

PSC 403I: National Security Policy

Spring 2009

Instructor: Dr. Cathy Hanks

Email: Cathy.Hanks@unlv.edu

Office: Wright Hall A218

Phone: 895-3757

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am to 11:15 am, Fridays 7:45 to 8:15 am

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

- Sam Sarkesian, John Williams, and Stephen Cimbala. U.S. National Security: Policymakers, Processes, and Politics 4th edition (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2008)

In addition to this text, there will be readings available on the Internet or on the class WebCampus site.

Course Objectives

Requirements

1. Class Participation: 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 either in print or online. Examples of appropriate sources are: *L.A. Times*, *New York Times*, *CNN*, *PBS* (“*The News Hour*”). At the beginning of 10 of the class sessions, students are to submit a short description of the developments of a current event related to national security on an index card. Put your name and the date at the top of the card.
2. Readings: You are required to prepare for each class by completing the assigned readings. This will enable you to both participate in class discussions and benefit from the lecture material and other students’ views.
3. Examinations: There will be two exams, one at approximately mid-semester and the other at the end of the course. Make-up exams for the first exam will be given only with formal documentation of a serious illness or emergency. There will be no make-up exam for the second examination.
4. Research Papers: Each student will be required to complete two research papers and participate in a group oral presentation. Guidelines will be provided in a separate handout.

Grading

Class Participation	10%
Examinations (2@15% each)	30%
Research Paper #1: Use of Military Force	30%
Research Paper #1: U. S. National Security Policy toward a second country (written 25%, oral 5%)	30%

A = 100–93.0	B = 86.9–83.0	C = 76.9–73.0	D = 66.9–63.0
A- = 92.9–90.0	B- = 82.9–80.0	C- = 72.9–70.0	D- = 62.9–60.0
B+ = 89.9–87.0	C+ = 79.9–77.0	D+ = 69.9– 67.0	F = 59.9–0

Academic Integrity

“Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path.” - *Student Academic Misconduct Policy*

For this course, any attempt to cheat on an examination or to present someone else’s work (including material copied from the Internet) as your own for a written assignment will be subject to the most severe penalty the University allows.

Classroom Etiquette

- Students must arrive on time and be prepared to begin class on time. If late arrivals become a problem, the doors will be locked once class has started.
- Cell phones, lap top computers, and pagers must be turned off and stored out of sight.
- No recording devices will be permitted.
- No food or beverage (except water) is allowed in the classroom.
- Classroom behavior should always be courteous, respectful of others, and consistent with the expectations set forth by the university.

Religious Holidays and Extracurricular Activities

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

Writing Center and Other Student Assistance

One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-301. Although some drop-in times are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling (702) 895-3908. When you go to your appointment, please bring a copy of your assignment and two copies of any writing that you may have completed on it. One copy will be for you to use, and the second copy will be for the consultant to use. Another source of information on UNLV organizations whose purpose is to support students' academic activities, a short description of their function, and contact information can be found at http://tlc.unlv.edu/student_success.htm

Disabilities

UNLV complies with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and offers reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137, and the contact numbers are: VOICE (702) 895-0866, TTY (702) 895-0652, FAX (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: <http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/>.