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PSCI 3123-001 – War, Peace, and Strategic Defense

CASE E240

MWF - 1:50 PM - 2:40 PM

Instructor Contact Information

E-mail: michael.kanner@colorado.edu

Office Location – Ketchum 114F

Office Hours – None. Request a CONFERENCE on CANVAS for a virtual office visit

Campus Box: 333 UCB

Teaching Assistant – Cong Wang

E-mail - Cong.Wang@Colorado.EDU

Communication Policies

E-mail is the best way to contact me. I usually answer within 12 hours, although sometimes this is just acknowledgment of receipt.

Instructor Biography

I have been a lecturer in political science and international affairs since 2001 and have taught most international relations subjects from security to economics. My bachelor's degree was in science with a concentration in engineering. I also have a master's in managerial science from Troy State University, international relations from Salve Regina University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder, where I focused on political psychology and its effect on foreign policy decision making.

Before joining academia, I served in the U.S. Army, including assignments as an operations officer and analyst from brigade to theater army level in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. As an analyst, my work included studies on expert decision making, low-intensity conflict, and preventive diplomacy.

Course Description (from the catalog)

Analyzes employment, or the threat of employing force, in securing American interests in the post-Cold War world. Gives special attention to utilities claimed for nuclear weapons, and alternatively, to weapons control and disarmament.

Recommended prerequisite: PSCI 2223. Similar to PACS 3800.

Course Objectives

1. Explain the reasons for war at the individual, state, and system levels.
2. Define what is meant by strategy.
3. Discuss the different uses of military power.
4. Identify future trends in the use of military power.

Questions.

1. Is warfare a matter of nature or nurture?
2. Are some states more likely to go to war?
3. How do the dynamics of the international system cause war?
4. What are some strategies for the use of military force and power?
5. What strategies can we expect in the future?

Overview

Classes under COVID

Due to COVID 19 restrictions and University policies, only one-third of you will attend the lectures on any day. Your days will be based on your last name, as listed here.

	Last Name	
	From	To
Monday	Abramson-Pritchard	Goodman
Wednesday	Gore	Mudsam
Friday	Muelken	Ward

Lectures will simultaneously be available as a CONFERENCE on CANVAS. You will see them listed on the day of the class under NEW CONFERENCES. The lectures will also be recorded so that students that miss the scheduled lecture period will be able to view them.

If you are not familiar with the CONFERENCES tool, there is a short guide at <https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/How-do-I-use-Conferences-in-a-course-as-a-student/ta-p/470>. There is also a video on YOUTUBE to give you an overview - <https://youtu.be/uYYnryIM0Uw>.

Student

You are responsible for knowing when you are supposed to be physically attending class. Be on time, and maintain social distancing when you take your seats. I start on time and consider being late as a sign of disrespect for other students.

If you are not scheduled to be physically present, you are responsible for logging into the CONFERENCE on time for the class. You should mute yourself unless you are asking a question or commenting on the CHAT ROOM.

Do the readings in advance of the lectures. The class is based on discussions, so being uninformed will hurt your learning. You should analyze each reading for these elements.

1. Identify the assumptions or statements that frame the argument.
2. Examine the accuracy and validity of these assumptions or statements.
3. Analyze how these assumptions result in different perspectives about the world.
4. Compare the different policies that may come from different assumptions.

Finally, keep up with the news. We will be applying what we learn to current events. Unfortunately, the most common news sources (e.g., browser feeds) do not include international news except for disasters or crises. You should explore sites with more global news. One that I use is [The Economist Magazine](https://subscription.economist.com/DE/EngCore/Ecom/WelOvlay). They have a one-semester subscription special for students (<https://subscription.economist.com/DE/EngCore/Ecom/WelOvlay>).

Course Outline and Schedule.

Pay attention to the page numbers for chapters in *What Causes War?* Because of the chapter length, I have split most of the readings into two parts.

