

University of Georgia
INTL 8270

The Politics of Trade and Security

Time: Monday 09:55-12:55

Place: Virtual

Link to Class: [Politics of Trade Security](#)

Instructor: Walt Sansot

Email: walt.sansot@uga.edu

Office Hours: Monday 1:00 – 2:00 and by appointment

Course Summary

This graduate seminar introduces students to the intersection of strategic trade and national and international security through a detailed examination of U.S. domestic and international strategic trade controls. The thrust of the course is decidedly policy-relevant in nature. The seminar will explore three aspects of strategic trade.

- An overview of U.S. trade policy key trends and terms followed by an introduction to the US export control system and export control reform.
- Historical and international perspectives of export controls through an examination of the origins and demise of the Coordinating Committee (CoCom) and then turns to the informal organizations that comprise the Multilateral Export Control Regime and U.S. international export control assistance programs.
- An examination of the contemporary environment. Students will become familiar with the U.S. Export Administration Regulations (EAR) through a review of key elements, common terms, and practices outlined in these regulations. It concludes with an analysis of emerging technologies and state threats.

Throughout the course students will be challenged to think in terms praxis. The training received in this seminar is designed to prepare students for internships and careers across the export control and broader international policy community including, the U.S. government, international organizations, and private industry. In addition to class discussions and course work, the seminar will include visits from a variety of external speakers with experience working in the field of strategic trade management to offer both policy perspectives and career advice.

This seminar will be taught virtually via Microsoft Teams, the link for each week's session is: [Policy of Trade Security](#). You will receive a calendar invitation from the instructor for the semester.

Readings

All readings for this course are accessible through the University of Georgia library system or will be provided by the instructor. There is a reasonable reading load for the course. 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.

Course Requirements and Grading Components

Professionalism	20%	Weekly
Export Control Violations Case Study	20%	Feb 2 nd
MECR and International Assistance Reports	25%	March 2 nd
Emerging Issues Presentation and Report	35%	April 13 th

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

Professionalism (20%)

A student's professionalism grade is determined by one's class participation, attitude toward and enthusiasm for the topic and assignments, contribution to lectures and discussion, interaction with peers and guest speakers, engagement in group activities, personal conduct and correspondence with instructors and all class members. I expect you to be collegial and respectful during all seminar discussions and group activities. Finally, attendance, punctuality, as well as responsibility are the hallmarks of professionalism.

Export Control Violations Case Study (DLTHTY) (20%)

The export control violations case study is an individual project comprising a 2-page summary and a 10-minute presentation. For this assignment, each student will present (2) export control violations and penalties case studies selected from the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) annual "Don't Let This Happen to You" report (July 2024). The report may be found at the following link: ([dlthty-nov-2024-1-7-25](https://www.dltthy-nov-2024-1-7-25)). These case studies will be presented throughout the semester on designated dates. Students should review the BIS report and come to class on **Week 2, January 26th** prepared to select their case studies and sign-up for a presentation date. The first reports are due **Week 3, February 2nd**. The 2-page summary should follow the MIP policy memo format which is located on the course eLC site. Students must provide the instructor with MS Word version of the report and a MS PowerPoint version of the presentation via email (walt.sansot@uga.edu) by **9:00 am on February 2nd**.

This review of violations and penalties will provide students with real world context and a growing understanding and appreciation for the role that export controls play in international and national security. Through these presentations, students will become increasingly familiar with the various types of violations, the variety of actors involved ranging from state supported espionage, nefarious individuals, to naïve small industry representatives. These case studies will also showcase the variety of methods controlled technology has been accessed illegally from wanton negligence to honest errors committed across private industry and academia. Students will also gain a better appreciation for the level of stakes involved and hence a more-full

understanding of why employment opportunities in the field of export controls are rapidly expanding.

Multilateral Export Control Regime (MECR) and US Agency Reports (25%)

The MECR and US Agency Report is a group project comprising a 3-5 page report and a 15 minute presentation. Students will work in groups of 2 persons to draft a report on either one of the organizations that comprise the MECR or US Agency responsible for export controls. Students should come to class on **Week 4, February 9th** prepared to select their organization – a sign up sheet will be provided. The MECR and US Agency reports are due **Week 7, March 2nd**. The 3-5 page report should follow the MIP policy memo format which is located on the course eLC site. Students must provide the instructor with MS Word version of the report and a MS PowerPoint version of the presentation via email (walt.sansot@uga.edu) by **9:00 am on March 2nd**.

