

COURSE SYLLABUS

National Security

POL 132 – Winter 2018

v1.0 01022018

Course Information

Prof. Brandon J Kinne
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Office hours: Monday 9:00–11:00 (Kerr 673)

Class: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:40–3:00
Location: Wellman Hall 126
Canvas: <https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/197573>

Teaching Assistants

David Bracken (A–K)
Email: dnbracken@ucdavis.edu
Office hours: Thur. 10–12, Kerr 666

Carlos Algara (L–Z)
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Office hours: Mon. 9–11, Kerr 663

Course Description

Traditional perspectives on national security focus heavily on domestic military and political institutions. Yet, today's national security threats originate from complex international and transnational sources, and they pay little attention to political borders. National security is now global security. This course reviews the field of national security with an emphasis on emerging global threats. The course begins by covering core theories and concepts in the study of national security, including realist, liberal, and bargaining perspectives. We then shift to a discussion of positive international influences on security, including economic integration, democracy, and international institutions. Last, we discuss such emerging threats as terrorism, climate change, and autonomous warfare. At the conclusion of the course, students will not only have a solid grasp of the course content but will have also developed a conceptual framework for thinking about national security as a global phenomenon.

Required Textbooks and Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All readings are available via Canvas, online journal repositories (e.g., Jstor), and direct URLs. (See the reading assignments below.) The reading load averages 75–100 pages per week. Be aware that *all the readings are equally important*. Any assigned reading is considered fair game for exam questions.

Prerequisites

The reading assignments heavily incorporate current political science research, including academic journal articles. Much of this research utilizes statistics and formal (game theoretic) modeling. Prior completion of POL 51 and/or an introductory statistics course, though not formally required, is

strongly encouraged. The readings and lectures also assume knowledge of topics covered in POL 3 (International Relations).

Assignments & Grading

The graded component of the course consists of a midterm exam, a final exam, and an 8–10 page research paper. The midterm exam will be held **February 15th** at the regular class time. The final exam will be held **March 21st at 3:30pm**. The research paper is due **March 9th at 5:00pm**, and must be submitted via Canvas. We will not accept hard copies or emailed versions. Specific guidelines for the research paper will be posted to Canvas within the first few weeks of class.

Final grades are determined by:

Midterm Exam (30%)
Final Exam (40%)
Research Paper (30%)

The grading scale is:

A = 93–100%
A- = 90–92%
B+ = 87–89%
B = 83–86%
B- = 80–82%
C+ = 77–79%
C = 73–76%
C- = 70–72%
D = 65–69%
F = 64% and lower

Course Policies

- **Questions and in-class discussion are strongly encouraged!**
- Regular attendance is strongly encouraged. The lectures will not summarize the readings but will instead synthesize course materials, clarify key concepts, and introduce ideas not covered in the readings. All lecture content is fair game for exams. Doing well on the exams—or even passing the exams, for that matter—will be difficult without the lecture content. Lecture notes will not be posted online or otherwise circulated.
- **Laptops are not permitted.** A growing body of research shows that longhand notetaking improves both conceptual understanding and long-term information retention.¹ Other digital devices, such as cell phones and tablets, should remain off/muted and out of sight for the duration of class. Any exceptions to this policy require the approval of the Student Disability Center.
- While the course is not intended as a survey of current events, nearly all the course topics bear directly on real-world politics. We will frequently discuss how the course content helps us to better understand contemporary global events. Students are encouraged to stay up-to-date on international news. For extensive coverage of international events (not always from an American

¹See, for example, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0956797614524581> and <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/22/business/laptops-not-during-lecture-or-meeting.html>.

perspective), consider such sources as New York Times, Washington Post, The Economist, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, BBC, China Daily, al Jazeera, and others.

