

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Spring 2026	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	PSCI320		
Course Title	International Security		
Prerequisites	PSCI230 International Relations		
Course Instructor	HARAGUCHI Koji	Year Available (Grade Level)	2
Subject Area	Political Science	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	Cap (registrant capacity): 20 students The course is designed to provide both theoretical and empirical foundations of international security studies. As a subfield of international relations, the course will first survey theories of international security from realist, liberal, constructivist, and critical approaches. In the second section, the course will investigate major issues of international security, including war, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, religious and ethnic conflict, and measures to deal with security challenges such as alliance, collective security, and international laws and organizations. In the third section, the course will deal with new dimensions of international security including, economic, energy, environmental, and cyber security. The course will conclude by looking into the directions of the future of international security by synthesizing both the theoretical and empirical knowledge developed throughout the semester.
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	The number of discussion questions will be reduced so that the students could improve the quality of answers for each question.
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	Not applicable
Learning Goals	At the end of this course, the students will (i) develop an understanding of and interest in the major issues of international security, (ii) develop inter-cultural understanding and global thinking skills by identifying both common and unique features of national security issues of different countries and regions by collaborating with classmates with diverse background, (iii) be able to develop and express, in both oral and written form, their own opinion on, analysis of, and possible solutions for major issues of international security by applying theories and concepts learned in the course and using credible sources of information.

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2/DP3/DP4
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#### iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning/ Discussion, Debate/ Group Work/ Presentation
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	The course requirements include class discussions based on reading assignments, group debates, and an oral research presentation.

Use of ICT	The course will use a learning management system, UNIPA, to receive course materials, submit assignments, view scores of and comments on submitted assignments, contact the instructors and other students, engage in group work, view the attendance records, and more. To ensure access to course materials and the full functions of UNIPA, the students should use a laptop, or a tablet computer, not a smartphone. The use of electronic devices may be restricted in case the instructor finds that the students are not engaging in class. The use of artificial intelligence should follow the AI Policy Syllabus Statement in general and the assignment instructions for details.				
Contents of class preparation and review	Outside class sessions, the students are required to finish reading assignments, submit written answers to discussion questions, prepare for the debates in collaboration with other students, prepare for the oral presentation of research, and write the research papers. After submission of the research proposals, the students will have individual meetings with the instructor to receive feedback and discuss the plan to complete the research paper.	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	2 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	3 hours
Feedback Methods	Grading and feedback to assignments will be primarily done on LMS. Upon requests, the instructor will be available for additional comments and discussion either by e-mail exchanges or during regular office hours.				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Class discussions or quizzes	40%	The student will engage in weekly discussions or take quizzes based on reading assignments
Group debate	30%	The students will engage in a group debate on the current international security issues.
Research paper and oral presentation	30%	The students will write a paper on the topic of their choice and make an oral presentation.

Required Textbook(s)	Williams, P. D. (2023). Security studies : an introduction (4th ed.). Routledge.
Other Reading Materials/URL	<p>Browning, C. S. (2013). International security : a very short introduction (First edition. ed.). Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Collins, A. (2022). Contemporary security studies 6e. Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Dunn Cavelty, M., &amp; Balzacq, T. (2017). Routledge handbook of security studies (Second edition. ed.). Routledge. (RHSS)</p> <p>Gheciu, A., &amp; Wohlforth, W. C. (2018). The Oxford handbook of international security. Oxford University Press. (OHIS)</p> <p>Hough, P., Moran, A., Pilbeam, B., &amp; Stokes, W. (2025). International security studies: theory and practice (Third edition. ed.). Routledge.</p> <p>*Because of the dynamic nature of the course subject, additional or alternative articles or book chapters will be assigned to fit the times of the course and be available on LMS.</p>
Plagiarism Policy	The course follows the Plagiarism Guidelines of iCLA. "Plagiarism is the unauthorized duplication or reproduction of another author's reports, academic papers, or other published works, when represented as one's own original work without reference to the source..... At iCLA, plagiarism is regarded as a dishonest practice, the results of which are unworthy of evaluation. Whether intentional or unintentional, acts of plagiarism lead to strict punishments equivalent to those given to students who are found guilty of dishonest practices during examinations or any other forms of evaluated work." For more details, please consult the section of Plagiarism Guidelines in the Student Handbook.
Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	The course schedule may be readjusted as the semester proceeds.

