



SUFFOLK
UNIVERSITY
MADRID CAMPUS

GVT 308 M1 – INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dr. Ana Belén Soage

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Course Information:

Catalog Description: This course examines the dynamic evolution of the debates on International Security as well as the transformations in the main global and regional security institutions such as UN and NATO. Based upon International Relations perspectives, it analyzes the traditional definitions of security at the national, regional and international levels of analysis since 1945. Likewise, it studies how states and international institutions have revisited the concepts, policies and strategies of security since the end of the Cold War and after the September 11 events, from realist perspectives to the Copenhagen School of security studies.

Instructor's Additional Course Description: The sessions are divided into three main areas. First, we will analyze key theories and approaches to understand the different trends within the field of international security. Second, we will examine changes in traditional threats to international security and new issues which have been added to the security agenda. Third, we will discuss the role of different actors and the increasing importance of nonstate actors for the study of international security.

Credit Hours: 4

This course follows the US Federal Government's Credit Hour definition: "An amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutional established equivalence that reasonably approximates no less than:

- (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
- (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours."

For full up-to-date statement:

[https://cihe.neasc.org/sites/cihe.neasc.org/files/downloads/POLICIES/Pp111-Policy On Credits And Degrees.pdf](https://cihe.neasc.org/sites/cihe.neasc.org/files/downloads/POLICIES/Pp111-Policy%20On%20Credits%20And%20Degrees.pdf)

To complete this course, students will need to dedicate, at a minimum, the following amount of time to the listed activities:

Assignments/Activities	Engagement Estimate	Engagement Hours
Class attendance	3 hours x 15 weeks	45 hours
Course readings		45 hours
Research paper	15 hours research, 5 hours drafting	20 hours
Conflict report	15 hours research, 5 hours drafting	20 hours
Book review	15 hours research, 5 hours drafting	20 hours
Midterm exam	15 hours preparation	15 hours
Final exam	15 hours preparation	15 hours
TOTAL		180 HOURS

Textbook/Course Materials:

Required textbooks:

- Paul D. Williams, ed. *Security Studies. An Introduction*, 2nd Edition (New York: Routledge, 2013).
- Christopher Hugues & Lai Yew Meng, eds. *Security Studies. A Reader* (New York: Routledge, 2011).

Required for book reviews:

- Mary Kaldor, *New And Old Wars: Organized Violence In A Global Era* (Cambridge [England]/Malden, MA: Polity Press 2012).
- Sean McFate, *The Modern Mercenary. Private Armies And What They Mean For World Order* (Oxford/New York: Oxford University Press, 2014).
- S. Neil MacFarlane & Yuen Foong Khong, *Human Security And The United Nations: A Critical History* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, c2006).
- Jonathan Powell, *Terrorists At The Table: Why Negotiating Is The Only Way To Peace* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015).
- Don E. Scheid (ed.), *The Ethics Of Armed Humanitarian Intervention* (Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014).
- Phillip E. Tetlock, *Expert Political Judgment: How Good Is It? How Can We Know?* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005)
- Brandon Valeriano & Ryan C. Maness, *Cyber War Versus Cyber Realities: Cyber Conflict In The International System* (Oxford/New York: Oxford University Press, 2015)
- Cecilia Marcela Bailliet & Kjetil Mujezinovi (eds.), *Promoting Peace Through International Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015)
- Peter Stearns (ed.), *Demilitarization In The Contemporary World* (Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2013)
- Valentin Naumescu (ed.), *Democracy And Security In the 21st Century: Perspectives On A Changing World* (Newcastle Upon Tyne, England: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014)

In addition, please consult the press and specialized publications, e.g. *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*, *The Washington Post*, *The Independent*... and listen to relevant podcasts, e.g. *The World Next Week*, *War College*, *FP's The Editor's Roundtable*...

Course Goals & Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will know/understand:	Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:	How the student will be assessed on these learning outcomes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The theories of international security to explain instability in international relations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construct arguments and counterarguments based on the main theoretical approaches of international security.• Summarize, synthesize, and cite sources and inter-subjective facts to explain insecurity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrated knowledge in class discussion• Possible pop quizzes.• Midterm & final exam• Research paper• Presentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the causes, evolution and management of intra and interstate conflicts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interpret international facts as sources of conflict.• Connect international crises with the internal conflicts of states.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the role of international organizations in managing traditional and non-traditional threats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage in rational thinking by recognizing the limitations and contributions of international security cooperation.• Identify the main demographic, environmental, and human rights problems as sources of threat at the global scale.• Explain how the international organizations contribute to ameliorate social and economic global security problems.	

