This combined undergraduate-graduate course analyses the relationship of military force to politics. Nuclear war and deterrence, conventional war, revolutionary war and counter-insurgency are examined from the perspectives of the U.S., Russia, China, and other contemporary military powers.

Foreign policy provides the context within which one should examine the existence of and the utility of the military instrument of foreign policy. And, as Harry Brandon has said, foreign policy begins at home. Therefore, the introductory part of the course deals with the theory and politics of civil-military relations and examines the military establishments of the major powers with special emphasis on those of the USA, Russia/CIS, and China. This section will also explore the problems of measuring equivalence.

The second part investigates the various theories of conflict, the problems of nuclear war and deterrence, the diverse forms of conventional war, and the efficacy of war termination strategies. The final section contains case studies of some of these problems.

The aim of this course is to help acquaint students of international relations with the vital importance of the military instrument in the formulation and implementation of foreign policy and in the functioning of the international system. It is also hoped that thus they will be able to employ additional tools of analysis in the study of international relations.

Format and requirements:

The course will employ a seminar format. After an introductory lecture the course will be turned into a seminar in which students present brief (15 to 20 minutes) weekly reports followed by discussion. Each student is responsible for two of these oral presentations during the course. In addition, students will write two papers of four thousand to five thousand words each. (Graduate students: one research paper of nine to twelve thousand words). The two papers will be worth 30% each and class presentations and participation will contribute the final 40%.

Prerequisite: POL 208Y, or permission of instructor.
Essay Due Dates:
First essay: November 24, 2011
Second essay: March 1, 2012

Late Penalty: 2% per day (includes weekends)

Agenda (with some of the key readings)

1) Civil - Military Relations


Waltz, Man, the State and War, New York, Columbia University Press 1959.


2) **Force and Politics**


* Carl von Clausewitz, On War, edited and translated by Peter Paret, Michael Howard, and Bernard Brodie (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1976), Ch. 1 (pp. 75-89).


* Christopher Layne, "Kant or Cant", International Security, Fall 1994, pp. 5-49.


S. P. Huntington, "Arms Races: Prerequisites and Results" Public Policy, (1958), pp. 41 - 86.

3) **Power Projection**


4) The Military Establishments


* SIPRI Yearbook, Stockholm.


5) Measuring Equivalence: nuclear forces


Paul Nitze, "Comment and Correspondence", Foreign Affairs, January 1976.


6) Measuring Equivalence: conventional forces


7) Microcosmic Theories of Conflict


_____________________, Beyond the Pleasure Principle, New York, Bantam 1959.


Peter A. Corning, "The Biological Bases of Behaviour and Some Implications for Political Science", World Politics, XXIII, April 1971.


Kenneth N. Waltz, Man, the State and War, New York, Columbia University Press 1959, Ch. II.


James Silverberg and J. Patrick Gray eds. Introduction to Aggression and Peacefulness in Humans and Other Primates, Oxford 1992

8) Macrococsmic Theories of Conflict


Quincy Wright, A Study of War, Revised. Chicago, University of Chicago, 1965.


9) **Nuclear War:**

   **The Technological Component**

Military Technology (Journal)

* Jane's All the World's Aircraft, London (yearly).


Kurt Guthe, “‘Strengthening the Spirit’: Increasing the Utility of the B-2 Bomber for Twenty-First Century Conflict”, *Comparative Strategy*, April-June 1998 pp.139-84


Kincade "Over the Technological Horizon" Daedalus, Winter 1981.


10) Nuclear War: Problems and Choices


11) **Deterrence and Nuclear Deterrence**


12) Criticism of Deterrence and Certain Problems of Arms Control


13) **Russia/CIS, Chinese and American Approaches to Deterrence and Nuclear War: Russia/CIS/China**


* Aurel Braun, “Enlargement and the Perils of Containment”, in Aurel Braun ed., *NATO-Russia


pp. 161-169.


14) Russia/CIS and American Approaches to Deterrence and Nuclear War: The United States


Spring 2003.


15) **Conventional War: large-scale inter-state conflict**


Fen Osler Hampson and David Malone, *From Reaction to Conflict Prevention: Opportunities in the UN System*, (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002).


16) Conventional War: internal war


Buchan, "The Indochina War & World Politics", Foreign Affairs, July 1975.


F. Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth, N.Y. Grove Press 1968.

17) Counterinsurgency/Counterterrorism


* Sir Robert Thompson, No Exit from Vietnam, Basic, 1971.


18) **Termination of War**


Roy Licklider, ed., *Stopping the Killing: How Civil Wars End*

Krishna Kumar, *Rebuilding Societies After Civil War: Critical Roles for International Assistance*

I.W. Zartman, ed., *Collapsed States: The Disintegration and Restoration of Legitimate Authority*


M. Howard, ed., *Restraints on War: Studies in the Limitation of Armed Conflict*.


Case Studies

19) Hiroshima and Nagasaki: The use of nuclear weapons

20) The 1973 American Nuclear Alert

21) The Case of the SS-20s/Pershings & Cruise

22) The Korean War: Limits on the Use of Power

23) The Invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968: the utility of force

24) The USSR and Afghanistan: The projection of force


The following is a partial listing of suggested readings for some case studies. The readings may be used as a starting point for additional research. The students are encouraged to check the sources and bibliographies contained in the suggested readings as well as the other sources discussed in class.

19) HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI: THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS


Bernstein, B. "The Dropping of the A-Bomb", in Centre Magazine, No. 16, March-April 1983,
"The Bomb", in *Time*, Special Issue #34, October 1983.


20) **THE 1973 AMERICAN NUCLEAR ALERT**


21) **THE CASE OF THE SS-20S/PERSHINGS AND CRUISE**


Aviation Week and Space Technology:

30 May 1983, p. 27.
22) THE KOREAN WAR: LIMITS ON THE USE OF POWER

* Kongdan Oh and Ralph Hassig, “Putting Together the North Korea Puzzle”, *FPRI* article, 6/2009.


23) THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1968: THE UTILITY OF FORCE


Hinterhoff, E. "Military Implications of the Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia" in


"Czechoslovakia: The Brief Spring of 1968", in Problems of Communism, November 1968, pp. 2-68.


24) THE USSR/USA AND AFGHANISTAN: THE PROJECTION OF FORCE


