

INTL 4425: Advanced Research in International Security Policy

Security Leadership Program
Center for International Trade and Security
University of Georgia – Spring 2021

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Office: IA Building, Room 217

Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:30-12:30 – OPEN (no appointment needed) via Zoom

Wednesdays 12:30-2pm – by appointment via Zoom



Course Overview and Objectives:

This course is the second required course in the Center for International Trade and Security's Richard B. Russell Security Leadership Program (SLP). In this course you will build upon the knowledge acquired in last semester's practicum to complete an independent research project focused on a national/ international security issue. The purpose of this project is to further develop your research and writing skills, and to provide you with significant research experience that you will be able to build upon in graduate school and/or in your career. You will have opportunities to present this research on and off campus in symposia in the spring and, when ready, to submit it for publication.

Conducting independent research can be both empowering and daunting. My role in this course as your research mentor and supervisor is to provide you constructive feedback, help you when stuck, and keep you on course to complete your project. We will meet approximately every two weeks to discuss your progress and to review the work you've submitted. In addition to receiving feedback from me, you'll be working with a small group of 2-4 students in your cohort who will also provide you support and suggestions for improvement. During the first weeks of the semester we'll meet as a full group to discuss the two tracks available for your research project, basic ideas of research design, and consider topics for our professionalization meetings. Since this is a 3-credit course with an "R" designation you should expect to dedicate a minimum of **9 hours/week** to your research.

Although the focus of this semester is your independent research projects, we will also meet several times this semester for alumni visits and professionalization talks. These meetings will continue to forge the sense of community and support that are the essence of the SLP.

COVID Information

I am committed to making this an academically rigorous course that provides you the opportunity to complete an independent research project, while also prioritizing compassion and patience. The COVID-19 pandemic will create extenuating circumstances for many students and faculty. With this in mind it is crucial that you understand the following:

- The special nature of this program means that we will not have a traditional class meeting time. Due to social distancing requirements, when we meet in person it will likely be in your small groups, but most often we will conduct our meetings (small and full group) by Zoom.
 - Important requirement: You are expected to be **visibly present** for any Zoom discussion (please let me know if there is ever a day you need to have it off). The purpose of your participation in the zoom meeting is to be **actively engaged** in the discussion.
 - **If you need an extension, please don't hesitate to ask!**
- Importantly, a typical semester can be stressful - this semester is likely to be anything but normal. Please take care of yourself and others around you. In addition to wearing a mask, socially distancing, and washing your hands, please also be sure to set aside downtime to engage in activities that are meaningful to you such as spending time outside, listening to music, or talking with friends and loved ones. I've listed resources below for those needing additional support (and of course you can always let me know and I'll put you in contact with the many resources UGA has to offer).
- UGA COVID Information for students: Please perform a quick symptom check each weekday on DawgCheck—on the UGA app or website—whether you feel sick or not. It will help health providers monitor the health situation on campus:
<https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/>
 - Students showing symptoms should self-isolate and schedule an appointment with the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.). Please DO NOT walk-in. For emergencies and after-hours care, see <https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>
 - Students who learn they have been directly exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms should self-quarantine for 10 days consistent with Department of Public Health (DPH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. Please correspond with your instructor via email, with a cc: to Student Care & Outreach at sco@uga.edu, to coordinate continuing your coursework while self-quarantined. If you develop symptoms, you should contact the University Health Center to make an appointment to be tested.
 - Any student with a **positive COVID-19** test is **required to report the test in DawgCheck** and should self-isolate immediately. Students should not attend classes in-person until the isolation period is completed. Once you report the positive test through DawgCheck, UGA Student Care and Outreach will follow up with you.

Course Requirements:

- **Grading:** Your final grade will be determined by the following assessments:
 - Building the SLP Website – 5%
 - Research Log & Participation – 10%
 - Proposal & Annotated Bibliography – 10%

- Revised Proposal & Outline – 10%
- Draft for Peer Review – 10%
- Peer Review (2 x 5%) – 10%
- Presentation & Q&A – 5%
- Final – 40% (if academic paper; alternatively, 30% policy paper + 10% op-ed)

Letter grades correspond to the following 0-100 scale:

94-100 A	74-76 C
90-93 A-	70-73 C-
87-89 B+	67-69 D+
84-86 B	64-66 D
80-83 B-	60-63 D-
77-79 C+	00-59 F

Research Log & Participation – Your participation will be based on your preparation and engagement during full-class (e.g. professionalization meetings and alumni visits), small-group, and one-on-one meetings.