- The course TAs are responsible for all grading. They are highly capable and knowledgeable. Concerns about grading should be directed toward the TAs. Any request for a re-grade must be made to your TA within one week of the assignment being returned to the class, and must be accompanied by a 500-word written justification for the request. Note that a re-grade may either raise *or lower* the original grade.
 - Late papers will be docked one full letter grade per day. “Full letter grade” means that, e.g., a grade of 88% will be reduced to 78%. This penalty begins immediately after the submission deadline and recurs every 24 hours thereafter. Note that late papers will be penalized *regardless of the reason for lateness*. The paper due date and requirements are made available to students well in advance; please plan accordingly.
 - *Make-up exams are not permitted*. Students must be present on the specified midterm and final exam dates in order to take the exams.
 - All final course grades will be rounded to the nearest whole percentage value using standard rounding rules. (For example, a final grade of 92.583% would round up to 93%. A final grade of 89.487 would round down to 89%.) There are no exceptions to this policy.
 - Audio and/or video recordings of class lectures are strictly forbidden without explicit approval from the Student Disability Center.
 - Students bear full responsibility for following university-prescribed guidelines on plagiarism and cheating. Confirmed cases of plagiarism or cheating will receive the maximum allowable penalty. For further information, see <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/files/plagiarism.pdf> and <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html>. Note that ignorance of university guidelines is not an acceptable excuse for academic dishonesty.
 - Though the exam dates and schedule of topics will not change, there may be minor adjustments to the assigned readings and/or other aspects of the course during the quarter. In such cases, an in-class announcement will be made and an updated syllabus will be posted to Canvas.
 - Students are responsible for all in-class announcements, including adjustments to the syllabus, and for any announcements or materials posted to Canvas or sent via UC Davis email.
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Key to reading assignments:

★ available through Canvas

† available through library's journal subscriptions

Introduction

JANUARY 9 – SYLLABUS REVIEW

- No readings

JANUARY 11 – WHAT IS SECURITY?

★ Hobbes. “Of the Natural Condition of Mankind.”

† Baldwin, Davis. 1997. “The Concept of Security,” in *Review of International Studies* 23: 5–26.

★ Jordan et al. “The International Setting.”

Part I: Security in International Relations Theory

JANUARY 16 – REALISM

★ Thucydides. “Melian Dialogue.”

★ Mearsheimer. “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power.”

JANUARY 18 – LIBERALISM

★ Kant. “Perpetual Peace.”

† Axelrod, Robert and Robert Keohane. 1985. “Achieving Cooperation under Anarchy,” in *World Politics* 38(1): 226–254.

JANUARY 23 – BARGAINING AND CONFLICT

★ Clausewitz. “What Is War?”

† Fearon, James. 1995. “Rationalist Explanations for War,” in *International Organization* 49(3): 379–414.

Part II: The US Context

JANUARY 25 – SECURITY STRATEGIES

- ★ Jordan et al. “Traditional American Approaches to National Security” and “The Evolution of American National Security Policy”
- Skim recent US National Security Strategies:
 - Trump doctrine (2017): <http://nssarchive.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2017.pdf>
 - Obama doctrine (2010): <http://nssarchive.us/NSSR/2010.pdf>
 - Bush doctrine (2002): <http://nssarchive.us/NSSR/2002.pdf>

JANUARY 30 – CASE STUDY: THE IRAQ WAR

- † Mearsheimer, John, and Stephen M. Walt. 2003. “An Unnecessary War,” in *Foreign Policy* 134: 50–59.
- † Lake, David. 2010. “Two Cheers for Bargaining Theory: Assessing Rationalist Explanations of the Iraq War,” in *International Security* 35(3): 7–52.
- Browse historical overviews:
 - <https://www.britannica.com/event/Iraq-War>
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iraq_War

Part III: International Sources of Security

FEBRUARY 1 & 6 – SECURITY THROUGH ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL INTEGRATION?

- ★ Morrow, “Assessing the Role of Trade as a Source of Costly Signals”
- † Kinne, Brandon J. 2012. “Multilateral Trade and Militarized Conflict: Centrality, Openness, and Asymmetry in the Global Trade Network,” in *Journal of Politics* 74(1): 308–322. 51(1): 166–191.
- † Brooks, Stephen. 2013. “Economic Actors’ Lobbying Influence on the Prospects for War and Peace,” in *International Organization* 67(4): 863–888.

