

PSCI 3123: War, Peace, and Strategic Defense

Fall 2018

Instructor: Dr. Megan Roosevelt

Email: megan.roosevelt@colorado.edu

Location: Hellems 211

Time: TTh 9:30 – 10:45am

Office: Ketchum 122

Office Hours: W 1:00 – 3:00pm

or by appointment

Course Overview/Objectives: This is an upper-division political science course devoted to the analysis of various types of violent conflict. We will look at militarized disputes between multiple state actors, at civil conflicts with state and non-state opponents, and at international and domestic terrorist activity, focusing first on trends in and determinants of each type of conflict, then on strategies for their resolution, and finally on contemporary case studies drawing on ongoing conflicts in East Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, and beyond. We will also look at how armed conflict shapes social networks and norms for women, children, and other marginalized groups, and we will finish the semester with an exploration of new or non-traditional forms of combat, such as nuclear proliferation, cyberterrorism, and ambiguous warfare. Students will learn theories of conflict onset and resolution for various types of disputes, and will apply theoretical frameworks to ongoing instances of political violence around the world.

Required Text:

- All assigned readings will be available online through D2L.

Grading Policy:

Attendance	10%
Participation	10%
Short papers	20% (4 @ 5% apiece)
Midterm Exam	30%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

For converting final percentages into letter grades, A: 94-100, A-: 90-93, B+: 86-89, B: 83-85, B-: 80-82, C+: 77-79, C: 73-76, C-: 70-72, D+: 67-69, D: 63-66, D-: 60-62, F: <60.

Graded items and assignments:

Attendance: Students will sign next to their name on daily attendance sheets which will circulate at the beginning of each class. Attendance makes up 10 percent of the overall grade. Students are allowed three missed classes with no questions asked; beyond that, each missed day will deduct one percentage point from your attendance grade (i.e. once you miss 13 days of class, you will have an attendance grade of 0). The three free days are intended to encompass all absences, “excused” or otherwise. If you miss a day due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, feel free to drop by my office hours or talk about it if you wish, but I do not require (or want) documentation to attempt to excuse the absence.

Participation: Students will receive a participation score that counts for 10 percent of their overall grade in the class. This grade will come in part from routine engagement with colleagues and course materials during the semester, and in part from contribution to casual in-class debates. Reading and podcast listening assignments should be completed before the class for which they are assigned; as an upper-division class, this

course will require readings for most days, including some peer-reviewed scientific articles. While you may not understand all of the quantitative testing, you should make your best effort to understand the arguments put forth and the broader debates in which they are situated. If you need help with effective reading strategies for academic writing, please come by office hours.

Short papers: At the end of each ~3-week unit (interstate war, civil conflict, terrorism, and additional topics in security studies), students will submit a short paper approximately 1 page, single-spaced, in length. These should be a reflection on the material covered in the previous weeks that applies theory to ongoing conflicts – the conflicts analyzed may be ones covered in our case studies for that unit, or they may be others identified by the student, provided they provide a sentence or two of background on conflicts we have not discussed in class. I will provide further guidelines and examples for these responses as the deadlines approach.

Exams: There will be two exams throughout the course of the semester, each worth 30% of the final grade. One will take place in class in Week 9, and the other will be during the class' final exam slot, to be determined by the University. Exams will include identification terms, multiple choice, and short answer sections; they are designed to be completed within 60 minutes. I will provide review material before exams, either in class or on D2L, as class time permits. If you know in advance that you will miss an exam, please tell me as soon as possible to schedule an alternative exam. If you miss the exam unexpectedly, you must contact me to make up those points within a week.

Late work policy: Short papers will be assessed a one-letter-grade penalty for every day after the due date that they are not turned in. For grading concerns, please wait 24 hours after receiving the graded paper or exam back, then email me at megan.roosevelt@colorado.edu to describe the nature of your grade complaint, and we will set a time to meet within the next week. Please do not come to me with grade complaints more than one week after receiving the graded assignment – if you feel a grade does not reflect the quality of your work, I expect you to take some time to think through your argument, and then be proactive about it.

Class Schedule:

*subject to change

Week 1: Introduction

- Tuesday, 8/20: syllabus day
- Thursday, 8/30: ****no class – APSA annual conference****

Week 2: How to study war and peace

- Tuesday, 9/04: Paradigms and actors
- Thursday, 9/06: What do we know about war?

Unit 1: Interstate War

Week 3: Understanding interstate conflict

- Tuesday, 9/11: Defining and explaining interstate conflicts
 - Reading: Jones, Daniel M., Stuart A. Bremer, and J. David Singer. 1996. "Militarized Interstate Disputes, 1816-1992: Rationale, Coding Rules, and Empirical Patterns." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 15(2): 163-213.

- Thursday, 9/13: Explaining militarized interstate disputes II
 - Reading: Jervis, Robert. 1978. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics* 30(2): **begin at section III – read from 186-214.**

Week 4: Facilitating interstate peace

- Tuesday, 9/18: Strategic arms reduction and deterrence
 - Reading: "Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty I and II." US Dept. of State, Office of the Historian. <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1969-1976/salt>
 - "Strategic Arms Reduction Treaties, 1991 and 1993." US Dept. of State, archives. <https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/pcw/104210.htm>
- Thursday, 9/20: The democratic peace and other domestic factors
 - Reading: Maoz, Zeev, and Bruce Russett. 1993. "Normative and Structural Causes of the Democratic Peace, 1946-1986." *American Political Science Review* 87(3): 624-638.

Week 5: Case studies of interstate war

- Tuesday, 9/25: Applying different theoretical lenses to North Korea
 - Reading: Jervis, Robert, and Mira Rapp-Hooper. "Hypothesis and Misperception on the Korean Peninsula: How Unwanted Wars Begin." *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2018.
- Thursday, 9/27: Applying theories of interstate conflict to non-MIDs
 - Reading: "Trade war: The US and China just slapped new tariffs on each other." *CNNPolitics*, August 23, 2018. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/08/23/politics/china-us-tariffs/index.html>
 - **Short paper 1 due in class**

Unit 2: Civil Wars

Week 6: Understanding intrastate conflict

- Tuesday, 10/02: Defining and explaining civil wars
 - Reading: Walter, Barbara F. 2009. "Bargaining Failures and Civil War." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 243-261.
- Thursday, 10/04: Strategies of selective and indiscriminant violence
 - Reading: Kalyvas, Stathis N. 2006. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*. Cambridge University Press: Chapters 6 & 7.

Week 7: Facilitating intrastate peace

- Tuesday, 10/09: Bargaining and third party intermediaries
 - Reading: Koga, Jun. 2011. "Where do Third Parties Intervene? Third Parties' Domestic Institutions and Military Interventions in Civil Conflicts." *International Studies Quarterly* 55(4): 1143-1166.
- Thursday, 10/11: United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
 - Reading: Hultman, Lisa, Jacob Kathman, and Megan Shannon. 2014. "Beyond Keeping Peace: United Nations Effectiveness in the Midst of Fighting." *American Political Science Review* 108(4): 737-753.

Week 8: Case studies of intrastate war

- Tuesday, 10/16: South Sudan

- Reading: Gorur, Aditi, and Rachel Stohl. “Two Options for South Sudan – And Neither of Them is Good.” *Foreign Affairs* snapshot July 27, 2016.
- Thursday, 10/18: Yemen
 - Reading: TBD
 - **Short paper 2 due in class**

Week 9:

- Tuesday, 10/23: Midterm review
- Thursday, 10/25: **Midterm exam**

Unit 3: Terrorism

Week 10: Understanding terrorist tactics

- Tuesday, 10/30: Types of terrorism
 - Reading: Kydd, Andrew H., and Barbara F. Walter. 2006. “The Strategies of Terrorism.” *International Security* 31(1): 49-80.
- Thursday, 11/01: What factors breed domestic terror?
 - Reading: Piazza, James A. 2011. “Poverty, Minority Economic Discrimination, and Domestic Terrorism.” *Journal of Peace Research* 48(3): 339-353.

Week 11: Case studies of terrorism

- Tuesday, 11/06: Applying different theoretical lenses to ISIS operations
 - Listen: *Caliphate* podcast (accessible free at <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/caliphate>)
 - Prologue: The Mission (6 min)
 - Chapter Two: Recruitment (32 min)
- Thursday, 11/08: Is ISIS dead?
 - Reading: Irving, Doug. “What Life Under ISIS Looked Like from Space.” *RAND Review*, January 9, 2018. <https://www.rand.org/blog/rand-review/2018/01/what-life-under-isis-looked-like-from-space.html>
 - Ward, Antonia. “Do Terrorist Groups Really Die? A Warning.” *The RAND Blog*, April 9, 2018. <https://www.rand.org/blog/2018/04/do-terrorist-groups-really-die-a-warning.html>
 - **Short paper 3 due in class**

Unit 4: Miscellaneous topics in security studies

Week 12: Migration and political violence

- Tuesday, 11/13: Displaced persons from interstate and civil conflict
 - Browse: <https://refugeerepublic.submarinechannel.com/>
- Thursday, 11/15: Migration and security concerns
 - Reading: Adamson, Fiona B. “Crossing Borders: International Migration and National Security.” *International Security* 31(1): 165-199.

Week 13: Fall Break

Week 14: Conflict and family networks

- Tuesday, 11/27: Women in conflict zones

- Listen: *Women in Conflict* podcast (accessible free at <https://player.fm/series/women-in-conflict>): **pick any episode(s) - Libya, South Sudan, or Afghanistan**
- Thursday, 11/29: Families in war zones and refugee camps
 - Reading: Achvarina, Vera, and Simon F. Reich. 2006. "No Place to Hide: Refugees, Displaced Persons, and the Recruitment of Child Soldiers." *International Security* 31(1): 127-164.

Week 15: Nuclear security

- Tuesday, 12/04: Nuclear strategy
 - Reading: Sagan, Scott D. 1997. "Why Do States Build Nuclear Weapons? Three Models in Search of a Bomb." *International Security* 21(3): 54-86.
- Thursday, 12/06: Iran's nuclear program
 - Reading: Jervis, Robert. "Turn Down for What?" *Foreign Affairs* snapshot, July 15, 2015.
 - Posen, Barry R. "We Can Live with a Nuclear Iran." MIT Center for International Studies, March 2006.

Week 16: New forms of warfare

- Tuesday, 12/11: Cyberwar and cybersecurity
 - Reading: Hennessey, Susan. "Deterring Cyberattacks: How to Reduce Vulnerability." *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2017.
- Thursday, 12/13: Ambiguous warfare and weaponized intelligence
 - Reading: Connell, Mary Ellen, and Ryan Evans. "Russia's 'Ambiguous Warfare' and Implications for the US Marine Corps." *CNA*, May 2015.
 - **Short paper 4 due in class**

University Policies:

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 or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

Classroom Behavior: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. 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. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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 who are 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 (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and 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, 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. If this applies to you, please let me know at the start of the semester.