabilities.

Laptops and tablets are permitted in-class for note-taking and in-class activities only.

Please do not disrupt your classmates by surfing the web or engaging in other activities.

Course Outline

PART ONE: EVOLVING NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY DURING THE COLD WAR

June 24th - Course Introduction and Group Assignments

June 25th - Grand Theories and Their Influence Part One

Reading: Mearsheimer, John. 2014. "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power," in *The Realism Reader*.

June 26th - Grand Theories and Their Influence Part Two

Reading: Axelrod, Robert & Robert Keohane. 1985. "Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy," *World Politics*, 38(01): 226-254.

June 27th - US Leadership in Post-WWII Order

Reading: MacMillan, Margaret. 2009. "Rebuilding the World After the Second World War," *The Guardian*. Article available here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2009/sep/11/second-world-war-rebuilding>

July 1st - Countering Soviet Power Through Containment

Reading: NSC 68: United States Objectives and Programs for National Security, Sections IX, Conclusions, and Recommendations. Available here:

<https://fas.org/irp/offdocs/nsc-hst/nsc-68.htm>

July 2nd - Deterrence

Podcast: Civics 101 - Nuclear Weapons. Available here:

<https://www.civics101podcast.org/civics-101-episodes/ep98>

July 3rd - Nuclear Policy and Thawing of Cold War

Reading: Baglione, Lisa. 1997. "Finishing START and Achieving Unilateral Reductions: Leadership and Arms Control at the End of the Cold War," *Journal of Peace Research*, 34(02): 135-152.

PRESENTATION 1

July 4th - NO CLASS

PART TWO: POST COLD WAR AND HUMANITARIAN CRISES OF THE 1990'S

July 8th - Entering a New Era of (Inter)National Security

Reading: Fukuyama, Francis. 1989. "The End of History?" *The National Interest*, 16: 3-18.

July 9th - Post Cold-War US National Security Strategy

Reading: Posen, Barry & A. L. Ross. 1997. "Competing Visions for U.S. Grand Strategy," *International Security*, 21(03): 5-53.

July 10th - US National Security and Humanitarian Crises Part One

Watch:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/av/magazine-38808175/black-hawk-down-the-somali-battle-that-changed-us-policy-in-africa>

July 11th - US National Security and Humanitarian Crises Part Two

Reading: A Look at the Rwandan Genocide. New York Times article, 1994:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1994/06/10/world/officials-told-to-avoid-calling-rwanda-killings-genocide.html>

PRESENTATION 2

July 12th - POLICY BRIEF ONE DUE BY 6PM

PART THREE: US NATIONAL SECURITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

July 15th - September 11th and the "War on Terror" Part One

Reading: The 9/11 Commission Report, Section 12.

July 16th - September 11th and the "War on Terror" Part Two

Podcast: The War on Terror. Available here: <https://www.message-heard.com/conflicted>

July 17th - International Cooperation and Terrorism

Reading: Bensahel, Nora. 2006. "A Coalition of Coalitions: International Cooperation Against Terrorism," *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 29(1): 35-49.

July 18th - Debating the Merits of Liberalism in the 21st Century Part One

Reading: Dueck, Colin. 2003. "Hegemony on the cheap: Liberal internationalism from Wilson to Bush," *World Policy Journal*, 20(4): 1-11.

PRESENTATION 3

July 21st - Debating the Merits of Liberalism in the 21st Century Part Two

Reading: Carothers, Thomas. 2007. "The Democracy Crusade Myth" Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Optional response/critique by Tony Smith:

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2007/08/06/response-to-democracy-crusade-myth-pub-19507>

July 22nd - Unconventional Threats, Non-state Actors, and Terrorism

Reading: San-Akca, Belgin. 2017. "States and Non-state Armed Groups (NAGs) in International Relations Theory." Oxford Encyclopaedia of Empirical International Relations Theory. Ed. William Thompson.

July 23rd - Responses to the Arab Spring

Watch: "Attitudes that Sparked the Arab Spring," TED Talk with Dalia Mogahed. Available here: https://www.ted.com/talks/dalia_mogahed_the_attitudes_that_sparked_arab_spring

July 24th - US Nuclear Strategy in the 21st Century

Reading: Koch, Lisa. "The NPT at 50 and the NSG at 43: How the Global Control of Nuclear Exports Has Slowed Proliferation." Policy Memo, pg 8-10.

PRESENTATION 4

July 29th - US National Security and a New Cold War?

NO READING. A Look at Ukraine and Syria.

July 30 - Cyber Security

Reading: Farrell, Henry. 2014. "The Political Science of Cyber Security III," *Monkeycage*.

July 31 - Peacekeeping and US/UN Relations

Reading: Fortna, Page. 2013. "Has Violence Declined in World Politics?" *Perspectives on Politics*, 11(02): 566-570.

August 1 - Climate Change as National Security

Watch: "Why Climate Change is a Threat to Human Rights." TED Talk with Mary Robinson. Available here:

https://www.ted.com/talks/mary_robinson_why_climate_change_is_a_threat_to_human_rights/transcript?language=en

PRESENTATION 5

POLICY BRIEF TWO DUE BY 6PM.