POLITICAL SCIENCE 154: WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, WINTER 2013  
WEDNESDAYS 5-7:50PM, CSB 001

Professor Erik Gartzke  
Office: 327 SSB (Poli Sci)  
Phone: (858) 534-8211  
E-mail: egartzke@ucsd.edu  
Web: http://dss.ucsd.edu/~egartzke

Office Hours: Mondays 1:30-3:00PM  
Teaching Assistants:  
Chris Chiego (cchiego@ucsd.edu)  
Jack Zhang (jjz007@ucsd.edu)

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 attempt 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.’
- **Short papers** (40% of course grade, 20% each): 3-5 pages, discussed further in class:  
  - **First Short Paper:** Choose a nuclear power from the list at the end of the syllabus and write a short policy paper based on the writings provided and possibly other sources.  
  - **Second Short Paper:** Write a paper detailing the policy position of your assigned country for the in-class simulation. The policy must take into account nuclear states.
- **Final Exam** (40% of course grade): Essay exam, choice of questions. Bring exam book.

Student Requirements/Standards:  
- **Plagiarism** I encourage you to study and learn together. However, all 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, see me.
- **Disabilities/life issues** It is your responsibility to apprise me of factors that may interfere with your performance in class well in advance of scheduled assignments. Appropriate measures for disabilities, acts of God, etc. will be taken in accordance with UC policies.
- **Grading/appeals** All attempts to discuss grading decisions must be made in writing.

Required Readings:  
There are three required textbooks. Each is available from the UCSB Bookstore or elsewhere.

WEEK 1 (January 9): Introduction/Syllabus/Levels, Methods, and Concepts  

WEEK 2 (January 16): An Overview of Nuclear Policy Dynamics  

WEEK 3 (January 23): Nuclear Weapons – Nuts and Bolts  
History  

How Stuff Works  

Optional reading:  

WEEK 4 (January 30): Why States Want WMD  
- Barnaby. “What Does It Take to Make a WMD?” How to Build..., 63-88.  

**Optional reading:**

**WEEK 5 (February 6): Nuclear Strategy: Deterrence/Compellence [FIRST PAPER DUE]**
- Sagan and Waltz. “Chapters 1-2.” *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons*
Optional reading:
- Sagan and Waltz. “Chapters 3-5.” *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons*

WEEK 6 (February 13): Chemical and Biological Weapons. [Explanation of simulation]

**Biological Weapons:**

**Chemical Weapons:**

Optional reading:

**WEEK 7 (February 20): Nuclear Proliferation/Counter Proliferation**

**Optional readings:**

WEEK 8 (February 27): In-class Simulation. [SECOND PAPER DUE]

WEEK 9 (March 6): Weapons Platforms (Ballistic & Cruise Missiles)

Optional readings:

WEEK 10 (March 13): CBRN Terrorism
Optional readings:

MINIMUM SOURCES FOR FIRST PAPER

China
Iran

North Korea

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

United States

Monday March 18: *** FINAL EXAM: 7 – 9:50PM   Location TBA ***