Political Science 142I: National and International Security (Spring 2019)

Instructor: Randy Willoughby (rwilloug@sandiego.edu)
Office Hours: Thursdays after class and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Nicholas Smith (nms001@ucsd.edu)

Course Description: This course explores several of the evolving challenges to US national security and the policies we have adopted in response. Around half the course emphasizes nuclear weapons, including missile defense, strategy and arms control, and nonproliferation, and around half the quarter emphasizes conventional and unconventional military issues, including competition with Russia and China, the defense budget, and counterinsurgency and counterterrorism. We will have some guest lectures from security professionals. Although the workload for the course is not as lethal as the topics, students should probably avoid it if they are unlikely to attend class regularly and keep up with the weekly readings.

Exams and Quizzes: Every class session will have one or two 12 minute quizzes on the weekly materials. The lowest quiz score will be dropped from the grade calculation but otherwise there are no make up quizzes (quizzes test presence and punctuality above and beyond command of the material.) If you don’t write the optional paper, exams will count 50 to 66 per cent of the course grade and quizzes will count for 33 to 50 per cent of the course grade (depending on how many quizzes are given;) if you write the optional paper it will count for 25 per cent of the course grade and the combined weight of the exams and the quizzes will be 75 per cent. The midterm will be on May 2 and the final will be on June 6.

Papers: Students have the option of writing an eight page (double spaced) literature review based on readings from the syllabus. No research is required or desired. The papers require the student to select five readings from five different weeks of the syllabus (one of the readings must be the Lewis or Kilcullen book) and to organize an integrative discussion around three security themes, with each thematic section running around two to three pages and including at least two of the six authors; the themes do not have to be tightly connected but the selected authors must be integrated in the various sections, not just summarized and sequenced. Be sure to offer an introductory overview of the three themes (about three quarters of a page) and then begin each section with a subheading and title.
Papers are worth 25 per cent of the course grade for those who write one and are due June 13; they may be submitted anytime during the quarter but directly, hard copy, to the teaching assistant unless explicitly permitted otherwise.

**Readings:** Students have three readings per week, including two books that should be ordered and purchased: Jeffrey Lewis’ *2020 Commission Report* and David Kilcullen’s *Blood Year*. The rest of the readings are articles and book chapters that are available free of charge by way of UCSD Library electronic reserves (marked with an L) or by way of a simple Google search (marked with a G.) There are also some recommended videos. Be prepared to summarize the first reading every week in a 12 minute quiz unless another article is specified.

**Schedule: Week One (April 4): Regional Dynamics**

G Entous, “Donald Trumps New World Order,” New Yorker (June 18, 2018.)

G Glasser, “An Ocean Apart,” New Yorker (December 24, 2018.)


G Recommended: Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference, March 2019, “Nuclear Crises in South Asia,” (Youtube 80 minutes.)

**Week Two (April 11): Ballistic Missile Defense**

G Postel, “Russia May Have Violated the INF Treaty….” Bulletin of Atomic Scientists (February 2019.)


Lewis, 2020 Commission, Chapters 1 through 5.

G Recommended: Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference, March 2019, US Russia Arms Control (Youtube 80 minutes.)

**Week Three (April 18): Russia and the UK**

L Fruhling andLasconjarias, “NATO and Kaliningrad,” Survival (April May 2016.)
L Fitzsimmons, “Russia and the End of INF,” Survival (Dec 2018 Jan 2019.)

Kilcullen, Chapters 2 through 4 and 16.

G Recommended: War and Peace in the Nuclear Age, Missile Experimental (Youtube 60 minutes.)

**Week Four (April 25): Nuclear Strategy**


G Sokolski, Section Two, “Where are We Headed,” Underestimated.

Recommended: CSBA, “Sustaining the Nuclear Deterrent: LRSO and GBSD,” April 11, 2018, (Youtube, 30 minutes.)

**Week Five (May 2): Proliferation and Midterm**


Lewis, 2020 Commission, Chapters 6 through 10.

L Fitzpatrick, Chapter 1 on the JCPOA, Uncertain Future: the JCPOA and Iran’s Nuclear and Missile Programmes,” Adelphi Paper 466-467 (2019.)

G Recommended: Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference, March 2019, “Nuclear Endgames on the Korean Peninsula,” (Youtube 80 minutes.)

**Week Six (May 9): Airpower and the Defense Budget**


L O’Hanlon, Chapter 4, The 650 Billion Dollar Bargain (2016.)

Kilcullen, Blood Year, Chapters 5 through 7.

G Recommended: Blakeley, “A Preview of the Trump Administration’s FY 2018 Budget Request,” CSBA (May 18, 2017) (Youtube 60 minutes.)
**Week Seven (May 16): Iraq and Afghanistan Counter Insurgency**
Kilcullen, Blood Year, Chapters 8 through 10.

L Mazetti, Chapter 14, “The Unravelling,” Way of the Knife.

L Horowitz et al, “Separating Fact from Fiction in the Debate over Drone Proliferation,” International Security (Fall 2016.)

G Recommended: Vietnam: A Television History, Episode TBA (Youtube, 60 minutes.)

**Week Eight (May 23): Mexican Counter Narcotics and French Counter Terrorism**


G Beittel, “Mexico: Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking Organizations,” CRS (July 3, 2018.)

Kilcullen, Chapters 11, 14, and 15.

Recommended: “Narcos Mexico,” or “Bodyguard,” Episode TBA (Netflix, 60 minutes.)

**Week Nine (May 30): China and South China Sea**

L Raine and Le Miere, “Mapping the History,” Regional Disorder: The South China Sea.

L Rolland, “China Russia Condominium over Eurasia,” Survival (Feb March 2019.)

L Biddle and Oelrich, “Future of Warfare in the Western Pacific,” International Security (Spring 2014.)

G Recommended: “Inside Story: Territorial Tussles in the South China Sea,” (Youtube, 25 minutes.)

**Week Ten (June 6): Final Exam**
Week Eleven (June 13): Paper Option