

International Security

Section 1

Instructor/Title	Dr. Martin KOSSA
Office/Building	

【Course Outline / Description】

This course will expose students to key events and issues in the field of international security. Empirically driven this course will range across the major security episodes of the 20th century before focusing on a set of key issues currently confronting governments. The course is divided into three sections. It begins with an introduction of the key theoretical paradigms that attempt to explain issues of security in international relations. The subsequent lectures will trace the emergence of the global state system and focus on traditional security topics. The second section will more closely analyze non-traditional security issues, including health, environmental and energy security as well as terrorism and international organized crime. The third section will focus on emerging issues in international security: outer space and power transitions (the rise of China). Although this course is international in scope, it will more specifically draw upon Asian examples and issues.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Recognize the historical background, nature and scope in security studies
- Analyze theoretical approaches in the examination of international security affairs through data interpretation and information gathering
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in explaining the differences between security challenges
- Demonstrate effective oral communication skills in a team and individually
- Describe major security challenges of the contemporary period
- Explain the difference between traditional and non-traditional forms of security and to be able to apply the relevant models to such challenges

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

Class 1: Course Introduction 29/01/2020

- Read the syllabus and prepare questions regarding the course
- No other reading assigned

Class 2: Lecture – Key Concepts and Theoretical Perspectives 31/01/2020

- Peter Hough, *Understanding Global Security*, 4th edition (New York: Routledge, 2018), Chapter 1 – Security and Securitization.

Class 3: Lecture – The Emergence of a Global System of States 1 (WW1 and WW2)

05/02/2020

- Samuel R. Williamson, Jr., "The Origins of World War I," *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18, no. 4 (Spring 1988), pp. 795-818.
- Scott D. Sagan, "The Origins of the Pacific War," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18, no. 4 (1988), pp 893-922.

Class 4: Student Reading Discussions – The League of Nations 07/02/2020

- A. LeRoy Bennett and James K. Oliver, *International Organizations: Principles*

and Issues, 7th edition (New Jersey: Prentice Hall), Chapter 2.

Class 5: Lecture – The Emergence of a Global System of States 2 (Decolonization, the Cold War and the Contemporary International Order) 12/02/2020

- Paul Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* (London: Fontana Press, 1989), Chapter 7.
- Michael Cox, "From the end of the cold war to a new global era?" in *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 6th edition, edited by John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), pp. 65-79.

Class 6: Student Presentation 14/02/2020

- Topic: *On the brink of nuclear war: The Cuban missile crisis*

Class 7: Lecture – War, Alliances, and the Use of Force 19/02/2020

- Paul D. Williams, "War," in *Security Studies: An Introduction*, 2nd edition, edited by Paul D. Williams (New York: Routledge, 2013), pp. 187-205.

Class 8: Student Reading Discussions – Asian strategic outlook 21/02/2020

- Wang Dong, "Two Asias? China's Rise, Dual Structure, and the Alliance System in East Asia," in *Strategic Adjustment and the Rise of China: Power and Politics in East Asia*, edited by Robert S. Ross and Øystein Tunsjø (Cornell: Cornell University Press), pp. 100-134.

Class 9: Lecture – Weapons of Mass Destruction 26/02/2020

- Sheena Chestnut Greatens, "Nuclear Proliferation," in *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 6th edition, edited by John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), pp. 372-386.

Class 10: Student Presentation 28/02/2020

- Topic: *Given their immediate security environment, should Japan and South Korea develop and arm themselves with nuclear weapons?*
- Scott D. Sagan, "Why do states build nuclear weapons? Three models in search of a bomb," *International Security* 21, no. 3 (Winter, 1996-1997), pp. 54-86.

Class 11: Quiz 1 (in class) 04/03/2020

Class 12: Lecture – Terrorism 06/03/2020

- James D. Kiras, "Terrorism and globalization," in *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 6th edition, edited by John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), pp. 357-371.

Class 13: Documentary 11/03/2020

- *Countdown to Zero*
(<https://www.filmsforaction.org/watch/countdown-to-zero-2010/>)

Class 14: Lecture – Health and Security 13/03/2020

- Catherine Lo Yuk Ping and Nicholas Thomas, "Introduction: Securitizing Health," in *Health Security and Governance*, edited by Nicholas Thomas (London: Routledge, July 2012), pp. 1-17.
- Peter Hough, *Understanding Global Security*, 4th edition (New York: Routledge, 2018), Chapter 7 – Health threats to security.

