

Political Science 403I: National Security Policy

Fall 2005: Monday 4:00 pm to 6:45 pm, BEH 113

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Office Hours: Monday: 2:45 to 3:45,
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Providing security for its citizens is a primary function of government. This course will explore how the United States government is organized to carry out that function, the theoretical and practical underpinning of the choices it makes, successes and failures of those choices, and challenges facing the United States in the post-9/11 world.

Course Books and Readings

- Amos A. Jordan, William J. Taylor, and Michael J. Mazaar. American National Security (5th edition) (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999)
- Sam Sarkesian, John Williams, and Stephen Cimbala. U.S. National Security: Policymakers, Processes, and Politics 3rd edition (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002)
- Lawrence Korb. A New National Security Strategy in an Age of Terrorists, Tyrants, and Weapons of Mass Destruction (Brookings Institute Press, 2003)

In addition to these books, there will be additional readings on reserve at the Lied Library.

Requirements

1. Attendance: Regular class attendance is required. More than two unexcused absences will result in a reduction of a full letter grade for the course grade. Absences will be excused in only the most serious of circumstances (such as hospitalization or a death in the immediate family) and will require appropriate documentation.
2. Readings and Participation: You are required to prepare for each class by completing the assigned readings. Active and informed discussion based on the readings and thoughtful consideration of the issues will be expected. For most of the issues we will be discussing, there are no right or wrong answers but there are informed and uninformed answers.
3. Current Events: Discussions of current events related to national security are an integral part of this course. A reliable and credible source of news should be consulted on a daily basis. Examples of appropriate sources are *The New York Times*, *L.A. Times*, or *Wall Street Journal*, either in print or online.
4. Examinations: There will be two exams, one at approximately mid-semester and the other during exam week. Make-up exams for the first exam will be given on the last day of scheduled classes only. There will be no make-up exam for the second examination. Do not make plans to depart campus until after the scheduled date for the second examination. I will not give the examination early.
5. Research Paper and Group Project: Each student will be required to complete a research paper and participate in a group project. Additional guidelines will be provided in a separate handout.

6. Unannounced Quizzes: I reserve the right to conduct pop quizzes if it becomes apparent that students are not completing the assigned readings on a regular basis. If such quizzes are administered, they will be averaged and used to raise or lower a student's final course grade by a half a letter grade.

Grading

Examinations (2@35% each)	70%
Research Paper	15%
Group Project	15%

90% - 100% = A

80% - 89% = B

70% - 79% = C

60% - 69% = D

below 60% = F

Cheating

Any attempt to cheat on an examination or to present someone else's work as your own for a written assignment will be subject to the most severe penalty the University allows.

Class Etiquette

Students are to arrive and be prepared to begin class on time. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off and stored out of sight. No recording devices will be permitted. No one should talk while someone else is talking, nor should there be any comments meant for a classmate rather than the entire group. Classroom behavior should always be courteous, respectful of others, and consistent with the expectations set forth by the university.

Religious Holidays

If the date of any of the examinations conflicts with a religious holiday that you observe, please contact the instructor at least 2 weeks prior to the examination so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Official Extracurricular Activity

If the date of any of the examinations conflicts with an official extracurricular activity, please notify the instructor at least 2 weeks prior to the examination and provide official written notification no less than 1 week prior to the examination so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Disabilities

Learning Enhancement Services (LES) houses Disability Services, Learning Strategies and Supplemental Instruction. If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you need to contact LES for coordination of your academic accommodations. LES is located in the Reynolds Student Services Complex, suite 137. The phone is 702-895-0866 or TDD702- 895-0652. You may also visit their website at www.unlv.edu/studentlife/les.

Class Schedule

Dates for exams are firm. Dates for specific topics are estimates.

Date	Topic	Readings		
		Sarkesian	Jordan	Korb
29-Aug	Course Introduction	1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3	
5-Sep	Labor Day - No class			
12-Sep	I. National Security Participants and Process			
	A. Presidency and Exec Office of the President	5, 6 (116-124)	5	
	B. State Department	6 (105-110)		
19-Sep	C. Department of Defense	6 (110-116), 7, 8	8, 9	
	D. Other Executive Branch Agencies			
26-Sep	E. Intelligence Community	9	7	
	F. Covert Ops			
3-Oct	G. Congress		6	
	H. International Organizations and Alliances	13		
10-Oct	I. Policy Process	10	10	
	J. President and Congress	11		
	K. Public Interaction	12		
17-Oct	1st Exam			
	I. Security Policy and Military Doctrine			
24-Oct	A. Historical Perspective: Cold War through Vietnam		4, 12	
31-Oct	Post-Cold War		11	
7-Nov	B. Terrorism			
	C. Homeland Security			
14-Nov	Group Project Reports			
21-Nov	Group Project Reports			
28-Nov	D. Interactions with Other Policies	14	14	
5-Dec	III. Capstone Discussion			All
Finals Week	2nd Exam			