August				
24 – Syllabus, Introduction (This Class will be held remotely as a CONFERENCE in CANVAS.)	25	26 – WCW 1	27	28 – WCW 2: 13 – 30
31 – WCW 2: 30 – 48				
September				
	1	2 – WCW 3: 49 – 84	3	4 – WCW 3: 84 – 114
7 – Labor Day (No Class)	8	9 – WCW 4: 115 – 127	10	11 – WCW 4: 128 – 168
14 – WCW 5: 169 – 190	15	16 – WCW 5: 190 – 198	17	18 – WCW 6: 199 – 218
21 – WCW 6: 218 – 236	22	23 – WCW 7	24	25 – WCW 8: 279 – 293
28 – WCW 8: 293 – 317	29	30 – Exam 1		
October				
			1	2 – WCW 9: 319 – 338
5 – WCW 10: 371 – 388	6	7 – WCW 10: 388 – 406	8	9 – WCW 11: 407 – 431
12 – WCW 11: 431 – 459	13	14 – WCW 12	15	16 – SSR 1
19 – SSR 2	20	21 – SSR 3	22	23 – SSR 4
26 – SSR 10	27	28 – WCW 9: 339 – 369	29	30 – SSR 7

November				
2 – Canvas: Art	3	4 – Exam 2	5	6 – SSR 12
9 – SSR 13	10	11 – SSR 14	12	13 – SSR 17
16 – SSR 18	17	18 – SSR 19	19	20 – SSR 20
23 – SSR 21	24	25 – SSR 22	26 - Thanksgiving	27 - Thanksgiving
TRANSITION TO REMOTE LEARNING ¹				
30 – SSR 23				
December				
	1	2 – SSR 24	3	4 – Canvas: Betts
7 – TBP				
Exam 3 will be available during finals week. The specific dates and times will be posted as part of the review sheet.				
Legend				
WCW	Cashman, Greg. 2013. <i>What Causes War?: An Introduction to Theories of International Conflict. 2nd Edition</i> . Boulder, CO: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.			
SSR	Mahnken, Thomas G., and Joseph A. Maiolo. 2014. <i>Strategic Studies: A Reader. 2nd Edition</i> . New York: Routledge.			
CANVAS: Betts	This reading will be available for downloading and reading on CANVAS. It will be linked to			

Required Texts (do **NOT** use earlier editions)

Cashman, Greg. 2013. *What Causes War?: An Introduction to Theories of International Conflict. 2nd Edition*. Boulder, CO: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Mahnken, Thomas G., and Joseph A. Maiolo. 2014. *Strategic Studies: A Reader. 2nd Edition*. New York: Routledge

Grading Criteria

Your final grade will be based on how many points you accrue and this grading scale. Because Canvas uses a default grading scheme, there may be a difference between the final grade and what is listed. I will post your Final Grade on CANVAS before posting it to the Registrar's office.

A	94-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	0-59
A-	90-93	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66		
		B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62		

¹ Classes after this point will be conducted on CANVAS using CONFERENCEs. These will be held at the scheduled class time. They will be recorded for those that cannot attend at that time.

Grades are based on these elements.

Module Exams – 3 at 30 points each	90 points
Attendance	10 points
Total	100 points

Exams. Because we cannot have everyone in the class, exams will be held online.

- a. Exams will consist of five short-paragraph essays related to the critical questions in the module (look at the discussion and study questions for hints).
- b. You will have one hour for each of these exams.
- c. These exams will be available as ASSIGNMENTS: EXAMS on CANVAS for a specific period (these will be part of the review sheet). Make sure that you have a good internet connection before starting each exam because dropped service can result in losing your work.

Attendance. You will be asked to sign in on those days that you are supposed to be physically in class. Absences will only be excused based on illness, incarceration, religious observation, work/sports/ROTC commitments, or family emergencies. Documentation for the absence may be requested.

If you miss a class, it can be observed as a CONFERENCE on CANVAS.

Policies (as established by the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education)

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

REQUIREMENTS FOR COVID-19

As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, all members of the C.U. Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements, and public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at C.U. Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,

- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a C.U. Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [C.U. Boulder Medical Services](#).

Students who fail to adhere to these requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). For more information, see the policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the "Accommodation for Disabilities" statement on this syllabus.

Before returning to campus, all students must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course](#). Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a [Daily Health Form](#)

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the [Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form](#) remotely. If you are sick or quarantined, notify me as soon as possible. You do not need to tell me the nature of the illness, just the approximate period that you will be absent so that we can arrange accommodations.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

HONOR CODE

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION

The University of Colorado Boulder (C.U. Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. C.U. Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, notify me of the days that you will be missing, and we will arrange accommodations.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#)