

TR 9:25-10:40 AM
Classroom: SB 308
Phone: 305 284-2403
jdreyer@miami.edu

Office: 314 D Jenkins
Office Hours: TR 10:45 AM-12:45 PM;
T 2:00-3:00 PM

U.S. Defense Policy

POL 349 0
Spring 2001

Description

This course examines key problems of national security in the post-Cold War environment. Of particular concern will be the structure and functioning of the US defense establishment and its interactions with those of its most probable adversaries and allies. Readings and lectures will acquaint students with the constraints on, and options open to, policy planners, and with the institutional elements of the decision-making process.

Requirements

Two hour exams, to count 30% *each* of the final grade; one final exam, one and one half hours in length, to count 40% of the final grade. The final exam will be cumulative only in the most general sense of the word: i.e. it is assumed that the student has mastered the material covered in the period up to the hour exam, and there will be no specific questions based on that material in the final. However, students are expected to retain, and be able to draw on, the general principles learned earlier. This course is not available for writing credit or honors credit.

Make-up Exams

Make-up exams will be given only to those who have serious emergencies and notify me prior to the exam. Medical excuses **must** be accompanied by a note from a physician or confirmation from the campus health service. Hour exam make-ups will be given immediately after the final exam, which will take 90 minutes of a scheduled 150 minute period; there will be no exceptions to this. Those who have no make-up to take are, of course, free to leave early. Your final is on Thursday May 3 from 11 AM to 12:30; make-ups from 12:30-1:30 PM. Bear this in mind and make no other plans for this time period.

Grading Policy

Both hour exams and final will be composed of (a) a longer-essay section and (b) a short-answer section. Grades are not curved; in theory, everyone can either get an A or fail. Grades for hour exams will be given out in class approximately one week after the exam.

A perfect score on hour exam I and II will be 30 points each; a perfect score on the final exam is 40 points. Your final grade will be calculated by adding these together: 100=A+; 82=B-; 79=C+ etc.

There are only three ways to get final grades:

1. bring a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope with you to the final exam. I'll send it out to you, including your grade on the final exam, the same day I turn in the grade sheet This is the most reliable way to get your grade, and generally the least trouble for you. It is also the *only* way to learn your grade on the final exam
2. consult EASY (neither this nor method 3 will give you your grade on the final exam)
3. wait for the registrar to send you your grades.

Do not call or visit the office to ask when EASY will release grades or to find out grades, since this is a very busy time of year for us. The staff will not give out grades to those who visit or call. Your grade is your grade, and will be changed *only* if a mathematical error has been made. Under no circumstances will extra credit work be assigned. A grade of incomplete may be given only to students who are in passing status and who are unable to take an examination because of exceptional circumstances such as serious illness. This is university policy, and will be strictly adhered to.

- Readings (a) POL 349 course packet, available at the UM bookstore
 (b) Wilson, George, *This War Really Matters: Inside the Fight for Defense Dollars* (Washington, D.C., 2000, CQ Press)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

all readings except for the Wilson book are in your course packet

Week or Day of Topic

Jan 16 **Introduction: The Domestic Structure of National Security**

Jan 23 **Strategy and Tactics**

- Readings: (a) Paret, "Clausewitz," in Peter Paret, ed., *Makers of Modern Strategy*, Princeton University Press, 1986, pp. 186-213.
 (b) Shy, "Jomini." in *Ibid.*, pp. 143-185.
 (c) Dunlap, "Preliminary Observations on Asymmetrical Warfare and the Western Mindset" in Lloyd Matthews, *Challenging the U.S. Symmetrically and Asymmetrically: Can America Be Defeated?*, U.S. Army War College Strategic Studies Institute, 1998, pp. 1-17.

Feb 6 **The Defense Budget and Strategic Planning**

Reading: Wilson, entire book

Feb 13 **Arms Control**

Reading: Jonathan Schell, "The Folly of Arms Control," *Foreign Affairs*, Sept/Oct 2000, pp. 22-46

Feb 20 **Hour exam I**, on all units completed to date.

Feb 22 **Lessons Learned (?) From Past Wars**

Readings:

- (a) Summers, *On Strategy: A Critical Analysis of the Vietnam War* Presidio Press, Novato, CA. 1982, pp. 11-20.
 (b) Paul Fussell, *Wartime: Understanding and Behavior in the Second World War*, Oxford University Press, New York, 1989, pp. 129-141.

Mar 8 **Intelligence and National Security**

Reading: Richard Betts, "Intelligence 'Failures'," *World Politics*, October 1978, pp. 679-693.

Mar 10-18 **SPRING VACATION:** no classes

Mar 22 **Hour exam II**, on all units completed to date

Mar 27 **Military Recruitment and Retention**

Reading: Barkawi, et al "Rights and Fights: Sexual Orientation and Military Effectiveness," *International Security*, Summer 1999, pp. 181-201.

Mar 29 **The United Nations and Defense Policy**

Reading: Roland Paris, "Blue Helmet Blues: the End of the UN as a Security Organization," *Washington Quarterly*, Winter 1997, pp. 191-206.

Apr 5 **Terrorism, Limited War, and Counterinsurgency**

Reading: Steven Simon and Daniel Benjamin, "America and the New Terrorism," *Survival*, Spring 2000, pp. 59-75

Apr 12 **Chemical and Biological Warfare**

Reading: John Steinbruner, "Biological Weapons: A Plague Upon All Houses" *Foreign Policy*, Winter 1998, pp. 85-96.

Apr 24 **Controlling Arms Sales; the Value of Sanctions**

Reading: Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, "Making Economic Sanctions Work," *Survival*, Autumn 2000, pp. 105-127.

April 26 **Conclusions: Could War Become Obsolete?**

Reading: Eliot Cohen, "Defending America in the Twenty-First Century," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov/Dec 2000, pp. 40-56.

Apr 28-May 1 **Reading Days**

May 3 (Thursday) **Final Exam** 11AM-12:30 PM, in SB 308, our regular classroom. Makeups immediately thereafter.