Course requirements:

The course will follow a lecture/seminar format, based on instructor's lectures, extensive readings, class discussion, student group presentations and book reviews. Thus, each student is expected to read all the assigned readings in order to identify and discuss the central arguments of each one of the topics as well as to make significant contributions to the class. The elements to be considered during the course are the following:

1. *Exams.* There will be two in-class examinations in this course: October 17th and December 14th. There will be no make-up exams unless the instructor has been notified ahead of time. If a student cannot attend an examination, s/he must inform the instructor as soon as possible, and prior to the day of the exam. If the student has a valid and documented excuse, s/he will be allowed to take the exam before the regularly scheduled exam time.
2. *Book review:* Based on the assigned reading schedule, students will write a book review during the semester. The book review must be circulated to the class by email 48 hours before the oral presentation; there will be a penalization of one percent per each three hours of late distribution of it. The presentation to the class must summarize the written component in 20 minutes. The book review will follow the following structure: Abstract; summary; analytical critique.
3. *Conflict report:* Every week students will write and present to the class the analysis of an international conflict. The report must be circulated to the class by email 48 hours before the oral presentation. The conflict report should contain the following sections: Origins of the conflict; actors involved, both internal and external, and their aims; evolution of the conflict and peace initiatives; and current state of affairs.
4. *Research paper:* Students will be required to submit a research paper on the topic agreed on with the instructor. The instructor will monitor the progress of the research during the course as indicated in the guidelines for final papers. The Research Paper is due by November 23rd, digitally and as a hard copy.

5. *Participation in class*: Students are expected to make significant contributions to the course by participating in class and delivering short assignments on time. Class participation provides the opportunity to practice persuasive skills as well as the ability to listen. Comments that are vague, repetitive, unrelated to the current topic, disrespectful of others, or without sufficient foundation will be evaluated negatively. What matters is the quality of one's contributions to the class discussion, not the number of times one speaks.

6. *Attendance*: Students are expected to attend class regularly. Each session of the course represents 0.77% of the final grade. Students arriving later than 9:10 pm or leaving before the end of the class are welcomed; however, their physical presence will not be credited as attendance.

Grading/Evaluation:

- Midterm exam: 20%
- Final exam: 20%
- Research paper: 15%
- Book review: 15%
- Conflict report: 15%
- Participation in class: 15%
- Late assignments will be graded 5% down for each delayed day or portion thereof.

Grading scale:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| • A: 100-93% | • C: 77-73 |
| • A-: 92-90 | • C-: 72-70 |
| • B+: 89-88 | • D+: 69-68 |
| • B: 87-83 | • D: 67-63 |
| • B-: 82-80 | • D-: 62-60 |
| • C+: 79-78 | • F: Less than 59 |

Course and Classroom Policies:

We shall seek to make this class open, respectful and engaged. Please come prepared to participate in each class session, and help create an environment of respect for all religions, ideologies, ethnic groups and gender identities. Courtesy towards each other is expected. Therefore, no food or drink (except water) should be brought into class. Please refrain from using cell phones. It is expected that students will remain in the classroom throughout the class meeting (except for emergencies).

Please be on time to class; those arriving once teaching has begun will have it counted as half an absence. **The Madrid Campus requires regular attendance. Absences will affect your grade**, and 20% of your final grade will depend on your participation in class. All required assignments are to be submitted on time. In deference to your punctual peers, final papers that are handed in late will be marked down. If a problem arises regarding attending a class session or delivering work on time, please speak to the instructor beforehand. Minor allowances for justified absences can be made if enough advance notice has been given.

Participation/Attendance Policy:

The SUMC Student Handbook states the following:

Once a student is registered for a course, attendance at every meeting of every class is expected, including those held in the first week of the semester. A maximum of two unjustified absences is permitted. Each additional absence will cause the final course grade to be lowered by one-third of a letter grade, i.e., from A to A-; A- to B+; B+ to B, etc.

Excessive absences in a course will have a negative effect on the final grade. When a student is absent, the quality of his or her work in a course will deteriorate since material missed in class sessions can rarely be made up satisfactorily, even though the student remains responsible for that work.

Please note that even when a student has a justified reason for missing class, such as illness, the negative academic impact on learning will be the same as if the absence were for spurious reasons.

In this course, any absence due to illness should be justified by a note from the student's physician or other health professional confirming the day(s) on which the student was unable to attend class. A written excuse from a student's host parent or residence supervisor is also acceptable.

In the event that a class meeting is unexpectedly cancelled, students will be expected to continue with readings or other assignments as originally scheduled. Any assignments due or class activities (e.g., a quiz, exam or presentation) planned for such a cancelled class are due at the next class meeting unless other instructions are communicated.

Disability Statement:

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in my classroom.

If formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at the main Campus in Boston so that I am notified of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. Check the ODS web site at www.suffolk.edu/disability for information on accommodations.

Student Resources:

SUMC provides a range of student services, both academic and personal. To learn more about course-related tutorials and academic workshops, refer to the SUMC Student Handbook, Section 2 "Academic Policies and Services". Section 5, "Living in Madrid", contains information on the medical and mental health resources, including an English-speaking therapist, available to you.

Midterm Review:

At midterm, on week 6, you will be given a midterm grade based on your progress to date and performance on assignments, quizzes and midterm exam. Midterm grades of C- or below will be reported to the Madrid Campus Academic Standing Committee, with an explanation of what I believe has contributed to that grade: excessive absences, poor time management or study skills, lack of effort, difficulty with the course material or with writing or language skills, etc. The Academic Standing Committee or I may contact you to suggest strategies for addressing these difficulties. I strongly encourage you to visit me during my office hours so we may discuss how you can be successful in this class.

Academic Misconduct:

www.suffolk.edu/about/mission-history/policies-procedures/academic-misconduct-policy

Suffolk University expects all students to be responsible individuals with high standards of conduct. Students are expected to practice ethical behavior in all learning environments and scenarios, including classrooms and laboratories, internships and practica, and study groups and academic teams. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, use of unauthorized electronic devices, self-plagiarism, fabrication or falsification of data, and other types of academic misconduct are treated as serious offenses that initiate a formal process of inquiry, one that may lead to disciplinary sanctions.

Student work will be thoroughly examined for academic integrity and may be scanned using plagiarism detection software. A faculty member suspecting academic misconduct will contact the student using the Suffolk email address to schedule a meeting and will make all effort to do so within five business days of

detecting the incident. During the meeting, the faculty member will present the documentation that led to suspected academic misconduct. Resolution of the incident will be according to the procedures outlined in the SUMC Student Handbook.

Academic Grievances Policy:

www.suffolk.edu/student-life/student-services/student-handbook/university-policies-for-student-cas-sbs/grievances-academics

Course Schedule:

The schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better student learning.

Sessions	Topic
1 & 2	<i>Introduction to the Course: What is Security?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapter 1 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 1 (1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4)
3, 4 & 5	<i>Unit 1. Theoretical Approaches</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 Hughes and Meng, Chapters 1 (1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.11) and 2 (2.1, 2.2, 2.8, 2.10, 2.11)
6 & 7	<i>Unit 2. The Rationale of Insecurity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 10, 11, 12 and 14. Hughes and Meng, Chapter 2 (2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7)
8 & 9	<i>Unit 3. War, Arms Trade and Proliferation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 13, 27 and 29 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 3 (3.1, 3.2 and 3.3)
10	Revision for mid-term exam
11	Mid-term exam
12 & 13	<i>Unit 4. Security without War</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 16, 28, 30 and 31 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 3 (3.4 and 3.5), Chapter 4 (4.10) and Chapter 5 (5.8)
14 & 15	<i>Unit 5. Threatening, but not Disrupting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 15, 30, 33 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 5 (5.7) and Chapter 3 (3.8)
16 & 17	<i>Unit 6. Dehumanizing Conflict</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 17 and 18 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 4 (4.1, 4.2, 4.7 and 4.9)
18 & 19	<i>Unit 7. Humanizing Security</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 19, 20, 22 and 34 Hugues and Meng, Chapter 1 (1.9) and Chapter 3 (3.7 and 3.9)
20 & 21	<i>Unit 8. Security Beyond Our Control?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 21 and 35 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 3 (3.6 and 3.10)
22 & 23	<i>Unit 9. United Nations as Security Provider</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 25, 26 and 32 Hughes and Meng, Chapter 4 (4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.8)
24	<i>Unit 10. Regional Security</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Williams, Chapters 23 and 24
25	Revision for final exam
26	Final exam