Course Overview and Objectives:
Welcome to the Center for International Trade and Security’s Richard B. Russell Security Leadership Program (SLP). As a member of the SLP you are joining a program with a rich tradition on campus for training future leaders in national and international security issues. This practicum serves to provide an academic introduction to the skills necessary for a career in this field. As a participant in the SLP you will have the opportunity to develop your writing, public speaking, and strategic analysis skills, and expand your undergrad research experience in the second semester. This semester you will learn how to write policy memos, give briefings, and conduct policy analyses.

Beyond the skills training, the most notable part of the SLP will likely be the other 15 members of your cohort. Through this experience these colleagues will become friends that you will stay connected to long after you leave UGA. You’ll also join an esteemed group of SLP alumni who have gone on to pursue advanced degrees in security studies and careers working in government, particularly in the CBRN/non-proliferation field, as well as in corporations, journalism, and NGOs. Throughout this year you’ll have the opportunity to get to know some of these alumni through “visits” (mostly virtual) and most importantly, through the spring break trip to Washington, DC.

This course will be run largely as a seminar, which means the focus will be on discussion among the participants, not lectures by the instructor. Unlike a typical International Relations course in security studies where the focus would be on the development of security theories, our focus will be on the practice of decision making around security issues and the evaluation of policies. As you may note, many of the “readings” on the syllabus are not academic readings but are instead podcasts, videos, newspaper articles, and blogs. I’ve selected materials that are both informative and provocative to spark discussions. While most students in the program are majoring in International Affairs, the SLP is strengthened by the participation of students from majors
outside of SPIA including, but not limited to, psychology, computer science, and economics. Overall, irrespective of your major, the skills and knowledge you acquire are intended to compliment your other courses at UGA.

The culmination of the course is the U.S. National Security Council simulation, which will take place over several weeks in November. Through the simulation you’ll be able to put into practice all that you learned in previous weeks, challenge each other, and try to find viable policy solutions to some of the most intractable security issues faced by the US.

COVID & the SLP
I am committed to making this an academically rigorous course, while also prioritizing compassion and the health of all of us in the room. The COVID-19 pandemic will create extenuating circumstances for many students. It is crucial that you understand the following:

- This course meets in-person MWF, unless otherwise noted on the syllabus.
  - While there is no attendance grade, I will take attendance every day and expect that you’ll be there, unless I hear otherwise from you.
  - **IF YOU DO NOT FEEL WELL, DO NOT COME TO CLASS!**
    - UGA’s follows [GA DPH guidelines](https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/) for quarantine/isolation
    - Students who are **not fully vaccinated** and have been directly exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms **should self-quarantine for 10 days**. Those quarantining for 10 days must have been symptom-free throughout the monitoring period and continue self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms for a total of 14 days. You should report the need to quarantine on DawgCheck ([https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/](https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/)), and communicate directly with your faculty to coordinate your coursework while in quarantine. If you need additional help, reach out to Student Care and Outreach ([sco@uga.edu](mailto:sco@uga.edu)) for assistance.
    - Students who are **fully vaccinated** do not need to quarantine upon exposure unless they have symptoms of COVID-19 themselves. Per [CDC guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/html/index.html) they should be tested 3-5 days after exposure and continue to wear a mask indoors.

- The primary ways to protect yourself and the other members of the UGA community, including the people in this class are:
  1. **Get vaccinated!**
  2. **Wear a mask when indoors on campus (irrespective of your vaccine status)**
  3. **Again, Do NOT come to class if you feel sick - GET TESTED ASAP!**
    - Per UGA guidelines, students showing COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate and schedule an appointment with the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5p.m.). For emergencies and after-hours care, see, [https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies](https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies).
  4. **Pro-tip: Use UGA’s free asymptomatic testing regularly!** [https://clia.vetview.vet.uga.edu/](https://clia.vetview.vet.uga.edu/)

- If you test positive for COVID-19 at any time, you are **required to report** it through the [DawgCheck](https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/). **Please stay at home if you become ill or until you have excluded COVID-19 as the cause of your symptoms.** UGA adheres to current Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) quarantine and isolation guidance and requires that it
be followed. Follow the instructions provided to you when you report your positive test result in DawgCheck.

- **Still need to get vaccinated?** To schedule a vaccine go to the University Health Center’s Patient Portal (https://patientportal.uhs.uga.edu/login_dualauthentication.aspx ). Also, the Georgia Department of Health, pharmacy chains and local providers also offer the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost to you. To find a COVID-19 vaccination location near you, other than the UHC, please go to: https://georgia.gov/covid-vaccine

- Per UGA guidelines, faculty are to accommodate students who get COVID just as they normally would have accommodated ill students before the pandemic. Be sure you get the name and contact information for at least two other students in this class to get notes from days that you miss. Once you’re feeling better, please make an appointment to meet with me during office hours to answer any remaining questions.

