**Time:** **Tuesdays/Thursdays, 6:15pm-9:25pm**

**W3680**

***Topics in International Security***

**Location: 711 International Affairs Building**

**Office Hours: Thursdays, 4:30-6:00pm, 742 International Affairs Building**

This course explores how and why states and non-state actors use violent and non-violent strategies in international politics. While not all topics in international security can be covered thoroughly in one semester, this course will give a sampling of many of the topics, including military doctrines and strategies, diplomatic policies, social forces, civil wars, and roles of individuals. Though historical and current events will be used as examples to illustrate how various theories work, students should keep in mind that this is not a course on current events.

All of the **readings** are posted online. There are no books to buy.

Each **class** is divided into two sections. The first section will be a lecture. The second will be a short quiz and class discussion of the required readings

**Grades** will be determined as follows:

* Quizzes 5%
* Discussions 30%
* Midterm 30%
* Final 35%

The **midterm** and **final** exams will consist of a series of essay questions. Exams are taken at home and will be open note. The professor will email you the questions at the start of the class on the days of the exams, and you must submit your essays via email to the professor no later than the end of class time on those days. Late exams will not be accepted, and make-up exams will not be granted without a note from the Dean or a doctor.

During the **quiz**, the professor will randomly select several students to answer a question about the required readings. The goal is simply to verify that students have completed the readings. One or two sentence answers are sufficient.

Your **discussion** grade will be based on the quality and originality of your participation in the discussions during the third hour of each class. Students who seldom contribute, or who monopolize discussion, will be downgraded. You can expect to be called on if you do not volunteer. For those who feel nervous about talking in class, come see Professor Blankenship early in the semester so that you can develop strategies for effective participation.

**Day 1: Theory and International Security**

* Jack Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories.”
* Robert Jervis, “Realism, Neoliberalism, and Cooperation: Understanding the Debate.”

**Day 2: Power**

* Leslie Gelb, “GDP Now Matters More Than Force.”
* Joseph Nye, “Soft Power.”
* Robert Art, “The Fungibility of Force.”
* David Baldwin, “Force, Fungibility, and Influence.”
* Arvind Subramanian, “The Inevitable Superpower.”
* Stephen Brooks and William Wohlforth, “The Once and Future Superpower.”

**Day 3: War**

* Kenneth N. Waltz, “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory.”
* Robert Gilpin, “Hegemonic War and International Change.”
* Daniel Kahneman and Jonathan Renshon, “Why Hawks Win.”
* Sigmund Freud, “Why War?”
* Margaret Mead, “Warfare Is Only an Invention – Not a Biological Necessity.”
* James Fearon, “Rationalist Explanations for War.” (read pp. 379-386, 390-411)

**Day 4: Peace**

* Immanuel Kant, “Perpetual Peace.”
* Michael Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics.”
* Robert Jervis, “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma.” (read pp. 186-214)
* William Wohlforth, “The Stability of a Unipolar World.” (read pp. 5-28, 37-41)
* John Mueller, “The Obsolescence of Major War.”
* Page Fortna, “Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace?” (read pp. 269-277, 288).
* Richard Betts, “The Delusion of Impartial Intervention.”

**Day 5: Strategy and Threat Assessment**

* Thomas Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence.”
* Robert Art, “The Four Functions of Force.” (read pp. 4-14)
* Keren Yarhi-Milo, “In the Eye of the Beholder.” (read pp. 7-20)
* Andrew Kydd, “Sheep in Sheep’s Clothing.” (read pp. 114-129, 139-147)
* Eyre Crowe, “The German Threat? 1907.” (read pp. 397-405, 414-419)
* Neville Henderson, “The German Threat? 1938.”
* Vladimir Putin, “The Threat to Ukraine from the West.”
* Eliot A. Cohen, “The Crisis in Ukraine.”
* Nathan and Scobell, “How China Sees America.”

**Day 6: Midterm Exam**

Professor Blankenship will email you the exam at the start of class time. You must email your answers back to him in a word document no later than the end of class time.

**Day 7: Alliances and Cooperation**

* James Morrow, “Alliances: Why Write them Down?” (read pp. 63-73)
* Kenneth Waltz, “Anarchic Orders and Balances of Power.”
* Stephen Walt, “Explaining Alliance Formation.” (read pp. 17-40)
* Thomas Christensen and Jack Snyder, “Chain Gangs and Passed Bucks.”
* Patricia Weitsman, “Theory of Alliance Formation and Cohesion.” (read pp. 11-33)
* Joshua Shifrinson, “Trump and NATO: Old Wine in Gold Bottles? ” (https://issforum.org/roundtables/policy/1-5ba-nato)
* Abraham Newman and Daniel Nexon, “Here’s Why Trump is Wrong on American Allies.”
* Michael Mandelbaum, “What Trump Gets Right About NATO.”

**Day 8: Terrorism**

* Martha Crenshaw, “Logic of Terrorism.”
* Andrew Kydd and Barbara Walter, “Strategies of Terrorism.” (skim)
* Ayann Hirsi Ali, “A Problem from Heaven.”
* William McCants, “Islamic Scripture Is Not the Problem.”
* Daniel Byman, “Beyond Counterterrorism.”
* John Mueller, “The Terrorism Delusion.” (read pp. 95-110; skim the rest)
* Kenneth Pollack, “Fight or Flight?”
* Charles Glaser and Rose Kelanic, “Getting Out of the Gulf.”

**Day 9: Nuclear Weapons**

* Kenneth Waltz, “More May Be Better.”
* Scott Sagan, “More Will Be Worse.”
* Keir Lieber and Daryl Press, “Nuclear Weapons in the New Era of Counterforce.” (read pp. 9-18; skim the rest)
* Nina Tannenwald, “Renewing a Regime of Nuclear Restraint.” (https://issforum.org/roundtables/policy/1-4-nuclear)
* Daryl Kimball, “Taking First-Use of Nukes Off the Table.”
* Al Mauroni and David Jonas, “All Cards on the Table.”
* Ivo Daadler and Jan Lodal. “The Logic of Zero.”
* Charles Glaser, “The Flawed Case for Nuclear Disarmament.”

**Day 10: Cyber Security**

* Erik Gartzke, “The Myth of Cyberwar.”
* Rebecca Slayton, “What Is the Cyber Offense-Defense Balance?”
* Erik Gartzke and Jon Lindsay, “Weaving Tangled Webs.”
* Erica Borghard and Shawn Lonergan, “The Logic of Coercion in Cyberspace.”
* Adam Klein, “The Hacking Bear.”

**Day 11: Ethics and Norms**

* Niccolo Machiavelli, “Doing Evil in Order to Do Good.”
* Michael Walzer, “Just and Unjust Wars.”
* Edward Hallett Carr, “Realism and Idealism.”
* Nina Tannenwald, “Stigmatizing the Bomb.”
* Scott Sagan and Benjamin Valentino, “Revisiting Hiroshima in Iran.”

**Day 12: Final Exam**

Professor Blankenship will email you the exam at the start of class time. You must email your answers back to him in a word document no later than the end of class time.