SYLLABUS

POLITICAL SCIENCE 375:
WAR AND FORCE IN WORLD POLITICS

Spring 2013
Tuesday-Thursday 12:35-1:50PM
Parkinson 0108

Instructor: Bihter Tomen
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 2:30-4:00PM and by appointment
3161 Faner Hall
bihter@siu.edu
Course website: https://online.siu.edu

Course Description:

This course explores the traditional and contemporary issues in international security studies in world politics. It examines national security, causes of war, the threat and use of force by states and non-state actors to achieve their political and military objectives. Furthermore, the course will study new approaches to security such as human security, environmental security and intervention. Thus, we will work on broadening the concept of security by considering alternative narratives about which types of actors seek security, which types of actors provide security, and how tools have changed over time to meet the goals of these various actors.

The focus of this course is primarily on security issues in the post-Cold War world, though we discuss the salient security conflicts of the Cold War period. The goal of the course is that students draw from the lessons of earlier security crisis to inform their evaluations of current conflicts. Also, students should learn to question the traditional narratives of historic conflicts after studying the contemporary and critical theories of international security. By the end of the semester, students will develop a broad understanding of international security and be able to analyze and assess current threats and responses from the international community.

Classroom Policies:

1. Diversity and Collegiality: This course draws undergraduate students from a variety of disciplines. In addition, every class is influenced by the fact that students come from widely diverse backgrounds (i.e. gender, race, ethnicity, religion, social class, sexual orientation, geography, culture, etc.) and hold different views. Because a key to optimally learning and successful teaching is to hear, analyze and draw from a diversity of views, I expect collegial and respectful dialogue across disciplinary, cultural, and personal boundaries.

2. Accommodations for students with disabilities: Participants with special needs are strongly encouraged to talk to me as soon as possible to gain maximum access to course information. All
discussions will remain confidential. For more information, contact Disabled Student Services DSS@siu.edu or go to the DSS homepage (http://www.siu.edu/~dss).

3. Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is completely unacceptable. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty will receive an F in the course and be reported to the Chair of the Political Science Department for further disciplinary action outlined in the University Code of Student Conduct. Academic dishonesty is defined as “any act that violates the rights of another student with respect to academic work or that involves misrepresentation of a student’s own work. It includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations, plagiarizing (misrepresenting as one’s own work anything done by another), submitting the same or substantially similar papers (or creative work) for more than one course without consent of all instructors concerned, depriving another of necessary course materials, and sabotaging another’s work.” It is the student’s responsibility not to plagiarize on an assignment, and ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism will not be considered a valid excuse for this behavior. Students should familiarize themselves with the definitions of academic misconduct in the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale's Student Conduct Code (Section II, Article A).

Emergency Procedures:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT'S website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency. Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

Course Requirements:

1. Class Attendance and Participation: (20% Grade) Participation is an important component of the class. You are expected to attend each class, having read the assigned readings and be prepared to participate in classroom discussion. Attendance will be taken for every class. Students are allowed three absences without penalty. For each absence after the third one, your grade will be reduced 1/3 of a letter grade. If you are caught absent 12 or more times, you will automatically receive an F for the participation grade.

2. Writing Assignment: Research paper (30% Grade)
You will be asked to write a 10 page research paper that analyzes a topic of interest to you in relation to security studies. The topic could be a current or past conflict in the world for which you will be expected to provide an explanation for the causes of the conflict, and its effects on national, international or human security.
This assignment will be completed in three stages:

1. Topic Proposal (due February 7): Provide a one-page introduction to the topic on which you want to write. The proposal should include your research question and an initial answer in the form of a thesis statement.

2. Research Paper First Draft (due March 28): Prepare an initial draft of the research paper which includes your research question; explain why it is important in the context of international security, and analyze the conflict. It is important to support your own arguments by evidence from the literature. You are welcome to use the readings from the course syllabus but your annotated bibliography should also include other sources. Citations could be any style as long as they are consistent throughout the paper.

3. Research Paper Final Draft (due April 23): The final paper should take into consideration advice from the instructor. You should be able to build and improve upon the original draft to construct a sophisticated analysis of the topic.

