Political Science 1421: US National and International Security  
Randy Willoughby  
Spring Quarter 2007  
Email: rwil@ucsd.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1230 to 13t, Café Rimac

Course Description: This course explores various dimensions of US national security policy, including military technology, the defense budget and industry, nuclear history and strategy, arms control, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, and of course the war and postwar in Iraq. The course is designed to complement one on Regional Security, which explores security issues in different regions of the world, but neither course is a prerequisite for the other. Lectures are often supplemented by special guest appearances.

Exams and Papers: Midterm and final exams are worth 50 per cent of the course grade each unless an optional paper is written. For those students who exercise the paper option, papers count 25 per cent of the course grade, and the exams count 37.5 per cent each. Optional papers consist of a five page literature review, typed and double spaced with standard font, drawing on any four articles from the syllabus (not counting a cover page that shows your name and bibliography.) Literature reviews should organize the discussion thematically, and integrate at least two of the authors into each theme. See the Toby Dodge review essay on electronic reserve for a role model. Papers are due in class May 24. Make up exams are only offered to those with documented conflicts and emergencies; the midterm make up exam will take place the Sunday before final exams. Students who miss the midterm are required to write the paper.

Readings: The readings are an absolutely essential part of this course, and there are altogether four per week over nine weeks (no readings for midterm week.) Twelve of the readings should be purchased in a photocopied course reader and are marked on the syllabus (UR), another sixteen readings are available through Central Library electronic reserve and are marked on the syllabus (ER), six of the readings are contained in a book called Return to Armageddon and are marked (BK), and finally two of the readings are available through the Army War College website and are marked (SSL). The photocopied reader is available through the UniversityReaders.com website; the electronic reserve readings are available through the UCSD library; the book is available at the university bookstore; and the US Army War College website is: StrategicStudiesInstitute.army.mil (follow the links to the author and the full text.) Students are responsible for any adjustments to the Readings announced in class (and for any other updates and adjustments for that matter.) Please note that some of the readings on Electronic Reserve are NOT required for the course, and are there purely for students who would like additional reading recommendations; be sure to check the syllabus before you begin printing out selections so you don't mix up required and recommended readings.
Tentative Schedule: Session One: (April 5) History


(ER) Eliot Cohen, Chapter 4, "Failure to Learn, American Antisubmarine Warfare 1942," Military Misfortunes.

(ER) Keegan, "Human Intelligence and Secret Weapons," Intelligence in War.


Session Two: (April 12) Ballistic Missile Defenses


(ER) Joseph Cirincione, Chapter 5, "Missile Proliferation," Deadly Arsenal.

(UR) James Lindsay and Michael O'Hanlon, Chapter 4, "Missile Defense Programs and Architectures," Defending America.


Session Three: (April 19) Nuclear History and Strategy


Session Four: (April 26) Arms Control

(BK) Ronald Powsaski, Chapter 4, "Bush and START II," Return to Armageddon.

(BK) Ronald Powsaski, Chapter 5, "Clinton, START II, and ABM Treaty," Return To Armageddon.
Session Five: (May 3) Nuclear Nonproliferation

(BK) Ronald Powaski, Chapter 6, "Clinton and Counterproliferation," Return to Armageddon.

(UR) Steve Coll, "The Stundoff," The New Yorker (February 13 and 20, 2006.)


Session Six: (May 10) Midterm (tentative date, could move one week up or back)

Session Seven: (May 17) Airpower

(ER) Hersh, "Machunt," The New Yorker.


(SSI) Stephen Biddle, "Afghanistan and the Future of Warfare."

Session Eight: (May 24) Dimensions of Warfare

(UR) Lawrence Korb, "Fixing the Mix," Foreign Affairs (March/April 2004.)


(UR) Scott Pace, Merchants and Guardians, RAND.

(ER) Bodansky, Chapter 8, "The Road To Baghdad," The Secret History of the Iraq War.
Session Nine: (May 31) War and Postwar in Iraq


(SSJ) Jeffrey Record and Andrew Terrill, "Iraq and Vietnam."


Session Ten: (June 7) Counterterrorism

(ER) Richard Clarke, Chapter 6, "Al Qaeda Revealed," Against All Enemies.

(ER) Anonymous, Chapter, Imperial Hubris.

(UR) Jane Mayer, "Outsourcing Torture," The New Yorker (February 14, 2005.)

(ER) Audrey Cronin, "How Al Qaida Ends," International Security (Summer 2006.)

Make Up Midterm (tentatively Sunday afternoon 5:00 to 7:00 pm, June 10)

Final Exam (Monday evening 7:00 to 10:00 pm, June 11)