

Political Science 3193, Honors
 International Behavior
 Steve Chan, Spring 2009
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 Office Hours: MWF 10:00-10:50am and by appointment
 Classes: MWF 9:00-9:50am

This course will focus on crisis management and foreign policy decision making. It invites the students to examine and study a number of past episodes of intense tension and threat of military escalation. More importantly, the case method adopted in this class requires that students have to participate actively in the course and to learn from each other.

I have one text for this course: Irving Janis, *Victims of Groupthink* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin: 1982). I will select particular chapters from it for you to read. There are also several Pew cases that you can purchase directly from the Pew Case Study Center at the Georgetown University (<http://www.guisd.org>). Moreover, there are other articles that I ask you to read, articles that you can access easily through Google search or that have been placed on electronic reserve at the Norlin Library. I will furthermore ask you to watch two movies (see more details below). The reading schedule outlined below is only a rough approximation. All students *must* read *all* the required readings before each class meeting.

This being an honors course, there will not be any midterm test or final exam. At the same time, I have very high expectations of your work ethic and will require your active participation in and deep involvement with the class. Naturally, I also expect the normal rules against academic dishonesty to apply, and I will penalize any tardy assignments and unexcused absences.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, University faculty are required to make "reasonable and timely accommodations" for students with disabilities. By University policy that obligation only extends to students who have registered with the Office of Services to Disabled Students, which makes the determination of whether, for example, students have real learning disorders. If you are a student with a disability, please notify the professor in writing within the first two weeks of class what accommodations are needed. Please provide the relevant documentation.

If you want to ask for an extension for any assignment, you must seek prior approval from me after providing the necessary documentation and a written request prior to the time when the assignment is due. I will only consider legitimate reasons for such requests. I will not give make-up assignments or extensions except for reasons approved by the University policy, namely, for genuine emergency reasons beyond a student's control. Students will not be allowed to make up for missed or tardy assignments absent genuine emergencies.

Academic dishonesty in fulfilling any assignment will be grounds for failing the course. When presenting another person's ideas or data, you must provide explicit citation to acknowledge your intellectual debt.

If you have any questions about this class, please call me at x7904 during normal school hours, or see me during my office hours or by appointment. Note that the class schedule is very tight. Therefore, it is critical that you keep up with the reading

assignments and class attendance. There is very little room for slip up.

Your course evaluation will be based on the following items: 20% for class participation (of course, you cannot participate if you are absent); and 50% for serving as a discussion leader on five separate occasions (including one that must be on one of the two movies to be shown). On each occasion (10%), you will make a brief oral presentation (limited to no more than five minutes) and provide a written summary of the pertinent reading(s) (limited to no more than one single-spaced page). You will also have to write a book review on one of the books on the Iraq war (see below). This written paper will constitute 25% of your course grade, and your oral report on this review will be 5%. The weight being assigned to class participation and the very fact that this is an honors course mean that we will have a seminar format.

Your paper (or book report) is limited to twenty double-spaced pages. It is due no later than the end of class on Friday, May 1. Make sure that you have kept a back-up electronic file for this paper and make sure that you have this paper time-stamped by me or one of the office staff (I strongly prefer that you turn in your paper directly to me). For every day that your paper is tardy, its grade will be lowered by 10%. Weekend days will count toward this penalty with the clock starting at the end of class on Friday, May 1. For example, a paper that will otherwise receive a score of 80 will be reduced to 64 for being late more than 24 hours but less than 48 hours.

The three books from which you should choose to write your report on are:
 Bob Woodward, *Plan of Attack* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004);
 Bob Woodward, *State of Denial* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006); and
 Thomas E. Ricks, *Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq* (New York: Penguin Press, 2006)

I am willing to listen to your suggestions if you want to write on a substitute book. But you must obtain my approval before you proceed to pick another book for your report.

Seminar schedule is tentative as I may make adjustments to alter the timing or sequence of the readings or movies as the semester unfolds.

For those readings not in the Janis book, some are on Norlin Library's E-Reserve and others are Pew cases to be purchased from the Georgetown University's website (see above). Still others can be easily accessed through search engines such as Google or JSTOR available at Norlin Library's Chinook site for electronic journals.