**Course Requirements:**

- **Readings:** There is no textbook for this course. All readings will be posted on the class ELC page or hyperlinked in the syllabus. Readings are to be completed prior to class. Should you fail to complete the readings it will be evident by your (lack of informed) participation in class discussions. **You are also required to keep up with current events (which I’m sure you already do, that’s why you’re here… but more on that below).**

On occasion an article relevant to the topic we are covering will be published and I will assign it on short notice. In that case I will send out a message to the class using the “ANNOUNCEMENTS” section of the class ELC page. **PLEASE REGISTER FOR ANNOUNCEMENT NOTIFICATIONS!**

- To register for “Announcement Notifications” click on your name in the upper right-hand corner of the class ELC page > notifications > scroll down to “instant notifications” > check the boxes for “Announcements”

- **Grading:** Your final grade will be determined by the following assessments:
  - Engagement - 15% (participation in class discussions, ELC discussion assignments, alumni visits, briefings)
  - Writing Portfolio – 50%
    - Policy Papers (4) - 40%
    - Op-Ed (Final) - 10%
  - NSC Simulation – 35% (Participation based on engagement in meetings & writing NSS, follow-up memos, journal documenting participation, and peer evaluations – 20%; 3 Policy Analyses – 15%)

Letter grades correspond to the following 0-100 scale:

- 94-100 A
- 90-93 A-
- 87-89 B+
- 84-86 B
- 80-83 B-
- 77-79 C+
- 74-76 C
- 70-73 C-
- 67-69 D+
- 64-66 D
- 60-63 D-
- 00-59 F
• **Participation** – This course requires constant engagement. It’s assumed that by applying for this program you are enthusiastic and eager to discuss security issues with your colleagues. You’ll be expected to actively engage in a variety of ways each week, including:
  - Class discussions of readings and security-related news
  - Preparing questions for SLP alumni and other distinguished visitors
  - Class Discussion Assignments – there will be several discussion assignments throughout the semester graded on completion.

• **Policy Memos & Briefs** - One of the most important skills that we will focus on in this course is policy writing. You’ll gain experience writing them for me, and then you’ll write them in real time for each other during the NSC simulation. Details on different types of policy writing and the parameters for each assignment will be given in class.
  - Your first memo will come from a list of 50 security issues, you can choose your second topic. Your first policy brief need to build upon one of your two policy memos.

• **Briefing** - Each student will brief the group about one policy issue. This exercise will give you practice at this important skill and allow you to receive feedback before you do it as part of your regular NSC meetings. Each student will have 2 minutes to give their policy brief, followed by 4 minutes of Q&A from the rest of the group.

• **NSC Simulation** – The capstone of this course is a two-week simulation of the US National Security Council (NSC). Each of you will be assigned a role on the NSC and will produce policy recommendations for the President based on several real-to-life crises. In addition to the memos prepared for the given crises, you can expect the president to ask for additional memos and for you to brief the NSC daily. The entire NSC will craft a NSS that will be published on the SLP website. Details on the NSC simulation will be given later in the semester.

• **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:

• **Current Events**: Students are **REQUIRED** to stay up to date on world politics for class discussions. I suggest that you skim a major newspaper, such as the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *The Guardian* (UK) or a weekly periodical, such as *The Economist*, on a **daily basis**.
  - **Tip**: I strongly suggest linking your web browser home page to an international news source.
  - **You can also have the headlines of the day automatically emailed to you from the Council of Foreign Relations ([www.cfr.org](https://www.cfr.org)) and Just Security ([https://www.justsecurity.org/](https://www.justsecurity.org/)). There are also several useful IR blogs, including:**
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](http://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor).
- There will also be a GroupMe for quick correspondences

Office Hours – Office hours are STUDENT HOURS! This is the time to ask questions about class assignments, the major, my 2 cents on what you should do with your life, get recommendations for good food in Athens, etc. The link to schedule an office hours meeting is on the class ELC page.

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](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](http://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**

**Topic and Reading Schedule**

**Weeks 1 & 2 – Introduction & the Basics**

**Wednesday, August 18 - Introduction**
- Post your bio to ECL Introduction discussion board by Wed. 8/18
  - Comment on 2 other SLPeeps’ posts by 8/20

**Friday, August 20 – Security in the 21st Century**
  - Discussion Assignment #1

**Monday, August 23 – What does security mean? What is a security issue?**
- Paul D. Williams “Security Studies: An Introduction” Chapter 1
  - Read Only read pgs. 1-10
  - **Read only pgs. 4-8 “The Role of the Economy in US National Security” (just skim the rest)

**Wednesday, August 25 - Who determines what constitutes a security issue and how to respond?**

**Friday, August 27 – A “how to” for policy writing**
- Read my policy writing guidelines and assignment posted on ELC
• Suggested if you want more advice on policy writing:
  o David Morse and Elena Delbanco, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan. (note: Examples of different types of briefs and how NOT to write one: http://fordschool.umich.edu/files/policy-writing.pdf

