POLITICAL SCIENCE 427/527
NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL AND NONPROLIFERATION
WINTER 2019
Monday and Wednesday 12:00 to 1:50 (Tentative)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This 4-credit course examines the history, politics and current challenges involving nuclear weapons. The class first addresses the Cold War era, including the arms race and the many arms control treaties signed between the US and Soviet Union, as well as the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. It then looks at contemporary nonproliferation issues, and concludes with a simulated negotiation seeking to arrive at a nuclear arms control agreement for the Middle East. There are no prerequisites for this course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
Undergraduates

• Explain the history of nuclear weapons and efforts to control them, including an understanding of the weapons programs of known and suspected nuclear weapon states. (Assessed by reading responses, briefing memos, final report and participation.)

• Understand the politics and policy of nuclear weapons and nonproliferation during and after the Cold War, including both global and regional issues. (Assessed by reading responses, briefing memos, final report and participation.)

• Explain and analyze US and global strategies, agencies, treaties and policies to promote nuclear security. (Assessed by reading responses, briefing memos, final report and participation.)

• Analyze the challenges regarding regional proliferation issues involving the Middle East, North Korea, India and Pakistan. (Assessed by reading responses, briefing memos, final report and participation.)

• Draft policy briefing memos. (Assessed by briefing memos.)

Graduate Students

• All of the above, plus...

• Analyze and critically assess the roles and responsibilities of various agencies and organizations, both national and international, along with parties subject to controls and regulations, in the maintenance of global nonproliferation and nuclear security. (Assessed by briefing memos, final report and participation.)
## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Undergraduates
- Participation 15%
- Briefing Memos (2) 40%
- Negotiation final report 30%
- Reading responses 15%

### Graduates
- Participation 15%
- Briefing Memos (2) 30%
- Research Paper 25%
- Negotiation final report 30%

## READINGS
The texts for the course consist of several articles and books. Several of these can be found on Canvas or the OSU library. Others can be ordered via the OSU library. The reading assignments for the day must be read prior to class.

## READING RESPONSES
This assignment is for undergraduates only. Your assignment is to complete a response to the assigned readings. You do not have to submit a response to every assigned reading, only one book (or chapter/section of a book) for each week. You may choose what to write about. The idea is for you to gain an understanding of the arguments and main ideas of the book you read, and to offer a brief response/analysis to what you’ve read. Each response should be about one single-spaced page in length. These are due each week for Weeks 2 thru 7 of the term.

## PARTICIPATION
You are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions. During the negotiation simulation (see below), you are expected to attend class and be an engaged, contributing member of your delegation both in class and outside of class. During the simulation, you will be expected to engage in the project outside of class.

## ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATION SIMULATION
During Weeks 8 thru 10 of the term, the class will engage in a simulated arms control negotiation forum. The goal is the negotiation of a nuclear-free Middle East. Each student will be assigned to the delegation of a particular country, and each delegation will consist of two or three people. Class time will be spent in negotiating sessions, and students may also choose to engage in negotiations outside of class.
At the end of the negotiation, each student will turn in a final report (approximately 10-12 pages), explaining from their own point of view what happened in the negotiation, why it happened, and their role in the negotiations.

**BRIEFING MEMOS**

Your assignment is to write a briefing memo on nuclear weapons regarding the following subjects:

1. The Cold War
2. Post-Cold War efforts on nonproliferation, security and safeguards

You may choose the specific topics to write about, but your topics must be cleared by the instructor.

A briefing memo is a document that explains a problem to a policymaker and outlines the arguments for and against choosing a particular course of action in a current debate. The brief can either advocate for a particular policy option (it will thus make a recommendation) or be neutral. There are many different ways to organize a briefing memo, and you can search online for examples. Generally, the memo will present the problem or issue, provide some background, give an analysis of the pros and cons to several alternative policies (no “straw man” policies allowed), and possibly make a recommendation.

