POLITICAL SCIENCE 154: WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Summer Session I (July 2 – August 4, 2012)  Professor Erik Gartzke
MW 5:00 – 7:50PM  Office: 327 SSB (Poli Sci)
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Office Hours: Tues 1:30 - 3:00 PM  E-mail: egartzke@ucsd.edu
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Course Description:
This course provides an overview of the threats posed to national and international security by chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons. Students will learn about how these weapons function, why states seek them, and how nations seek to prevent proliferation. The course will do this in part by delving into the technical and policy challenges related to these weapons. It will further address how CBRN weapons shape states’ national security strategies and regional security dynamics. Efforts at the international level to restrict the use and proliferation of these weapons will be discussed. We will also explore the future of WMD and CBRN terrorism.

Course Requirements:
• Class Participation (20% of course grade): Come to class prepared to discuss that day’s readings. You are encouraged to ask questions and to discuss your ideas. There is a much higher premium on being willing to question and debate than on being ‘right.’
• Two short papers (40% of course grade, 20% each): 2-4 pages each. These will be discussed in class. Choose an optional reading and write an analytical summary.
• Final Exam (40% of course grade): Essay exam, choice of questions. Bring exam book.

Note #1: Students are encouraged to study and learn together. However, all written assignments must be the sole product of the person submitting the work. Don’t cheat and don’t plagiarize. If you have any questions about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, please see me.

Note #2: It is your responsibility to apprise me of any factor that may interfere with your ability to perform in this class well in advance of scheduled assignments. Appropriate measures for disabilities and other concerns will be taken in accordance with University of California policy.

Note #3: In order to document requests, students seeking a change of grade must prepare a written memo detailing his or her request and citing reasons for requesting the proposed change.

Required Readings:
There are three required textbooks. Each is available from several sources used and at a relatively low price. Note that the Cirincione text can be obtained directly from the Carnegie website.

Students are also encouraged to familiarize themselves with major periodicals with a focus on international relations/foreign policy and follow the international section of major newspapers:

- Washington Post ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/world](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/world))
- Foreign Affairs ([http://www.foreignaffairs.org](http://www.foreignaffairs.org))
- The National Interest ([http://www.nationalinterest.org](http://www.nationalinterest.org))
- Foreign Policy Association ([http://www.fpa.org/](http://www.fpa.org/))

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 1 (July 2, 4 [no class]): Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday July 2:</td>
<td>Introduction/Syllabus/Levels, Methods, and Concepts</td>
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<td>No class Wednesday July 4th Holiday: Get ahead in your reading!!</td>
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<td>- Paul Kerr. 2008. “Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons and Missiles:</td>
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<td>Status and Trends.” Congressional Research Service (February 20). Access at:</td>
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<td>WEEK 2 (July 9, 11): Nuclear Weapons</td>
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<td>Monday July 9: History/How Stuff Works</td>
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<td>History:</td>
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<td>74(1):135-152.</td>
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<td>How Stuff Works:</td>
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Optional reading:

Wednesday July 11: Why States Want WMD

Optional reading:

**WEEK 3 (July 16, 18): Nuclear Strategy and Chemical/Biological Weapons**

**Monday July 16: Nuclear Deterrence / Nuclear Compellence**
- Sagan and Waltz. “Chapters 1-2.” *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons*

**Optional reading:**
- Sagan and Waltz. “Chapters 3-5.” *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons*
Wednesday July 18: Chemical and Biological Weapons.

**Biological Weapons:**

**Chemical Weapons:**

*Optional reading:*

**WEEK 4 (July 23, 25): Proliferation and Weaponization**

**Monday July 23: Proliferation/Counter Proliferation**
Optional readings:

Wednesday July 25: Weapons Platforms (Ballistic & Cruise Missiles)
- Cirincione. “Missile Proliferation.” *Deadly Arsenals*, 83-117.

Optional readings:
- Federation of American Scientists, “Ballistic Missile Basics”
  http://www.fas.org/nuke/intro/missile/basics.htm

WEEK 5 (July 30, August 1): Terrorism, Regional Tensions, and the Future
Monday July 30: CBRN Terrorism

Optional readings:

Wednesday August 1: Regional WMD Security Issues (**Note:** Read for one [1] country of your choice. The rest are optional readings. ****)

**United States**

**Russia**
- Cirincione. “Russia.” *Deadly Arsenals*, 121-162.

**China**

**Iran**
North Korea

Friday August 3: *** FINAL EXAM: 7 – 9:50PM  Location TBA ***