GOVT 444/002
“The War on Terror”

Spring 2016
TR 1:30-2:45 pm
Innovation Hall 105

Instructor: Mark N. Katz, Ph.D.
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Department of Public and International Affairs

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This course provides an overview of the many facets of the “War on Terror.”

Requirements: Two midterm exams (30% of grade each);
One final exam (30% of grade);
Class participation (10% of grade).

Textbook: Mark N. Katz, Leaving without Losing: The War
on Terror after Iraq and Afghanistan
**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Jan. 19 (T)—Introduction: What is the “War on Terror”?

Jan. 21 (R)—Al Qaeda and the Lead Up to 9/11

   Katz, *Leaving without Losing*, pp. 1-18

Jan. 26 (T)—Afghanistan

   C. Christine Fair, “The Other Drawdown in Afghanistan,” *Current History*, April 2015

Jan. 28 (R)—Iraq

   David Romano, “Iraq’s Descent into Civil War,” *Middle East Journal*, Autumn 2014

Feb. 2 (T)—Iran

   Mark N. Katz, “Mechanisms of an Iran-U.S. Rapprochement: Lessons from the Past,” Al Jazeera Center for Studies, April 2014,
   [http://studies.aljazeera.net/en/dossiers/2014/03/2014331114237923880.html](http://studies.aljazeera.net/en/dossiers/2014/03/2014331114237923880.html)

Feb. 4 (R)—Israel/Palestine


Feb. 9 (T)—Syria/Lebanon

   Samer Abboud, “How Syria Fell to Pieces,” *Current History*, December 2015;


Feb. 11 (R)—Egypt

   Emad El-Din Shahin, “Egypt’s Revolution Turned on its Head,” *Current History*, December 2015

Feb. 16 (T)—North Africa

Feb. 18 (R)—Yemen


Feb. 23 (T)—Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Monarchies


Feb. 25 (R)—Turkey

Jenny White, “Turkey at a Tipping Point,” *Current History*, December 2014

Mar. 1 (T)—The Caucasus


Mar. 3 (R)—FIRST MIDTERM

Mar. 7-11—SPRING BREAK

Mar. 15 (T)—Central Asia


Mar. 17 (R)—Pakistan

Humeira Iqtidar, “War-Weary Pakistan’s Internal Divides,” *Current History*, April 2015

Mar. 22 (T)—Africa


Mar. 24 (R)—Elsewhere

Mar. 29 (T)—The Evolution of American Foreign Policy
Katz, *Leaving without Losing*, pp. 21-45

Mar. 31 (R)—Alliance Relations


Apr. 5 (T)—SECOND MIDTERM

Apr. 7 (R)—The Russian View


Apr. 12 (T)—Impact of the “War on Terror”


Apr. 14 (R)—Role Playing Game Preparation

Apr. 19 (T)—Role Playing Game

Apr. 21 (R)—Is Leaving without Losing Possible?

Katz, *Leaving without Losing*, pp. 49-104

Apr. 26 (T)—The Geopolitics of the “War on Terror”

Katz, *Leaving without Losing*, pp. 107-133

Apr. 28 (R)—Future Directions


May 4-11 (?)—**FINAL EXAM**
**Students with Disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible and contact the Office of Disability Resources at (703) 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

**Honor Code:** George Mason University has an Honor Code which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. See honorcode.gmu.edu for more detailed information.

**Enrollment:** Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes.

- **Last Day to Add:** January 26, 2016
- **Last Day to Drop:** February 19, 2016

After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the Dean and is only allowed for non-academic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.