FEBRUARY 8 & 13 – SECURITY THROUGH DEMOCRACY?

- † Tomz, Michael R., and Jessica L. P. Weeks. 2013. “Public Opinion and the Democratic Peace,” in *American Political Science Review* 107(4): 849–865.
- Reiter, Dan. 2011. “The Poisoned Chalice of Foreign Imposed Regime Change.” Access at: <http://www.e-ir.info/?p=6770>.
- † Downes, Alexander B., and Jonathan Monten. 2013. “Forced to Be Free? Why Foreign- Imposed Regime Change Rarely Leads to Democratization,” in *International Security* 37(4): 90–131.

FEBRUARY 15 – MIDTERM EXAM

FEBRUARY 20 & 22 – SECURITY THROUGH INSTITUTIONS?

- † Kupchan, Charles A., and Clifford A. Kupchan. 1995. “The Promise of Collective Security,” in *International Organization* 20(1): 52–61.
- † Thompson, Alexander. 2006. “Coercion through IOs: The Security Council and the Logic of Information Transmission,” in *International Organization* 61(1): 1–34.
- † Grieco, Joseph, et al. 2011. “Let’s Get a Second Opinion: International Institutions and American Public Support for War,” in *International Studies Quarterly* 55(2): 563–583.

Part IV – Nontraditional Security Threats

FEBRUARY 27 & MARCH 1 – CULTURAL CLASHES AND TRANSNATIONAL TERRORISM

- † Huntington, Samuel P. 1993. “The Clash of Civilizations?” in *Foreign Affairs* 72(3): 22–49.
- † Chiozza, Giacomo. 2002. “Is There a Clash of Civilizations? Evidence from Patterns of International Conflict Involvement, 1946–97,” in *Journal of Peace Research* 39(6): 711–734.
- † Neumayer, Eric, and Thomas Plümpner. 2009. “International Terrorism and the Clash of Civilizations,” in *British Journal of Political Science* 39(4): 711–734.

MARCH 6 & 8 – CLIMATE AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Read the following in order

- † Hsiang, Solomon M., and Marshall Burke. 2014. “Climate, conflict, and social stability: what does the evidence say?” in *Climatic Change* 123(1): 39–55.
- † Buhaug, Håvard, et al. 2014. “One effect to rule them all? A comment on climate and conflict,” in *Climatic Change* 127(3): 391–397.
- † Hsiang, Solomon M., et al. 2014. “Reconciling climate-conflict meta-analyses: reply to Buhaug et al.” in *Climatic Change* 127(3): 399–405.

Also read

- † Enemark, Christian. 2009. “Is Pandemic Flu a Security Threat?” in *Survival* 51(1): 191–214.
- United Nations Security Council Resolution 2177. Access at: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/IDRL/UN%20SC%20Res.pdf>.

PAPERS DUE BY 5:00PM ON FRIDAY, MARCH 9TH

MARCH 13 & 15 – MILITARY TECHNOLOGY AND NEW WARFARE

Drones and autonomous weapons

- ★ Singer, P.W. “Scenes from a Robot War”
- † Carpenter, Charli. “Beware the Killer Robots: Inside the Debate over Autonomous Weapons,” in *Foreign Affairs*, July 3.
- “Autonomous Weapons: An Open Letter from AI & Robotics Researchers.” Access at <http://futureoflife.org/open-letter-autonomous-weapons/>
- † Horowitz, Michael C., et al. 2016. “Separating Fact from Fiction in the Debate over Drone Proliferation,” in *International Security* 41(2): 7–42.

Cyberwar and digital security

- † Lynn, William. 2010. “Defending a New Domain: The Pentagon’s Cyberstrategy,” in *Foreign Affairs* 89(5): 97–108.
- † Gartzke, Erik. 2013. “The myth of cyberwar: Bringing war in cyberspace back down to Earth,” in *International Security* 38(2): 41–73.

MARCH 21 – FINAL EXAM

- 3:30pm, Wellman Hall 126

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.