- One of the key struggles for scholars is setting aside time to work given constant other (seemingly urgent) demands on our time. To help develop a successful research practice we will set weekly research goals and log our research activity using a shared google doc (see ELC). You can choose to record you time in minutes or “Pomodors.” During the first week of classes we’ll talk about how to set goals for using this time effectively.

Building the SLP Security Studies website (aka Name Your Own Security Adventure)

- The goal of this assignment is twofold. First, there are so many security issues to discuss, and myriad podcasts, video lectures, internships/scholarships and inter/national security writers addressing these issues, that students can feel overwhelmed by the running list of things they want to read/listen to. This assignment helps alleviate some of that stress as you’ll get credit for knocking those “fun” (only to security nerds) things off your to-do list.
- For this assignment you need
 - **Submit all work using the link on the website** (this maintains the formatting)
 - Provide reviews of 3 different items, from at least two different categories (e.g. podcast episodes, blogs, or video lectures). If you are the first person writing an entry in a category then you will need a bit of an overview (if you are adding to an existing category then you need only write the review of the specific episode).
 - If you are creating a new # please add it to the list (and if you come across an organization not on the list please add it).
 - I encourage you to use foreign language sources.
 - Each entry should be no more than 250 words and include the following (bullet points are fine):
 - Full Citation – make sure it includes a link to access it (here’s a link to the Chicago Manual of Style formatting for podcasts - you can find most other forms of materials as well here: <https://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/c.php?g=685064&p=5255905>)
 - Entry written by X (You first initial and last name), date

- Main point(s):
- 3 interesting things I learned or questions this raises:
- # for searching

Research Papers: each student will have the choice of writing an academic research paper or a policy report and op-ed. We'll go over in detail what each project entails during the first week of classes, and I will help you choose the option best suited to your career goals. Regardless of which option you choose, all students will have the following deadlines for submission:

- 1/30 – **Topic Proposal & Annotated Bibliography** (10%): 1-2 paragraphs describing your primary question, why this question is important/relevant, your primary hypothesis and supporting arguments (if academic paper), what methods you will use (e.g. likely case selection). The bibliography must include **at least 5 academic sources** with 2-3 sentences below each citation explaining how/why it is relevant to your paper. Upload to ELC.
- 3/6 – **Revised Proposal and Outline** (10%): Revised proposal at top of page followed by a detailed outline of final paper, minimum 4 pages, demonstrating structure, organization, specific arguments, and quotes. Upload to ELC.
- 4/3 – **First Draft of Paper** (10%): Draft of approximately 1/2 of paper with outline of remaining parts (full draft of Op-ed if doing one). Uploaded to discussion group on ELC as a word doc.
- 4/10 – **Peer responses** (10%): 1-page response to each of the drafts of your group members (uploaded as response to the discussion post) + zoom with group by
- 4/19-30 – **Presentations** (5%): 5-minute presentation of your research project followed by Q&A.
- 5/8 – **Final Project** (40%): due by noon uploaded to ASSIGNMENTS folder on ELC.

Alumni Visits - one of key feature of the SLP is the opportunity to connect with past participants. The alumni “visits” (mostly held through zoom this year) will allow you to learn about different career opportunities and build your professional network.

Other important information:

- **Communication and Email:** I will keep you updated about the course and any changes to the syllabus through the “ANNOUNCEMENTS” board on the class ELC page.
****PLEASE REGISTER FOR ANNOUNCEMENT NOTIFICATIONS!**
 - Again, to sign up for Announcement Notifications: your name on the class ELC page > Notifications > Scroll to “Instant Notifications” > Announcements
 - When emailing me please only use your UGA email account and include your course number in the subject line. In most cases I will respond to emails within 24 hours. Importantly, before you email me **please check the syllabus** and the **Announcements** posted on ELC to be sure that your question has not been previously addressed.
 - *A note on etiquette:* please use **appropriate salutations** including **my name** in the opening (**NOT** Miss/Ms./Mrs. Gallagher!) and your name in the closing. (Hint: you can’t go wrong with “Dear Professor Gallagher”).
 - For further guidance see: <http://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor>.

