

COURSE SYLLABUS
Political Science 340 -- International Politics
University of New Mexico, Summer 2007
14842- POLS 340 (Section 001)

Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs, 11:40-2:10 Main campus, Dane Smith Hall, room 333
Course webpage: <http://www.unm.edu/~gleasong/340/2007su/2007su340.htm>

Instructor: Gregory Gleason

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

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

PURPOSE This course surveys the background, trends, political institutions and processes, international relations and future prospects for the reconstruction and normalization of Afghanistan.

RATIONALE This course offers a study of the political economy of post-conflict reconstruction in Afghanistan. The course is based on the premise that Afghanistan's recovery from more than two decades of war is in large measure dependent upon the country's reintegration into the international community. Reintegration, in turn, is dependent upon the recovery of Afghanistan's trans-border infrastructure of communication, trade, transport, water, power and investment. Increased regional economic cooperation consequently is a key element of Afghanistan's reconstruction. This course analyzes regional economic cooperation in the South and Central Asian region in terms of logic, institutions, actors, and expectations. The course addresses the question of whether cooperation in Afghanistan's circumstances is most likely to emerge from a bottom-up consensus or most likely to be pulled along by the locomotive effect of an expanding and progressively integrating expansion of the trans-boundary infrastructure.

The occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet military forces in December 1979 led to a decade of fierce conflict. The withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan in 1989, however, did not result in normalization. For more than a decade civil war raged in Afghanistan as warlords and regional political forces competed for political control of the country. The extremist Taliban movement wrenched control of the country in the mid-1990s, creating a pariah state that offering a harbor for international terrorists and political extremists. The events of September 11 and the ensuing U.S.-led coalition (Operation Enduring Freedom) swept the Taliban from power and, as a result of the Bonn Process of international negotiation, oversaw the establishment of a new modern, secular, and democratically oriented state in Afghanistan. Afghanistan is now facing significant challenges of government and a rapidly transforming terrain of international relations among the countries of the region. Given recent trends and fully realistic assumptions about future patterns of development, it can be expected that the rising demand for energy and natural resources in China, India, and Pakistan will further reshape the geopolitical balance in the Southeast Asian region during the next two decades.

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. 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. A description of the studio is available on the class website.

WEB-BASED READING ASSIGNMENTS (available for download from course webpage:

<http://www.unm.edu/~gleasong/mats/ir/irsup.html>)

Sun Zi, on War

Thucydides, on the Peloponnesian War

Machiavelli on Politics

Kant on "Perpetual Peace"

Clausewitz "On War"

Mao on "Guerrilla Warfare"

Also see the Afghan course webpage: <http://www.unm.edu/~gleasong/mats/ir/afghan.htm>

READING ASSIGNMENTS (Books)

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

Week	Reading Assignments Spring Semester 2007 PS 340	
1	July 2	Classical readings (Sun Zi, Thucydides, Kant, Clausewitz, Mao)
		Topic: Theory of conflict, insurgency, post-conflict reconstruction
		Topic: Russian policy Readings: Crile
		Topic: U.S. foreign policy
2	July 9	Topic: Analysis of the Afghanistan conflict: Crile
		Topic: Middle East Readings: Begin reading: Coll
		Topic: Middle East Politics: Pakistan, Iran, Central Asia, India
	July 12	Midterm on theory and Crile
3	July 16	The Politics of Infrastructure: Finish reading Coll
		Studio Activities and Presentation Preparation
		Studio Activities and Presentation Preparation
	July 19	Quiz on Coll, Crile, and Sequence of events
4	July 23	Topic: Begin class presentations
	July 25	Debriefing and Summary
	July 26	Final exam

BACKGROUND RECOMMENDED READING

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

Schroen, Gary. *First In: An Insider's Account of How the CIA Spearheaded the War on Terror in Afghanistan* (Presido Press, 2007). ISBN-10: 0345496612

Rashid, Ahmed. *Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism in Central Asia* (Yale University Press, 2001). ISBN-10: 0300089023

Rubin, Barnett R. *The Fragmentation of Afghanistan: State Formation and Collapse in the International System* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002). ISBN-10: 0300095198