Monday, August 30 – Institutions & Process in US National Security
  o **Read only 97-135 (we’ll come back to the rest at the time of the simulation)
  o **Read only the contents and Introduction (pgs. 1-7) – skim rest

Wednesday, Sept 1 – Tools for responding to security threats?
• Discussion Assignment #2

Friday, Sept 3 – Policy Memo 1 Due
• 3 Oral Briefings
• Workshopping Memo Drafts

*Policy Memo 1 due by 11pm Saturday 9/4 to ELC dropbox

Weeks 3 & 4 CBRN & Traditional Security

Monday, Sept. 6 – No School (Labor Day)

Wednesday, Sept. 8 - Traditional Security Issues: Nuclear Weapons & Nonproliferation
• Complete the following 2 NTI Educational Tutorials (https://tutorials.nti.org/table-of-contents/)
  o Be sure to take good notes before completing the quizzes!

Friday, Sept. 10 - Recent Developments around Nuclear Weapons and Non-proliferation
  o Start listening at 6:30 - 21:00

Monday, Sept. 13 – OSINT and Nuclear/ Radiological Weapons
  o Focus on the summary of findings and policy recs pgs. 1-6, skim rest
• Joshua Pollack’s report from CNS on North Korea (also has dataset): https://nonproliferation.org/op43-north-koreas-international-scientific-collaborations-their-scope-scale-and-potential-dual-use-and-military-significance/

Wednesday, Sept. 15 – Chemical and Biological Weapons
• Complete Biological Weapons Nonproliferation Module: https://tutorials.nti.org/biological-weapons-nonproliferation/introduction/

Friday, Sept. 17 – Policy Memo 2
• **Memo uploaded to ELC by start of class
• 5 Oral Briefings
Week 5 – Future of Defense & Planning

Monday, Sept. 20 – GWOT & the War in Afghanistan
- Lecture Videos

Wednesday, Sept. 22 – Evaluating US Withdrawal from Afghanistan
- Discussion Assignment #3

Friday, Sept. 24 – Military Readiness

Week 6 – Terrorism & the Global War on Terror

Monday, Sept. 27 - Assessing Effectiveness: Leadership Decapitation as a CT strategy

Wednesday, Sept 29 – Collecting and Analyzing Terrorism Data
- Discussion Assignment #4

Friday, Oct. 1 – Policy Brief 1
- 3 Oral Briefings
- Workshopping Brief Drafts

*Policy Brief 1 due by 11pm Saturday 10/2 to ELC dropbox

Week 7 – Trade and Security

Monday, Oct 4 – Export Controls, Dual-Use Technology, and Supply Chains

Wednesday, Oct 6 - Explaining the NSC simulation

Friday, Oct. 8 – Alumni Visit

**Week 8 – New Threats and New Tools**

Monday, October 11 – Security Threats and Emerging Tech
  - Watch the videos, especially the first one!

Wednesday, October 13 – “Houston, we have a problem”: Security in Space

Friday, Oct. 15 – Policy Brief 2
- **Memo uploaded to ELC by start of class**
• 5 Oral Briefings

**Week 9 & 10 - Human Security**

**Monday, Oct. 18 – Human Security**

**Wednesday, Oct. 20 – Environment and Security**

**Friday, Oct 22- Migration, Refugees, & Backlash**

**Monday, Oct. 25 – Gender, Peace, and Security**

Wednesday, Oct. 27 – Alumni Visit
- Discussion #5

Friday, Oct. 29 – No Class: Fall Break

Weeks 11 – 14: The National Security Council Simulation

Monday, Nov 1 – Working on NSC Policy Briefs
- Extra Office Hours

Wednesday, Nov 3 – NSC Policy Papers Due
- Professionalization Day

Friday, Nov 5 – Alumni Visit

Monday, Nov 8 – Simulation Day 1

Wednesday, Nov 10 – Simulation Day 2

Friday, Nov 12 – Simulation Day 3

Monday, Nov 15 – Simulation Day 4

Wednesday, Nov 17 – Simulation Day 5

Friday, Nov 19 – Simulation Day 6

Monday, Nov 22 – Wrapping up NSS
- NSS finalized by NSC, No POTUS
- POTUS Final Decisions Released at end of class
- All NSC reflections due by due by Wed 11/24

Wednesday, Nov 24 & Friday Nov 26 – No Class: Thanksgiving

Weeks 15 & 16: Wrapping Up

Monday, Nov 29 - NSC Simulation Debriefing
- Read: POTUS’s Decisions & NSS
Wednesday, Dec 1 – Discussing Op-Ed Assignment

Friday, Dec 3 - Alumni visit

Monday, Dec 6 – Op-Ed Draft Due
  • Peer Workshop

Tuesday, Dec 7 – Preparing for Spring

**Final Op-Ed Due Noon Wed 12/15**