- **Office Hours** – Think of office hours as “student hours. They are an opportunity to get to know your professor, ask questions about the course, the major, or life beyond UGA. I will be available to meet with students during the office hours listed above. **You can sign up for an office Hours appointment and find the zoom link here:** <https://docs.google.com/document/d/11V8ETwJbmKJ8ah9eIUtH0YRyf0B7wFSLWYWUS3j4GTc/edit>
- **Academic Dishonesty** – As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University’s academic honesty policy, “A Culture of Honesty,” and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in “A Culture of Honesty” found at: <http://www.uga.edu/honesty>. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will be referred to Judicial Affairs, as required by university policy. The most common issue of academic dishonesty I have come across is plagiarism. To be clear, plagiarism is copying from any source material (direct or paraphrasing of ideas), published or unpublished (this includes Wikipedia!), without giving proper credit. I will post a link to the Chicago Manual of Style citation format on ELC.
- **Students with Disabilities:** UGA is committed to providing equal access to academic programs and university-administered activities and reasonable modifications to students with disabilities. Students in need of academic accommodations need to request such services from the Disability Resource Center located at 114 Clark Howell Hall (for more information visit www.drc.uga.edu) and should make an appointment to see me with their appropriate paperwork from the DRC within the **first two weeks** of classes.
- UGA’s code of conduct protects student privacy and intellectual property and thus **prohibits recording and digital release of classroom lectures and conversations unless a student has an accommodation from the DRC**. Students with DRC approved accommodations for recording should make an appointment with me to discuss a plan that protects your right to privacy, that of your classmates, and everyone’s intellectual property.
- UGA has a vast array of resources to support students facing a variety of challenges. Please don't hesitate to speak with me or contact these resources directly. *Please be aware that UGA faculty and staff are obligated to report any knowledge of sexual assault/harassment and/or relationship violence to UGA’s Equal Opportunity Office.* UGA’s Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (info below) can speak to students confidentially.
 - **Office of Student Care & Outreach** (coordinate assistance for students experiencing hardship/unforeseen circumstances) – 706-542-7774 or by email sco@uga.edu
 - **Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)** - 706-542-2273 (during regular business hours) *After Hour Mental Health Crisis:* 706-542-2200 (UGA Police—ask to speak to the CAPS on-call clinician)
 - **Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP)** – 706-542-SAFE (The advocates at RSVP can provide students confidentiality).
- **This syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester**

Class & Deadline Schedule

Weeks 1 & 2 (January 13-22) - Research Design

- Readings/Videos TBD
- No School 1/18 (MLK Day of Service)

Week 3 (January 25-29) - Research Design & Discussing Topics

- **Proposal & Annotated bibliography due Sat., January 30**

Week 4 (February 1-5) – small group meetings

Week 5 (February 8-12) – small group meetings

- **SURC abstracts due 2/9**

Week 6 (February 15 – 19) - small group meetings

- No School 2/17 (Instructional Break)

Week 7 (February 22 – 26) - Presentation of Development

- Full group meeting

Week 8 (March 1 – 5) – small group meetings

- **Outline due Sat., March 6**

Week 9 (March 8-12)) – small group meetings

- No School 3/12 (Instructional Break)

Week 10 (March 15-19) – small group meetings

Week 11 (March 22-26) – small group meetings

Week 12 (March 29 – April 2) - small group meetings

- **Draft due Sat., April 3**

Weeks 13 & 14 (April 5 -16) - Peer Workshopping Drafts

- No School 4/8 (Instructional Break)
- **Peer Feedback due by Sat., April 10**

Weeks 15 & 16 (April 19 – May 3) – Research Presentations

- **5-minute presentation of research, Q&A**
- **SURC 4/23**

****Final Project due Saturday, May 8**