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Course introduction International Institute of Security Studies (2023). Chapter One: Defence and military analysis Era of insecurity from the Military Balance 2024
Class 2	What is security? Whom and what should be defended from what and how? Williams textbook Introduction Browning, C. (2013). "A contested nature" from International Security: A Very Short Introduction Oxford University Press
Class 3	What is security? Whom and what should be defended from what and how? Keith Krause and Michael C. Williams Security and "Security Studies" : Conceptual Evolution and Historical Transformation from OHIS
Class 4	Realist theories of international security Williams textbook Chapter 1
Class 5	Realist theories of international security William C. Wohlforth Realism and Security Studies (RHSS)
Class 6	Liberal theories of international security Williams textbook Chapter 2  *Research Proposal Submission
Class 7	Liberal theories of international security John Owen Liberal Approaches (OHIS)
Class 8	Constructivism theories of international security Williams textbook Chapter 3 Michael Barnett Constructivism (OHIS)
Class 9	Critical theories of international security Williams textbook Chapter 3 David Mutimer Critical Security Studies (RHSS)
Class 10	Feminist theories of international security Williams textbook Chapter 5 Laura Sjoberg Feminist Security and Security Studies (OHIS)
Class 11	Causes of War Williams textbook Chapters 9 & 11 Christopher Coker War (RHSS)

Class 12	Alliance, Collective Security and Security Community Williams textbook Chapters 10 & 18
Class 13	Pre-Debate meeting
Class 14	Nuclear Weapon and Non-Proliferation Regimes Williams textbook Chapter 22 Etel Solingen Nuclear Proliferation: The Risks of Prediction (OHIS)
Class 15	Group Debate Day 1
Class 16	Group Debate Day 2
Class 17	Nuclear Weapon and Non-Proliferation Regimes Wilfred Wan. Nuclear Non-Proliferation (RHSS) Richard Ned. Lebow Deterrence, (RHSS)
Class 18	International security and political leaders Michael C. Horowitz Leaders, Leadership, and International Security (OHIS)
Class 19	Intelligence and International Security Williams textbook Chapter 29 Robert Jervis Intelligence and International Politics (OHIS)
Class 20	Environmental Security Williams textbook chapter 35 Joshua Busby Environmental Security (OHIS)
Class 21	Terrorism and Counterterrorism Williams textbook Chapters 26 & 27 Cronin (2007) Ending Terrorism. Adelphi Series, Vol. 47, Issue 394, pp.28-49
Class 22	Ethnic conflicts and genocide Williams textbook Chapters 24 & 25 Delphine Alles Ethnic and Religious Violence (RHSS)
Class 23	International Organizations and Law Williams textbook Chapters 20 & 21 Hans Peter Schmitz International Criminal Accountability and Transnational Advocacy Networks (OHIS)

Class 24	Human Security Williams textbook Chapters 15 & 16 Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørv Human Security: Lessons Learned from Afghanistan. (OHIS)
Class 25	Economy and security Heikki Patomäki International Political Economy and Security,
Class 26	Energy security Williams textbook chapter 33 Thierry Bros Energy Security: A Twentieth-Century Major Concern Becoming Irrelevant in the Twenty-First Century? (OHIS)  *Research paper submission
Class 27	Cybersecurity Williams textbook chapter 37 Ronald Deibert Trajectories for Future Cybersecurity Research (OHIS)
Class 28	Research Presentation Day 1
Class 29	Research Presentation Day 2
Class 30	Conclusion Gheciu, A. and Wohlforth, W. (2018). The Future of Security Studies (OHIS)