Each memo should be 1200-1500 words.

**RESEARCH PAPER**

This assignment is for graduate students only. Student must complete a research paper on a topic related to nuclear nonproliferation, weapons, and arms control. Your task is to analyze and critically assess the roles and responsibilities of an agency or organization, either national and international, along with parties subject to controls and regulations by the organization you select, in the maintenance of global nonproliferation and nuclear security. Your specific topic should be cleared with the instructor. Papers should be 15-20 pages in length.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval, please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

**EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT CONDUCT**

Students are expected to follow the academic standards of the university and their academic units. See: http://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/sites/studentlife.oregonstate.edu/files/code_of_student_conduct.pdf.
COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

INTRODUCTION – WHAT ARE NUCLEAR WEAPONS? DEVELOPMENT AND USE IN WWII

Required Reading:
Thomas Reed, Nuclear Express: A Political History of the Bomb and Its Proliferation, 2010.

Recommended Reading:

WEEK 2

THE COLD WAR

Required Readings:
John Lewis Gaddis, We Now Know, 1998, Chapters. 4, 8, & 9.
Thomas Graham, Jr., Disarmament Sketches: Three Decades of Arms Control and International Law Chapters 3–7.

Recommended Readings:
Harold Brode, Nuclear Weapons in the Cold War, 2014.
Raymond Garthoff, Détente and Confrontation, 1994, Chapters 5, 22 and 23

WEEK 3

THE POST-COLD WAR ERA – DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL NONPROLIFERATION

1st Briefing Memo Due

Required Readings:
International Atomic Energy Agency, Documents and Conventions (Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, INFOCIRCs, etc.).
Thomas Graham, Jr., Disarmament Sketches: Three Decades of Arms Control and International Law Chapter 8 – Conclusions.

Recommended Readings:
Tanya Ogilvie-White and David Santoro, Slaying the Nuclear Dragon, 2012.
Daniel Joyner, Interpreting the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 2012
Week 4

**THE POST-COLD WAR ERA – TECHNOLOGY AND POLICY**

Required Readings:

Recommended Readings:

Week 5

**REGIONAL ISSUES IN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION: THE MIDDLE EAST – ISRAEL**

Readings: (None specified as required. Choose your book[s] and get informed.)
Alan Dershowitz, *The Case Against the Iran Deal*, 2015.

Week 6

**REGIONAL ISSUES IN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION: THE MIDDLE EAST – IRAN**

*2nd Briefing Memo Due*

Readings: (None specified as required. Choose your book[s] and get informed.)
Thomas Graham, Jr., *Unending Crisis*, Chapter 2.

Week 7

**REGIONAL ISSUES IN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION: NORTH KOREA; SOUTH ASIA**

Readings: (None specified as required. Choose your book[s] and get informed.)
Thomas Graham, Jr., *Unending Crisis*, Chapter 1-4.
Charles Pritchard, *Failed Diplomacy: The Story of How North Korea got the Bomb*
Victor Cha, *The Impossible State: North Korea, Past and Future*
Mike Chinoy, *Meltdown: The Inside Story of the North Korea Nuclear Crisis*
Bruce Riedel, *Avoiding Armageddon: America, India, and Pakistan to the Brink and Back*  
Pervez Hoodbhoy, *Confronting the Bomb: Pakistani and Indian Scientists Speak Out*

**WEEK 8**  
**NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATION SIMULATION: ACHIEVING A NUCLEAR-FREE MIDDLE EAST**

**WEEK 9**  
**NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATION SIMULATION: ACHIEVING A NUCLEAR-FREE MIDDLE EAST**  
*Graduate Student Research Paper Due*

**WEEK 10**  
**NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATION SIMULATION: ACHIEVING A NUCLEAR-FREE MIDDLE EAST**

**FINAL REPORT ON NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS DUE ONE WEEK AFTER LAST CLASS MEETING**

**NO FINAL EXAM**