

PSCI-3191-001: NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS/POLICY MAKING

Date and Time – Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 2:00 to 2:50 PM

Location – Hlms 211

Instructor: Dr. Mike Kanner

Contact information

E-Mail: michael.kanner@colorado.edu

Office Location – Ketchum 114F

Office Hours – Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 10:30 to 11:30 AM

Campus Box Office: 333 UCB

Communication Policies

The best way to contact me is by e-mail. My normal response time is 8 to 12 hours (although it may just be an acknowledgment).

Instructor Biography

In addition to political science, I teach for the international affairs and Farrand Hall residential academic programs. Although I have taught in most subfields of political science, my focus is in conflict and security studies as well as American foreign policy. While my bachelor's degree at the US Military Academy was a concentration in engineering, my masters' are in managerial science from Troy State University, and international relations from Salve Regina University. My Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder focused on political psychology and foreign policy decision making.

Prior to teaching, I had a career in the Department of Defense serving as an operations officer from brigade to theater Army level in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. My final assignment was as a Senior Plans and Policy analyst at Headquarters, US Army Europe where I dealt with issues related to the end of the Cold War including political violence and force transition. Additionally, I was an analyst/investigator on several special study groups including the Defense Department's *Joint Low-Intensity Conflict Study Group*, the Army War College's *Living Expert System (Senior Leader Decision Support System) Concept Study Group*, and SAIC's *Military Forces in Preventive Diplomacy Study Group*.

Course Description (from course catalog)

Analyzes how the American governmental and political system is structured to define, select, and implement national security policies. Examines roles of the president, Congress, bureaucracy, interest groups, and other actors. Prerequisite PSCI 1101.

Objectives

1. Understand the history behind and context in which national security policy is made.
2. Identify the major institutional players, their powers and roles within the domestic political environment.
3. Identify the effect of the budget and interest groups on security policy.
4. Recognize the unique aspects of the military and the different branches.
5. Examine future security challenges.

Overview of Class and Responsibilities

Each of us has roles in the classrooms. As the instructor, I am a resource and moderator. As students, you have responsibility for your learning.

Instructor

I will be on time and prepared to lead the class. A normal class will start with an introduction to the subject. This is not a lecture and will highlight key aspects of that day's readings along with asking the class for comments about these points. The class will usually end with a discussion period on a question raised by the reading (e.g., What do you see as the proper role of Congress in security policy?).

Student

Your first responsibility is to show up to class and to be on time. Readings are only part of the class. I also consider lateness is a sign of disrespect to the other students.

Second, do the readings in advance of attendance. The class is based on discussions, so being uninformed will decrease everybody's learning experience. You should analyze each reading for these elements.

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

Finally, keep up with the news. It is always an interesting time to study politics. We will be using current events to illustrate and apply what we learn in class. There are several internationally oriented free newsletters available. I recommend that you subscribe to at least one of these. (These are not endorsements of these institutes or companies or their products.)

- GlobalSecurity.org - <https://www.globalsecurity.org/index.html>
- Stratfor Global intelligence - <http://www.stratfor.com/>
- Foreign Affairs - <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/newsletters>

Required Texts

There are three texts required for this class.

George, Roger Z., and Harvey Rishikof. 2017. *The National Security Enterprise: Navigating the Labyrinth*. 2nd Edition. Washington, DC: Georgetown Press.

Sapolsky, Harvey M., Eugene Gholz, and Caitlin Talmadge. 2017. *U.S. Defense Politics: The Origins of Security Policy*, 3rd Edition. New York: Routledge

Snow, Donald. 2017. *National Security*, 6th Edition. New York: Routledge

In addition, there are readings that are posted on D2L. These can be found and downloaded from links on the day that the readings are assigned.

Grading

Final grades are based on a 100-point scale.

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		

Your final grade will be a function of the points you achieve. Points are allocated on the following basis.

Exams – 2 at 25 points each	50 points
Final Exam – 35 points	35
Attendance/Participation	15 points
Total	100 points

Exams.

There will be three exams including the final exam. All are in-class, closed book exams. They will consist of eight questions (one paragraph essay) from which students will select six. These questions are mostly drawn from the in-class discussion questions and will require some synthesis of the subjects discussed since the last exam. A review sheet for each exam will be published at least one week prior to the exam.

Attendance.

Absences will only be excused based on illness, incarceration, religious observation, work, sports team, ROTC or military commitments, or family emergencies. Documentation for the absence may be requested.

Class Schedule

August				
27 – Syllabus; Snow 1	28	29 – Snow 2	30	31 – USDP 2
September				
3 – Labor Day (no class)	4	5 – D2L: Porter_Grand Strategy	6	7 – Snow 3
10 – Snow 4	11	12 – Snow 5	13	14 – NSS
17 – NSE 1	18	19 – NSE 13	20	21 – USDP 9
24 – NSE 15	25	26 – NSE 16	27	28 – NSE 17
October				
1 – Exam	2	3 – Snow 6	4	5 – USDP 10
8 – NSE 2	9	10 – NSE 4	11	12 – NSE 6
15 – USDP 11	16	17 – NSE 9	18	19 – NSE 10
22 – NSE 11	23	24 – USDP 11	25	26 – NSE 12
29 – Snow 7	30	31 – USDP 7		
November				
			1	2 – Exam
5 – Snow 8	6	7 – USDP 3	8	9 – USDP 5

12 – USDP 6	13	14 – NSE 7	15	16 – Snow 9
19 - Break	20 - Break	21 - Break	22 - Break	23 - Break
26 – Snow 10	27	28 – Snow 11	29	30 – Snow 12
December				
3 – NSE 5	4	5 – Snow 13	6	7 – USDP 14
10 – Snow 14	11	12 – NSE: Conclusion	13	14 – Reading Day
Final – Sun., Dec. 16, 1:30 to 4 PM				
Legend				
NSE	George, Roger Z., and Harvey Rishikof. 2017. <i>The National Security Enterprise: Navigating the Labyrinth. 2nd Edition</i> . Washington, DC: Georgetown Press.			
USDP	Sapolsky, Harvey M., Eugene Gholz, and Caitlin Talmadge. 2017. <i>U.S. Defense Politics: The Origins of Security Policy, 3rd Edition</i> . New York: Routledge			
Snow	Snow, Donald. 2017. <i>National Security, 6th Edition</i> . New York: Routledge			
D2L	Reading is posted on D2L and linked to the day that it is the assigned reading.			

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

SYLLABUS STATEMENTS

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. In this class, see me and we will work on any necessary accommodation. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.