3. Mid-term and Final Exams: (25% each = 50% Grade)

There will be two exams in class. The first exam will be given at midterm (March 7) and will cover the material from the first seven weeks of class. The second exam will be given during the finals week and will cover the remaining material from the course. Thus, the final exam will not be cumulative. The format for both exams is a short answer format (4-5 sentences for each question) where you will select from a list of questions. Before each exam, we will review the material to be covered on the exam and I will answer any questions that you may have. You should bring at least one blue book and a pen on the days of the exams.

Letter gradations:
A = 90-100
B= 80-89
C= 70-79
D = 60-69
F = below 59

Late Papers: Unless noted, papers are due at the beginning of class. Papers handed in after the deadline will be deducted 1/2 letter grade, and then an additional letter grade for each day (24 hours) it is late. Late papers will not be accepted after three days (72 hours). If there is a problem completing an assignment on time, please contact me well in advance of the due date.

Missed Exams: Students who cannot take an exam on the scheduled date must inform me in advance. If a student does not make prior arrangements with me, he/she will be allowed to write the exam only if an official documentation (from the doctor, police, coach etc.) is provided.

Required Text:
Tentative Course Schedule

**Week 1: Tuesday, January 15**
Introduction

**Week 1: Thursday, January 17: What is security?**

**Week 2: Tuesday, January 22: Theoretical Approaches: Realism & Liberalism**

**Week 2: Thursday, January 24: Theoretical Approaches: Constructivism**

**Week 3: Tuesday, January 29: The Problem of War in World Politics**

**Week 3: Thursday, January 31: Strategic Solutions to Conflict: Balance of Power**

**Week 4: Tuesday, February 5: Strategic Solutions to Conflict: Coercive Diplomacy**


**Week 4: Thursday, February 7: Film Screening - Dr. Strangelove (93 minutes)**
**Topic Proposals due**

**Week 5: Tuesday, February 12: The Role of Nuclear Weapons**

**Week 5: Thursday, February 14: Nuclear Proliferation in the Post Cold War Era**

**Week 6: Tuesday, February 19: Collective Security in the International System**
**Week 6: Thursday, February 21: Collective Security (continued)**

**Week 7: Tuesday, February 26: Multilateralism**

**Week 7: Thursday, February 28: Multilateralism (continued)**

**Week 8: Tuesday, March 5 - Midterm Exam Review**

**Week 8: Thursday, March 7 - Midterm Exam**
Materials from Weeks 1-7 will be covered.
Format: Short Answer. Answer 5-6 questions from 8-10 possible choices.
Please bring at least one blue book and a pen to the exam.

**Week 9: Spring Break - No Class**

**Week 10: Tuesday, March 19: Non-State Actors, Security and Conflict - Terrorism**

**Week 10: Thursday, March 21: Terrorism-2**

**Week 11: Tuesday, March 26: Ethnic Conflict-1**

**Week 11: Thursday, March 28: Ethnic Conflict-2**
**Research Paper First Draft due**

**Week 12: Tuesday, April 2: Human Security-1**

**Week 12: Thursday, April 4: Human Security-2**

**Week 13: Tuesday, April 9: Feminism and Security Studies**
Week 13: Thursday, April 11: Feminism and Security Studies
Cohn, Carol. 1987. “Slick’ems, Glick’ems, Christmas Trees and Cookie Cutters: Nuclear Language and How We Learned to Pat the Bomb.” Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

Week 14: Tuesday, April 16: Military Intervention and Peace-keeping

Week 14: Thursday, April 18: Peace-building

Week 15: Tuesday, April 23: The Environment and Global Security
**Research Paper Final Draft due**

Week 15: Thursday, April 25: Globalization of Information and Diffusion of Power

Week 16: Tuesday, April 30: Conclusion

Week 16: Thursday, May 2 - Final Exam Review

Week 17: Finals Week
Final Exam is scheduled for **Friday, May 10, 2013, 10:10am-12:10pm**.
Materials from Weeks 8-16 will be covered.
Format: Short Answer. Answer 5-6 questions from 8-10 possible choices.
Please bring at least one blue book and a pen to the exam.