

PSCI-3191-001: NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS/POLICY MAKING (REVISED FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTION)

New information is highlighted.

Instructor: Dr. Mike Kanner

Contact information

E-Mail: michael.kanner@colorado.edu

Consultation by appointment using Canvas Chat

Campus Box Office: 333 UCB

Communication Policies

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

Instructor Biography

In addition to political science, I teach for International Affairs and Farrand Hall residential academic programs. Although I have taught in most subfields of political science, my focus is on 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.

Before 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 the 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 have notes, my lecture, and slides available by the dates posted on the syllabus. I will also be available for virtual office hours by appointment using the **Chat** tool on Canvas.

Student

Understanding the University's course support software (Canvas) is necessary for taking this course. If you are not familiar or don't feel confident in your knowledge, visit the OIT website for Student Support Videos (<https://oit.colorado.edu/services/teaching-learning-tools/canvas/student-support/student-support-videos>).

Second, do the readings. 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 different assumptions.

Finally, keep up with the news. It is always an exciting time to study politics. We will be using current events to illustrate and apply what we learn in class.

Required Texts

There are two texts and one reading required for this class.

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

Meese, Michael J, Suzanne C. Nielsen, and Rachel M. Sondheimer. 2018. *American National Security, 7th Edition*. Baltimore, MD: John Hopkins University Press

National Security Strategy of the United States of America, December 2017. This is available on CANVAS or at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/NSS-Final-12-18-2017-0905-2.pdf>

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 (up through March 11, 2020)	8 points
Online participation	7 points
Total	100 points

Exams.

There will be three exams, including the Final Exam.

- The first one was in-class, closed-book exams consisting of seven questions (one paragraph essay) from which students will select five.
- The second one will be online and an open book. You will have sixty (60) minutes for this Exam.
- The final will also be online and open book. It will consist of seven questions. You will have two hours for this Exam. It will be posted and available from noon on April 29 to 11:59 PM on May 2, 2020.

These questions are mostly drawn from the 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 before 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.

Online participation.

Online discussion participation consists of posting your responses to discussion questions and your reaction to the postings of other students. When your posting has resulted in a question from Dr. Kanner, you should respond to that question as well.

There will be nine online lessons, each worth one point. Of these, you need to participate in seven lessons if you want full credit. Anything beyond the minimum will count as extra credit. This means there are now two points of extra credit available.

Lessons for the online section of the course will be found on **Canvas**. Each lesson consists of –

- A short introduction provides the context for the lesson
- A set of study questions (to guide your reading)
- Your reading assignment
- An audio file with a lecture.
- A slide packet for you to review while listening to the lecture.
- The discussion question for the lesson. This will be available as a **Canvas Discussion**. To get credit, you must post your comment before the end date for the lesson.

All of these will be available on **Canvas** as links on the **Home** Page, the same as notes and slides have been for the first two modules of the semester.

Read the assignment and listen to the lecture before posting your comments on the online discussions.

Class Schedule

January				
13- Syllabus and NSE: Introduction	14	15 – ANS 1	16	17 – ANS 2
20 – MLK Birthday	21	22 – NSE 1	23	24 – ANS 3
27 – CANVAS: NSS	28	29 – AN13S 4	30	31 – ANS 5
February				
3 – NSE 13	4	5 – NSE 15	6	7 – NSE 16
10 – NSE 17	11	12 – Exam	13	14 – ANS 6
17 – NSE 12	18	19 – NSE 11	20	21 – ANS 7
24 – NSE 9	25	26 – NSE 10	27	28 – ANS 9
March				
2 – NSE 3	3	4 – ANS 10	5	6 – NSE 2
9 – ANS 11	10	11 – NSE 4	12	13 – ANS 12 This is available as a file labeled 'Lesson Mar13.pdf.'
16 – NSE 8	17	18 – Exam	19	20 – ANS 8
23 – Spring Break	24 – Spring Break	25 – Spring Break	26 – Spring Break	27 – Spring Break
Transition to Online Instruction				
Lesson			Dates	
Lesson – The Military as an Institution			March 31 – April 2	
Lesson – Military Power and Conventional Warfare			April 3 – April 7	
Lesson – The Changing Face of War			April 8 – April 10	
Lesson – Nuclear Warfare			April 11 – April 13	
Lesson – East Asia and South Asia			April 14 – April 16	
Lesson – The Mideast and Sub-Saharan Africa			April 17 – April 19	
Lesson – Russia and Europe			April 20 – April 22	
Lesson – Latin America			April 23 – April 25	
Lesson – Conclusion and the Way Ahead			April 26 – April 28	
Final – noon on April 29 to 11:59 PM on May 2, 2020				
Legend				

ANS	Meese, Michael J, Suzanne C. Nielsen, and Rachel M. Sondheimer. 2018. <i>American National Security, 7th Edition</i> . Baltimore, MD: John Hopkins University Press
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Online Behavior Policy

In addition to participating in the conversations, I will be monitoring all postings for *ad hominem* attacks and cyber-bullying. First-time violators will be warned about postings and online behavior. The second time by the same offender will result in the removal of posting access. You will still be required to take the exams but will be penalized by not being able to earn a score for participation. Any student that feels that online postings are offensive or think that they are the victim of cyber-bullying through the course should contact me at michael.kanner@colorado.edu.

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

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. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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 (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, intimate partner abuse (including 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, 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, e-mail me (Michael.kanner@colorado.edu) to inform me of any days that will be missed. If there is a graded assignment due on that day, we will work out alternate due dates or means of evaluating.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.