The Military Instrument of Foreign Policy

Instructors:
- LTC Kevin McKiernan, Director of the US Army Officer Education Program
  Office Hours 10-12 Friday, 294 Alexander St
- Professor Jake Shapiro, Politics and Woodrow Wilson School
  Office Hours 10-12 Wednesday, 032 Corwin Hall

Schedule:
Tuesday/Thursday 1:30-3:00 pm, location TBD

Synopsis:
This course analyzes the relationship of military force to politics. Nuclear war and deterrence, conventional war, revolutionary war, terrorism and counterinsurgency are examined from the U.S. perspective.

The policy-making process provides the context within which one should examine the existence, utility, capabilities, and limitations of the military instrument of foreign policy. Since America’s foreign policy interests emanate from within our borders, the first part of the course will cover the theory and politics of civil-military relations, and how the military influences foreign policy decision making, including some recent case studies.

The second part of the course investigates the various theories of conflict, the problems of nuclear war and deterrence (including how other peer competitors think about these issues), the diverse forms of warfare, the efficacy of war termination strategies, and the future of warfare and what that future portends for the utilization of the military instrument of foreign policy.

The aim of the course is to help acquaint students of international relations with the vital importance of the military instrument in the formulation and implementation of foreign policy and in the functioning of the international system. Thus, this course will enable students to employ additional analytical tools and better evaluate policy decisions and implementation in the study of international relations.

Course Requirements:
1) Final paper. 10-15 double spaced pages. Due on Dean’s Day. 20% of total course grade.
2) Group presentation to class on how elements of class subject matter related to a historical event. 40% of total course grade. Groups and events will be chosen during the first or second week of class.
3) Seminar participation and reaction outlines. 40% of total course grade. Student will prepare a one page outline of what they considered significant points in the readings to serve as a starting point for class discussion. There are 19 class period and 15 students.

**Agenda:**

Each week students will be directed to specific readings and one student will be responsible for providing a 1-2 page outline of what they considered the most relevant points of the readings. They will provide the outline to the instructors and other students no less than 24 hours before class. Students providing the outline will use their outline as a starting point for class discussion and will typically lead most of the class discussion that day.

**Week of September 20th and 22nd:** Civil-Military Relations

Required Reading Outline 1:


Required Reading Outline 2:


**Week of September 27th and 29th:** The Military’s Role in Formulating and Implementing Foreign Policy

Required Reading Outline 3:

**Required Reading Outline 4:**


**Week of October 4th and 6th: Power Projection**

**Required Reading Outline 5:**


**Required Reading Outline 6:**


Derek, Gregory. “From A View to a Kill: Drones and Late Modern War”, *Theory, Culture, and Society* Vol. 28, No. 7-8, 2011: 188-215, [http://tcs.sagepub.com/content/28/7-8/188.full.pdf+html](http://tcs.sagepub.com/content/28/7-8/188.full.pdf+html)

**Week of October 11th and 13th: Weighing Options-COA Development and Policy Making**

**Required Reading Outline 7:**

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/06/world/asia/06reconstruct.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0

Required Reading Outline 8:


**Week of October 18th and 20th: Theories of Conflict**

Required Reading Outline 9:


**Week of October 25th and 27th: Deterrence, Nuclear Proliferation and Cyber Warfare**

Mid-term week

Required Reading Outline 10:


Ross, Andrew L. “The Role of Nuclear Weapons in International Politics: A Strategic Perspective”, *FPRI* article. 5/2009.


Required Reading Outline 11:


**Week of November 8th and 10th:** Conventional War- Large Scale Interstate Conflict

Required Reading Outline 12:


Week of November 15th and 17th: Group Presentations

Week of November 22nd: Military 101 (and then Thanksgiving)

Week of November 29th and December 1st: Unconventional War- Internal War: Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism

Required Reading Outline 13:

Required Reading Outline 14:

Week of December 6th and 8th: War Termination

Required Reading Outline 15:


**Week of December 13th and 15th**: Peacekeeping and Stability Operations

Required Reading Outline 16:

