

University of Georgia  
INTL 6000

## Foundations of International Policy

Time: Thursday 12:30 - 3:15

Place: Candler 214

Instructor: Joshua Massey

Email: [jnmassey@uga.edu](mailto:jnmassey@uga.edu)

Office Hours: Thursday 3:30 – 4:30 and by appointment

### Course Summary

This graduate seminar is designed to provide students, from a variety of academic backgrounds, with a *practical* introduction to the fundamentals of international policy. The seminar examines the nature of power, the information environment, the crafting of strategy, and assesses contemporary global threats and trends to gain an enhanced understanding of the unique challenges that policymakers face in the twenty-first century. The main objective of the seminar is to encourage thoughtful debate about the effective conduct of international policy in the contemporary environment and to provide students with the analytical tools necessary to critically examine international policy decisions. Furthermore, the seminar aims to refine student interests in and cultivate an in-depth knowledge of a specific global issue or policy, particularly in the International Security and Nonproliferation (ISN) or Human Security domain. Relatedly, the seminar is designed to aid students in preparing for internships and careers across the international policy community to include, the U.S. government, international organizations, nonprofits, and consultancies. Among the career-oriented topics discussed will be the art of crafting professional resumes, constructing cover letters, preparing for the security clearance process, corresponding with prospective employers, sharpening interview performance, and refining written and oral communication skills. In addition to class discussions and course work, the seminar will include visits from a variety of external speakers with experience working in the U.S. government, international organizations, and the private sector to offer both policy perspectives and career advice.

### Books

#### *Required*

Brands, Hal. *What Good is Grand Strategy? Power and Purpose in American Statecraft from Harry S. Truman to George W. Bush*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 2014.

Nye, Joseph S. Jr. *The Future of Power*. New York: Public Affairs, 2011.

Howard, Philip N. *Pax Technica: How the Internet of Things May Set Us Free or Lock Us Up*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2015.

Kagan, Robert. *The Jungle Grows Back: America and Our Imperiled World*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2018.

Pherson, Randolph H., Walter Voskian, and Roy A. Sullivan. *Analytic Briefing Guide*. Reston Virginia: Pherson Associates, LLC, 2018.

### *Recommended*

Adler, Mortimer J. and Charles Van Doren. 1972. *How to Read a Book*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

Strunk, William Jr. and E. B. White. *The Elements of Style*. Penguin Books.

There is a reasonable reading load for this course. I expect you to complete all assigned readings before the date they are discussed in class. There are a few journal articles that are required readings (please see below). These articles are either accessible through the University of Georgia library system or will be provided by the instructor.

### **Course Requirements and Grading Components**

Participation	20%	Weekly
Weekly Assignments	20%	Weekly
Group Strategy Case Study (memo and presentation):	20%	Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Individual Policy Presentation:	20%	Nov 7th
Individual Policy Report	20%	Nov 21st

### **Grading Scale**

92.00 to 100.00	=A	72.00 to 77.99	=C
90.00 to 91.99	=A-	70.00 to 71.99	=C-
88.00 to 89.99	=B+	68.00 to 69.99	=D+
82.00 to 87.99	=B	62.00 to 67.99	=D
80.00 to 81.99	=B-	60.00 to 61.99	=D-
78.00 to 79.99	=C+	Below 60.00	=F

**Participation** is defined by one's attitude toward and enthusiasm for the topic and assignments, contribution to lectures and discussion, participation in group activities, and class attendance. Reading assignments are listed on the syllabus the day they will be discussed in class. Each student is expected to complete the required readings and be prepared to participate actively in discussions.

### **Weekly Assignments**

Weekly assignments will include the preparation of policy memos and various career documents. Policy memos should be no more than 2 pages and should follow the policy memo format (see Policy Memo Template on eLC). The memo should summarize the readings, identify and discuss key elements of the reading assignment, and develop and put forward broader "lessons learned" from the readings (see Policy Writing memo on eLC). Additionally, students will be required to craft various career-oriented assignments, for example, resumes, cover letters, and responses to common interview questions. Students must email weekly assignments to the instructor by 12:00 p.m. (est) on the Wednesday prior to class. The instructor will announce weekly assignments at the end of each class.

### Group Strategy Case Study:

The strategy case study is a *group* project comprising a formal presentation and a policy memo. Each group will present a case study from Hal Brands, *What Good is Grand Strategy?* The intent of the case study is to carefully consider the relationship between strategy and policy and examine how various U.S. administrations have engaged with the international community. The presentation may address pertinent information, such as, the context of the international system, key actors and their objectives, the strengths and limitations of the administration's strategy, key policies and related instruments of power, and major successes or failures. Most importantly, each group should highlight, develop and discuss "lessons learned" that shed light on contemporary international policy issues. The group policy memo must not exceed 2 pages. Students must email the group policy memo to the instructor by 12:00 p.m. (est) on Wednesday, October 2nd. A hard copy of the group presentation is due at the beginning of class on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Policy Report and Presentation

The policy report and presentation is an *individual* project. The report should be tailored to the policy interests of each student. The intent of the report is to permit students to explore and develop an in-depth knowledge of a global issue and related international policy that aligns with their career aspirations. The report is a single source document that serves as an accessible and practical synopsis of an important global issue, relevant key actors and events, and proposes policy recommendations. The report must include but is not limited to the following sections: an executive summary, table of contents, chronology, background, literature review, key actors, policy recommendations, and a bibliography.

Topics for the policy report are due no later than Thursday, October 10th. Policy presentations are due Thursday, November 7th. The policy report is due Thursday, November 21st.

### Administrative Issues

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. Please contact me during the first week of the term if you have a conflict that will prevent you from attending class or completing an assignment on the scheduled date. Make-up assignments are only offered for university-excused absences.

All academic work must meet the standards contained in the University of Georgia's "Culture of Honesty" ([http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm)). You are responsible to inform yourself about those standards before performing any academic work. My policy for academic dishonesty is very simple: Don't plagiarize: If you turn in a written assignment that is (in part) not your own work you will receive a failing grade for the *course*. Disciplinary proceedings to dismiss you from the University may be initiated against you. I will not tolerate academic dishonesty.

The University of Georgia seeks to provide students with disabilities the opportunity to fully participate in educational programs and services. In keeping with this philosophy, it is University policy that students with documented disabilities receive reasonable accommodations through access to classroom information. If you require **special accommodations** because of a

university-documented condition, please contact me during the first two weeks of the semester and we can work with the Disability Resource Center in order to achieve a positive outcome.

**Important Dates**

August 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>: Drop Add  
October 7<sup>th</sup>: Midterm  
October 21<sup>st</sup>: Withdrawal Deadline  
November 1<sup>st</sup>: Fall Break  
November 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving Break

**Course Overview:** The syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

**Week 1, August 15<sup>th</sup>**

Course Introduction and Overview

**Week 2, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Topic: Assessing the Contemporary International Environment

Readings:

2019 Doomsday Clock, <https://media.thebulletin.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-Clock-Statement-Press-Print-Version.pdf>

2017 Global Trends: Paradox of Progress, <https://www.dni.gov/files/documents/nic/GT-Full-Report.pdf>, (pp. 1-69).

**Week 3, August 29<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: Assessing the Contemporary International Environment

Readings:

Kagan, pp. 1-105

Analytic Briefing Guide, part I & II

**Week 4, September 5<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: Assessing the Contemporary International Environment

Readings:

Kagan, pp. 105-163

Analytic Briefing Guide, part III

**Week 5, September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: Interests and Power I

Readings:

Nye, Preface and Chapters 1-4

\*Assign Case Study groups

**Week 6, September 19th**

Topic: Interests and Power II

Readings: Nye, Chapters 5-7

**Week 7, September 26th**

Topic: Strategy & Policy I

Readings:

Brands, Introduction.

Gaddis, John Lewis. 2009. "What is Grand Strategy?" Karl Von Der Heyden Distinguished Lecture, Duke University, 2009.

Krasner, Stephen D. 2010. "An Orienting Principle for Foreign Policy: The Deficiencies of 'Grand Strategy,'" *Policy Review*, No. 163 (October), p. 3-12.

Zegart, Amy. 2013. "Grand Illusions," *Hoover Digest: Research and Opinion on Public Policy*, No. 3 (Summer 2014), p. 35-39.

**Week 8, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Topic: Strategy & Policy II

Readings

Brands, Chapters 1-4 and Conclusion

2017 National Security Strategy, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/NSS-Final-12-18-2017-0905.pdf>

\*Due: Strategy Case Study Group Presentation and Memo

**Week 9, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: The Role of Intelligence in International Policy

Readings:

The Intelligence Community, <https://www.intelligencecareers.gov/icmembers.html>

The Intelligence Cycle, <https://fas.org/irp/cia/product/facttell/intcycle.htm>

Hulnick, Arthur S. 2006. "What's Wrong with the Intelligence Cycle," *Intelligence and National Security*, 21:6, 959-979.

\*Due (no later than): Policy Report Topics

**Week 10, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: Careers in Strategic Intelligence

Guest Speaker: J. Warren Stenbridge (<https://spia.uga.edu/staff/warren-stenbridge/>)

**Week 11, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: Human Security

Paris, Roland. 2001. "Human Security: Paradigm Shift or Hot Air?" *International Security* 26, No. 2: 87-102.

Who We Are, The World Bank, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/who-we-are>  
Companion Report, Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28337>

Guest Speaker: Alys Willman (<https://spia.uga.edu/staff/aly-willman>)

**Day 12, October 31<sup>st</sup>**

Topic: International Policy in the Information Age

Howard, Philip N. *Pax Technica: How the Internet of Things May Set Us Free or Lock Us Up*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2015. Chs. TBD.

**Week 13, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

\*Due: Policy Briefing Presentations

**Week 14, November 14<sup>th</sup>**

\*Due: Policy Briefing Presentations

**Week 15, November 21<sup>st</sup>**

\*Policy Briefing Presentations

\*Due: Policy Briefing Books