January 12	Introduction
January 14	Graham T. Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," <i>American Political Science Review</i> 63, 3 (September 1969): 689-718 (JSTOR)
January 19	Martin Luther King holiday
January 16	chapters 1 and 2 (Bay of Pigs) in Janis book
January 21	chapters 3 and 4 (Korea and Pearl Harbor) in Janis book
January 23	movie, "Tora, Tora, Tora" (to be continued on February 6)
January 26, 28	chapters 5 and 6 (Vietnam and Cuban Missile Crisis) in Janis book
January 30	discussion, review, catch-up (if necessary)

- February 2 John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, "An Unnecessary War," *Foreign Policy*, 134 (January/February 2003): 50-59 (Google)
Karen J. Alter, "Is 'Groupthink' Driving Us to War?" *Boston Globe* (September 2, 2002) (Google)
- February 4 James Thomson, "How Could Vietnam Happen? An Autopsy" (E-Reserve)
- February 6 movie, "Tora, Tora, Tora" continued
- February 9 Daniel Ellsberg, "The Quagmire Myth and the Stalemate Machine" pp. 42-131 in Daniel Ellsberg, *Papers on the War* (New York, Simon and Schuster, 1972), or Daniel Ellsberg, "The Quagmire Myth and the Stalemate Machine," *Public Policy* 19, 2 (Spring 1971): 217-274 (PDF) (E-Reserve)
- February 11 Stephen D. Krasner, "Are Bureaucracies Important? (Or Allison in Wonderland)," *Foreign Policy* 7 (Summer 1971): 159-179 (Google)
Dan Caldwell, "A Research Note on the Quarantine of Cuba, October 1962," *International Studies Quarterly* 22, 4 (December 1978): 625-633 (JSTOR)
- February 13 Ole R. Holsti, "The Belief System and National Images: A Case Study," *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 6, 3 (September 1962): 244-252 (JSTOR)
- February 16 movie, "Midway" (to be continued on February 18)
- February 18 movie, "Midway" (continued)
- February 20 discussion, review, catch-up (if necessary)
- February 23 Rose McDermott "The U-2 Crisis," pp. 107-134 (chapter 5) in Rose McDermott, *Risk-Taking in International Politics: Prospect Theory in American Foreign Policy* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1998) (PDF) (E-Reserve)
- February 25 Roberta Wohlstetter, "The Reality Behind the Signals" (E-Reserve)
- February 27 Avi Shlaim, "Failures in National Intelligence Estimates: The Case of the Yom Kippur War," *World Politics* 28, 3 (March 1976): 348-380 (JSTOR)
- March 2 Bruce M. Russett, "Refining Deterrence Theory: The Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor" (E-Reserve)
- March 4 discussion, review, catch-up (if necessary)
- March 6 Marc Trachtenberg, "Preventive War and U.S. Foreign Policy," *Security Studies* 16, 1 (January-March 2007): 1-31 (JSTOR)
- March 9 Richard E. Neustadt and Ernest R. May, "The Seducer and the Kid Next Door" (E-Reserve)
- March 11, 13 Yuen Foon Khong, "Seduction by Analogy in Vietnam: The Malaya and Korea Analogies," pp. 554-564 in G. John Ikenberry (ed.), *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays* (New York: HarperCollins, 1996) (PDF) (E-Reserve)
Darren C. Brunk, "Curing the Somalia Syndrome: Analogy, Foreign Policy Decision Making, and the Rwandan Genocide," *Foreign Policy Analysis* 4, 3 (July 2008): 301-320 (JSTOR)

March 16	Steve Smith, "The Hostage Rescue Mission" (E-Reserve)
March 18	discussion, review, catch-up (if necessary)
March 20, 30	Lippincott and Treverton, "Falklands/Malvinas" (Pew)
March 23-27	Spring Break
April 1	Kennedy, "Reagan Administration and Lebanon" (Pew)
April 3	Menkhaus and Ortmyer, "Key Decisions in the Somalia Intervention" (Pew)
	(if you have the time and inclination, you should watch the movie, "Blackhawk Down" on your own)
April 6	Ortmyer and Flinn, "Hamstrung over Haiti: Returning the Refugees" (Pew)
April 8, 10	Samantha Power, "Bystanders to Genocide," <i>The Atlantic Monthly</i> 288, 2 (September 2001): 84-108. (Google)
	(if you have the time and inclination, you should watch the PBS film, "Ghosts of Rwanda," on your own)
April 13	discussion, review, catch-up (if necessary)
April 15	Bjork and Goodman, "Yugoslavia, 1991-92" (Pew)
April 17	Alan J. Kuperman, "The Moral Hazard of Humanitarian Intervention: Lessons from the Balkans," <i>International Studies Quarterly</i> 52, 1 (March 2008): 49-80
April 20	Dallmeyer, "The Kuwait Crisis" (Pew)
April 22, 24, 27, 29	oral reports of your book reviews
May 1	wrap-up, book review due by end of class to avoid penalty for tardiness