The MECR and US Agency reports are designed to expose students to broader *international* export control efforts. As part of its efforts to inhibit the proliferation of WMD and advanced conventional weapons, the U.S. coordinates export controls with like-minded countries through participation in the four informal organizations that comprise the MECR: WA, NSG, MTCR, and AG. Additionally, the U.S. sponsors programs at the Department of State (ISN / EXBS) and the Department of Energy (INECP) that are geared toward assisting international partners with crafting effective legislation designed to uphold their nonproliferation obligations. Familiarity with the MECR is key to understanding how US domestic export control regulations contribute to a global nonproliferation effort.

Emerging Issues in Export Controls (35%)

The emerging issues in export controls is an individual project comprising an 6-8 page report and a 20-minute presentation. Throughout the course, students will be introduced to a variety of emerging issues that promise to influence and broaden the conduct of current strategic trade practices. This project is an opportunity for each student to select one of those issues of particular interest to them and conduct an in-depth analysis. For example, one's topic may relate to a specific technology, country, industry, or regulation. Additionally, students are encouraged to explore how export controls are related to other areas such as human rights or energy. Students may declare an emerging issues topic at any time throughout the semester, however, the final date to set the subject of one's topic is **Week 10, March 30th**. All emerging issues reports are due **Week 12, April 13th**. The 6-8 page report should follow the MIP policy report format which is located on the course eLC site. Students must provide the instructor with MS Word version of the report and a MS PowerPoint version of the presentation via email (walt.sansot@uga.edu) by **9:00 am on Monday, April 13th**.

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). 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.

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

Week 1, January 12th

Course Introduction and Overview

January 19th – NO CLASS

Week 2, January 26th

Topic: Foundations of Strategic Trade Controls

Readings:

BIS - Introduction to Commerce Department Export Controls:

<https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/documents/regulations-docs/142-eccn-pdf/file>

NPT: <https://disarmament.unoda.org/wmd/nuclear/npt/>

Wassenaar Arrangement: <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/wassenaar>

Australia Group:

<https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/minisite/theaustraliagroupnet/site/en/objectives.html>

MTCR: <https://mtrc.info/mtrc-guidelines/>

SIGN-UP: DLTHTY Presentation and Report #1

Week 3, February 2nd

Topic: Commodity Jurisdiction

Readings:

Part 110 – Export and Import of Nuclear Equipment and Material

[PART 110—EXPORT AND IMPORT OF NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL | NRC.gov](#)

Part 810 - PART 810—ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN ATOMIC ENERGY ACTIVITIES
[eCFR :: 10 CFR Part 810 -- Assistance to Foreign Atomic Energy Activities](#)
[10 CFR Part 810 | Department of Energy](#)

The Commerce Control List
[eCFR :: 15 CFR Part 774 -- The Commerce Control List](#)

Commerce Country Chart
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-15/part-738/appendix-supplement%20No.%201%20to%20Part%20738>

22 CFR 221 – THE US Munitions List
[eCFR :: 22 CFR Part 121 -- The United States Munitions List](#)

DUE: DLTHTY Paper and Presentation

Presentation: DLTHTY 1 - 5

Week 4, February 9th

Topic: US Regulators and Regulations

Readings:

The Commerce Control List
[eCFR :: 15 CFR Part 774 -- The Commerce Control List](#)

Commerce Country Chart
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-15/part-738/appendix-supplement%20No.%201%20to%20Part%20738>

22 CFR 221 – THE US Munitions List
[eCFR :: 22 CFR Part 121 -- The United States Munitions List](#)

Presentation: DLTHTY 6 - 10

SIGN-UP: MECR and US Agency Presentation and Report #2

Week 5, February 16th

Topic: Using the Commodity Control List

Readings: TBD

Presentation: DLTHTY 11 - 15

Week 6, February 23rd

Topic: International Traffic in Arms Regulations

Readings:

Presentation: DLTHTY 16 - 20

Week 7, March 2nd

Topic: Proliferation Trade Risk Analysis

Readings: TBD

DUE: MECR and US Agency Paper and Presentation #2

Presentation: DLTHTY 21 - 25

March 9th – SPRING BREAK – No Class

Week 8, March 16th

Topic: End Use Assessments

Readings: TBD

Presentation: MECR Presentation 1-4

Week 9, March 23rd

Topic: End User Assessments

Readings: TBD

Presentation: MECR Presentation 5-8

Week 10, March 30th

Topic: Internal Compliance Programs

Readings: TBD

Presentation: MECR Presentation 9-12

Week 11, April 6th

Topic: Sanctions

Readings: TBD

Week 12, April 13th

DUE: Emerging Issues in Strategic Trade Paper and Presentation #3

Presentation: Emerging Issues 1-8

Week 13, April 21st

Presentation: Emerging Issues in Strategic Trade 9-17

Week 14, April 27th

Presentation: Emerging Issues in Strategic Trade 18-25