

COURSE SYLLABUS
Political Science 340
Insurgency
University of New Mexico
Spring 2007

Instructor: Gregory Gleason

Room 2064, Social Science Building Office hours—Tue/Thurs 2:00-4:30 and by appointment.

<http://www.unm.edu/~gleasong>

PURPOSE This course is an analysis of contemporary insurgency movements with a focus on inter-state cooperation to combat threats from non-state actors including political extremism, violence and terrorism.

RATIONALE The course begins with the observation that traditional conceptions of security are increasingly challenged by the emergence of non-state actors as fundamental elements in the dynamics of international relations. Conventional Westphalian concepts of the international system posit states as the primary actors in the dynamics of international high politics. Collective security arrangements, while they vary in form and scope, typically obligate states to act in certain ways with respect to other states. In the post-Cold War landscape of challenges emanating from hard-to-identify and hard-to-locate terrorist, separatist, criminal and extremist organizations, states have sought to spur international cooperation through reinvigorating collective security organizations. The threats posed by non-state actors are different in essential features from the threats posed by inter-state rivalries. The effectiveness of well-defined alliance structures at confronting state-to-state threats is often measured by the effectiveness of deterrence, that is the ability to avert certain kinds of unwanted adversary behavior. In some cases, the goal may be to induce a particular behavior in an adversary through compellence. (Schelling, 1960) But in either case the goal is not the complete elimination of the adversary. Cold-war era alliance structures were designed primarily to achieve the objective of deterring future threats. They were not designed to eliminate the sources of those threats. NATO's guiding purpose during the period of the Cold War was to make Warsaw Pact aggression self-defeating and pointless. The Warsaw Pact had just the opposite objective. But neither organization had as an element of its public mandate the complete elimination of the rival. In this regard, the challenges posed by non-state actors such as terrorists and insurgents are distinctively different in nature. Collective security cooperation opposing these terrorist entities envisages their complete neutralization or elimination. This is a different kind of struggle. It is a struggle that must be waged differently. It is a struggle whose success must be gauged differently.

Topics include: rational action theory, deterrence and compellence theory; theories of development; political exchange theory; international standards of policy and practice; and international cooperation to combat terrorism and insurgency. The course surveys four case studies: Algeria, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq. This course is designed as a foundation for further work in international studies but may be valuable to anyone seeking to better understand the nature of the contemporary international community.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE AND COURSE ADMINISTRATION Gregory Gleason's office is located in room 2064 of the Social Science Building (Bldg. #78). Gleason's phone is 277-5447, fax is 277-2821 and his email is gleasong@unm.edu. Office hours are 2-3 on Mondays and Tuesdays. Other times are available by appointment

Grading for the course is based upon: 1) mid term (30 percent); 2) studio participation as indicated by studio reports (30 percent); and 3) a final exam (40 percent). The exams are a combination of multiple choice and essay questions. Exams are administered in-class. Students are expected to participate in the studio sessions on a regular basis. These studio sessions provide an opportunity to interact with the instructor and student colleagues to analyze theoretical and applied problems of public policy.

READING ASSIGNMENTS (Classics—available for download from course webpage)
Sun Zi, on War

Thucydides, on the Peloponnesian War
 Machiavelli on Politics
 Kant on “Perpetual Peace”
 Clausewitz “On War”
 Mao on “Guerrilla Warfare”

READING ASSIGNMENTS (Books)

Robert Baer, *See No Evil: The True Story of a Ground Soldier in the CIA's War on Terrorism* (Three Rivers Press, 2003) ISBN: 140004684X
 Steve Coll, *Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001* (Penguin, 2004) ISBN: 0143034669
 George Crile, *Charlie Wilson’s War*, (Grove Press, 2003) ISBN 0 8021 4124 2
 Michael Scheuer, *Imperial Hubris: Why The West Is Losing The War On Terror* (Potomac Books) ISBN: 1574888625

Week		Reading Assignments Spring Semester 2007 PS 340
1	Jan 15	Classical readings (Sun Zi, Thucydides, Kant, Clausewitz, Mao)
2	Jan 22	Topic: Theory of conflict
3	Jan 29	Topic: U.S. foreign policy. Readings: Crile
4	Feb 5	Topic: U.S. foreign policy
5	Feb 12	Topic: Russian policy, Afghanistan
6	Feb 19	Topic: Middle East Readings: Coll
7	Feb 26	Topic: Middle East Readings: Baer
8	Mar 5	March 6 th , midterm
9	Mar 12	Spring Break
10	Mar 19	Topic: Analysis of insurgency
11	Mar 26	Topic: Analysis of insurgency
12	Apr 2	Topic: Preparing for presentations
13	Apr 9	Readings: Scheuer
14	Apr 16	Topic: Preparing for presentations
15	Apr 23	April 24 th , class presentations begin in General Assembly
16	Apr 30	Presentations
17	May 7	Final exam at regularly scheduled period

BACKGROUND RECOMMENDED READING

Rajiv Chandrasekaran, *Imperial Life in the Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone* (New York: Knopf 2006)
 Ahmed S. Hashim, *Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency in Iraq*, (Cornell University Press, 2006) ISBN: 0801444527
 Larry Diamond, *Squandered Victory : The American Occupation and the Bungled Effort to Bring Democracy to Iraq* (Penguin) ISBN: 0143036556
 Williamson Murray and Robert H., Jr. Scales, *The Iraq War: A Military History* (Belknap Press, 2006).
 George Packer, *The Assassins' Gate: America in Iraq* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux) ISBN: 0374299633
 Ron Suskind, *The One Percent Doctrine* (Simon & Schuster, 2006). ISBN: 0743271092
 Daniel Yergin, *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power* (Free Press) ISBN: 0671799320