- Class 15: Student Presentation** **25/03/2020**
- Topic: *Which is a greater threat to the health of the general population, obesity or HIV/AIDS?*
- Class 16: Lecture – Transnational Organized Crime** **27/03/2020**
- James Bergeron, "Transnational Organized Crime and International Security," *The RUSI Journal* 158, no. 2 (2013), pp. 6-9, DOI: 10.1080/03071847.2013.787728.
 - Peter Hough, *Understanding Global Security*, 4th edition (New York: Routledge, 2018), Chapter 10 – Criminal threats to security.
- Class 17: Student Presentation** **01/04/2020**
- Topic: *The global implications of Chinese/Japanese crime organizations*
 - In-class video: *Asia's meth boom*
(<https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/10least/2019/04/asia-meth-boom-190411054050483.html>)
- Class 18: Lecture – Environment and Security** **03/04/2020**
- Peter Hough, *Understanding Global Security*, 4th edition (New York: Routledge, 2018), Chapter 6 – Environmental threats to security.
 - Alan Dupont, "The Strategic Implications of Climate Change," *Survival* 50, no. 3 (2008), pp. 29-54
- Class 19: Student Presentation** **08/04/2020**
- Topic: *Water, peace and war*
- Class 20: Lecture – Energy Security** **10/04/2020**
- Michael T. Klare, "Energy Security," in *Security Studies: An Introduction*, 2nd edition, edited by Paul D. Williams (New York: Routledge, 2013), pp. 535-551.
 - Marcus DuBois King and Jay Gullede, "The Climate Change and Energy Security Nexus," *Fletcher Forum of World Affairs* 37, no. 2 (2013), pp. 25-44.
- Class 21: Student Presentation** **15/04/2020**
- Topic: *Considering the future development of Asian states, should energy security be prioritized over environmental security?*
- Class 22: Documentary** **17/04/2020**
- *Inside Japan's nuclear breakdown*
(<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/japans-nuclear-meltdown/>)
- Class 23: Quiz 2 (in class)** **22/04/2020**
- Class 24: Lecture – Outer Space and International Security** **24/04/2020**
- Nayef Al-Rodhan, "The interplay between Outer Space Security and Terrestrial Global Security," *Oxpol*, July 6, 2018, <https://blog.politics.ox.ac.uk/the-interplay-between-outer-space-security-and-terrestrial-global-security/>
- Class 25: Student Presentation** **29/04/2020**
- Topic: *Who is winning the modern space race?*
 - Joan Johnson-Freese and David Burbach, "The Outer Space Treaty and the weaponization of space," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 75, no.4 (2019), pp. 137-141.

- Class 26: Lecture – Power Transitions: The Rise of China 1** **01/05/2020**
- Marc Lanteigne, *Chinese Foreign Policy: An Introduction*, 4th edition (New York: Routledge, 2019), Chapter 1.
- Class 27: Lecture – Power Transitions: The Rise of China 2** **08/05/2020**
- Aaron L. Friedberg, "The Future of U.S.-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" *International Security* 30, no. 2 (Fall 2005), pp. 7-45.
- Class 28: Student Reading Discussions – Can China rise peacefully?** **13/05/2020**
- John J. Mearsheimer, "Can China Rise Peacefully?" *The National Interest*, October 25, 2014, <https://nationalinterest.org/commentary/can-china-rise-peacefully-10204>.
- Class 29: Student Presentation** **15/05/2020**
- Topic: *What is the biggest threat facing the global community today? Why?*
- Class 30: Course Revision** **20/05/2020**

Mode:

This course combines lectures, student presentations and student reading discussions. Each lecture class will include a presentation by the course instructor (one hour) followed by a class discussion. Each lecture also has one or two main reading assignments which the students are required to read before the class in order to actively participate in class discussions that will follow the lecture.

Student presentation and reading discussion sessions will be, for the most part, student-led classes. At the beginning of each of these classes, two to three students (depending on the class size) will give a short (5 minute) oral report on an analysis or op-ed they read regarding international security/politics and explain the issues and challenges at stake. Students can use the websites listed below (but are not limited to them only). Students will be selected for this assignment one class before the oral report delivery. They will also be asked to coordinate among themselves so as to ensure that each student covers a different topic. This will be counted towards the participation mark.

After these short oral reports, students will have either a presentation on a pre-selected topic or will be asked to discuss the selected reading material during the reading discussion session. Both of these classes, student presentations and the reading discussion sessions, are designed to expand on the topic of the lecture.

【Textbooks/Reading Materials】

Students are not required to purchase any textbooks for this course. Weekly reading assignments will be posted on blackboard. That said, some of the main source material will come from the following volumes:

- Peter Hough, *Understanding Global Security*, 4th edition (New York: Routledge, 2018).
- John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens, eds. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 6th edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014).

Students are also encouraged to familiarize themselves and to read the following websites that offer detailed analyses on international security issues:

- War on the Rocks - analyzing security and strategic issues (<https://warontherocks.com/>)
- Lawfare – providing insights on the legal aspects of US politics and international

- security (<https://www.lawfareblog.com/>)
- The Monkey Cage – US political scientists’ analysis of international politics (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/>)
- Political Violence at a Glance – dedicated to conflict analysis (<https://politicalviolenceataglance.org/>)
- Center for Strategic and International Studies (<https://www.csis.org/>)
- Center for a New American Security (<https://www.cnas.org/>)
- Brookings Institution (<https://www.brookings.edu/>)
- RUSI (<https://rusi.org/>)

Section 4

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

Class participation (20%)

Quizzes 1, 2 (30%)

Student presentation (30%)

Final examination (20%)

Class participation: Active class participation (not simply attendance) entails asking questions of seminar presenters, raising issues from lectures, and generally contributing to the intellectual environment of the course.

Quizzes: There will be two quizzes throughout the semester – Quiz 1 on 04/03/2020 worth 15% and Quiz 2 on 22/04/2020 worth 15%. These will be in-class, essay style quizzes covering the lectures and main reading materials. They will be closed-book, with no external reference materials allowed. No make-up quizzes will be given.

Student presentation: Students will be required to give an in-class seminar on the topic. Each presentation should run for 30 minutes, followed by 15 minutes of Q&A. All topics must be covered. Quality questions from the audience are expected and will count towards participation marks.

Final examination: This will be conducted during the examination week at the end of the semester. The final examination will be in the form of an in-class essay style quiz covering selected lectures and reading material. It will be closed-book, with no external reference materials allowed.

Section 5

Class etiquette:

- Make sure that you are always on time
- Noisy behavior, eating, drinking etc. during the class must not take place in such a manner that it causes inconveniences to others
- People tend to have strong and differing opinions about some of the topics discussed in the course. Please be respectful towards your classmates and the instructor.
- Smartphones need to be on silent once students enter the classroom. You may use your laptops but only for class-related activities.