GOVT 745-001
International Security

Fall 2016
George Mason University

Room: Robinson B 108
Time: Monday 4:30pm

Professor: Colin Dueck
Office: Robinson A 219
Office hours: M 1-4 and by appointment
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Course requirements

1) Active and timely participation in seminar discussion (30%)
2) Seminar presentation (10%)
   Each student will make an oral presentation on selections from at least one week’s required readings. The purpose of the presentation will be to critique, and not to simply summarize a major reading for that week. Students presenting should prepare a one page handout for each member of class, to complement the presentation.
3) Review essay (10%)
   Write one short essay, of approximately 5 pages, on one of the week’s required readings. A hard copy of this essay is due in class the day of the assigned reading.
4) Research paper (50%)
   Write an analytical research paper of 15-20 pages on any of the issues, problems, or subjects discussed in this seminar. Due December 12th, by e-mail only.

Course readings

The following books are available for purchase at the GMU bookstore:
Karen Ballentine and Jack Sherman, eds., The Political Economy of Armed Conflict (Lynne Rienner, 2003)
Dianne P. Chamberlain, Cheap Threats (Georgetown University Press, 2016)
Benjamin Jensen, *Forging the Sword* (Georgetown University Press, 2016)
Thomas Mahnken and Joseph Maiolo, eds., *Strategic Studies* (Routledge, 2014 edition)
Mark Moyar, *A Question of Command* (Yale University Press, 2010)
Richard Rosecrance and Steven Miller, eds., *The Next Great War?* (MIT Press, 2014)
Caitlin Talmadge, *The Dictator’s Army* (Cornell University Press, 2015)

The following book is also recommended:

**Course schedule**

August 29   Introduction: strategy
Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*, Book 1, all; Book 2, chapters 1-3; Book 3, chapters 1-5; Book 8, all

September 12  The causes of war
Richard Rosecrance and Steven Miller, eds., *The Next Great War*, Introduction, chapters 2, 4-7, 9, 11-12, and 14
Dan Reiter, “Exploring the Bargaining Model of War,” *Perspectives on Politics* 1:1 (March 2003), 27-43

September 19   Insurgency and counter-insurgency
Mark Moyar, *A Question of Command*
September 26  Terrorism
Peter Neumann and Michael Smith, “Strategic terrorism,” in Mahnken, 309-328
Charles Lister, The Syrian Jihad

October 3  Civil conflict
Karen Ballentine and Jack Sherman, eds., The Political Economy of Armed Conflict, chapters 1-4, 7, 10
Barbara Walter, "Bargaining Failures and Civil War," Annual Review of Political Science 12 (June 2009), 243-261

October 11, 17  New wars versus old?
Recommended: Hew Strachan, ed., The Changing Character of War, chapters 1, 6-8, 11-14, 16, 18-19

October 24  Alliances
Jeremy Pressman, Warring Friends

October 31  Military effectiveness
Caitlin Talmadge, The Dictator’s Army
November 7  Military innovation


Benjamin Jensen, *Forging the Sword*

November 14  Nuclear proliferation


Matthew Fuhrman, *Atomic Assistance*

November 21  Coercive diplomacy

Thomas Schelling, "Arms and influence," and Daniel Byman and Matthew Waxman, "Kosovo and the great air power debate," in Mahnken, 105-126, 145-171

Dianne P. Chamberlain, *Cheap Threats*

November 28  Peacekeeping and humanitarian intervention

Virginia Page Fortna, *Does Peacekeeping Work?*


December 5  Does war have a future?


Bruno Tertrais, "The Demise of Ares: The End of War as We Know It?" *Washington Quarterly* 35:3 (Summer 2012), 7-22


December 12  Research papers due
International Security Studies - Topics

Air power
Alliances
Arms control
Arms races
Arms trade
Asymmetrical warfare
Biological weapons
Causes of war
Chemical weapons
Civil-military relations
Civil war
Climate change
Coalition warfare
Coercive diplomacy
Conflict resolution
Counter-insurgency and irregular warfare
Counter-terrorism
Critical security studies
Cyber warfare
Defense spending
Deterrence
Energy and security
Ethnic conflict
Geopolitics
Globalization and security
Grand strategy
Guerrilla warfare and insurgencies
Human security
Humanitarian intervention
Intelligence, war and security
International organizations and security
Laws of war
Mediation
Mercenaries and private security forces
Military doctrine
Military effectiveness
Military innovation
Military power
National security strategy
Nationalism
Nation-building and stability operations
Net assessment
Neutrality and non-alignment
Non-state actors and war
Nuclear weapons
Offense-defense balance
Peacekeeping
Peace studies
Piracy
Political psychology and war
Proliferation
Rational choice and war
Refugees and war
Regional security
Revolutions in military affairs
Sea power
Strategic culture
Strategy
Technology and warfare
Terrorism
Transnational crime
War termination