

The Graduate School of Political Management

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

M.P.S. in Legislative Affairs

Fall 2016
August 29, 2016 /
December 12, 2016

Course Name

LGAF 6240.LH1

Class Day/Time: Monday
/ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Class Location: Hall of
States / Room TBD

BASIC INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Instructor

Shannon L. Green

Contact Information

Phone: 501-993-6990

Email Address: sgreen@gwu.edu

Communication

Students may contact me through Blackboard, by email, or phone.

Blackboard Site

A Blackboard course site has been set up for this course. Each student is expected to check the site throughout the semester, as Blackboard will be the primary venue for outside classroom communications between the instructors and the students. Students can access the course site at <https://blackboard.gwu.edu>. Support for Blackboard is available at 202-994-4948 or helpdesk.gwu.edu.

Academic Integrity

All members of the university community are expected to exhibit honesty and competence in their academic work. Students have a special responsibility to acquaint themselves with, and make use of, all proper procedures for doing research, writing papers, and taking exams. Members of the community will be presumed to be familiar with the proper academic procedures and will be held responsible for applying them. Deliberate failure to act in accordance with such procedures will be considered academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is defined as “cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one’s own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.” Acts of academic dishonesty are a legal, moral, and intellectual offense against the community and will be prosecuted through the proper university channels. The University Code of Academic Integrity can be found at <http://studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-academic-integrity>.

Support for Students with Disabilities

GW's Disability Support Services (DSS) provides and coordinates accommodations and other services for students with a wide variety of disabilities, as well as those temporarily disabled by injury or illness. Accommodations are available through DSS to facilitate academic access for students with disabilities. Please notify your instructor if you require accommodations. Additional information is available at <http://disabilitysupport.gwu.edu/>.

In the Event of an Emergency or Crisis during Class

If we experience an emergency during class time, we will try to stay at the class location until we hear that we can move about safely. If we have to leave the class location, we will meet in the Hall of States lobby in order to account for everyone and to make certain that everyone is safe. Please refer to Campus Advisories for the latest information on the University's operating status: <http://www.campusadvisories.gwu.edu/>.

Attendance Policy

Each student is expected to attend class. Please let me know in advance if any absences or late arrivals are anticipated. Course requirements are not waived due to absence from class. When students will be away from class, the student should inform the instructor at the earliest opportunity and initiate discussion as to how missed work can be made up, grade implications, and other academic issues.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the semester, students will be given the opportunity to evaluate the course through GW's online course evaluation system. It is very important that you take the time to complete an evaluation. Students are also encouraged to provide feedback throughout the course of the semester by contacting any/all of the following:

Dr. Steven Billet
Director, Legislative Affairs Program
sbillet@gwu.edu | 202-994-1149

Dr. Jack Prostko
Associate Dean for Learning and Faculty Development
College of Professional Studies
jackp@gwu.edu | 202-994-3592

Suzanne Farrand
Director of Academic Administration, GSPM
sfarrand@gwu.edu | 202-994-9309

THE COURSE

Legislative Affairs Program Objectives

Upon completion of the Master’s degree in Legislative Affairs, students will:

1. Gain both theoretical and practical knowledge related to the U.S. Congress, general issues in the legislative arena, and how to effectively advance legislation;
2. Hone their oral and written communication skills in both theoretical and technical aspects of legislative affairs;
3. Be able to conduct cutting-edge research and engage in effective problem solving by learning critical thinking skills; and
4. Learn how to work effectively with others, the value of collaborative work, and understand ethical issues involved in the legislative arena.

Graduate School Expectations

Students enrolled in a graduate program should take their academic responsibilities seriously and be prepared to meet the following expectations:

1. Utilize effective time management skills so as to complete and submit assignments on the required due dates and times.
2. Master written communication skills, including proper sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and word usage.
3. Understand and apply proper formatting of in-text citations and references for resources and information integrated into your written assignments.

Course Overview and Learning Objectives

This course explores current international security topics and examines the role that Congress plays in the development and implementation of international security policy. It will enable students to develop core subject knowledge of contemporary security issues. By the end of the course, students will:

1. Have a comprehensive understanding of the key participants in the development and execution of international security policy and understand how the interagency system works.
2. Understand and explain how Congress shapes and influences international security policy.
3. Apply strategic theory to a variety of complex international security policy challenges.
4. Appreciate the primary issues of contemporary international security policy.

Course Requirements

This course requires a significant amount of reading and the weekly reading critique will challenge how well students synthesize the information. Class participation is also essential to the learning process since students inherently view issues from different perspectives.

- **Class attendance and participation..... 10%**
- **Weekly Reading Critique.....20%**
- **Mid-term exam..... 30%**
- **Final exam..... 40%**

Weekly Reading Critique

One-page (single-spaced, one-inch page margins, 12-point font) critical assessments of the course readings are due on weeks 2-13 (except week 6). An assessment should include a brief summary of the main point of the reading, your analysis of the reading, and identification of how the reading supports the course objectives. These summaries are due at the beginning of each class period – if you must be absent from a class, you may e-mail your summary to me before class begins to receive credit for the summary.

Following is the grade scale for all GSPM classes:

Grade*	Grading Standard
A 94-100	Your work is outstanding and ready for submission in a professional environment. Your material, effort, research, and writing demonstrate superior work.
A- 90-93	Represents solid work with minor errors. Overall, excellent work.
B+ 87-89	Very good. Represents well-written material, research, and presentation, but needs some minor work.
B 83-86	Satisfactory work, but needs reworking and more effort. Note that although not a failing grade, at the graduate level, anything below a “B” is viewed as unacceptable.
B- 80-82	You’ve completed the assignment, but you are not meeting all of the requirements.
C+ 77-79	Needs improvement in content and in effort. Shows some motivation and concern.
C 73-76	Needs reworking, improved effort, and additional research. Shows minimal motivation and concern.
C- 70-72 (lowest grade to pass)	Poor performance. Major errors, too many misspellings, problems with accuracy, etc.
F Below 70	Unacceptable performance, or inability to submit the assignment.

*Please note that you may be penalized for late submission of assignment(s).

Required Text

- David Kilcullen, *The Accidental Guerilla: Fighting Small Wars in The Midst of a Big One* (Oxford University Press, 2009).
ISBN: 9780195368345
- Peter Paret, *Makers of Modern Strategy: From Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age* (Princeton University Press, 1986).
ISBN-13: 978-0-691-02764-7

Tentative Course Calendar*

*The instructor reserves the right to alter course content and/or adjust the pace to accommodate class progress. Students are responsible for keeping up with all adjustments to the course calendar.

Class Schedule

Week 1: August 29, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Introduction and administrative items; Foundations of U.S. National Security and Defense Policy

Reading Due Today:

- Kay King, *Congress and National Security*, Counsel on Foreign Relations (Nov. 2010).
- National Security Strategy (Feb. 2015).
https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2015_national_security_strategy.pdf
- National Military Strategy (2015).
http://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Publications/2015_National_Military_Strategy.pdf

September 5, 2016: No Class / Labor Day

Week 2: September 12, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Nuclear Weapons and Ballistic Missile Defense

Reading Due Today:

- Scott D. Sagan, *Why Do States Build Nuclear Weapons?: Three Models in Search of a Bomb*, *International Security* 21:3 (1997).
<http://faculty.maxwell.syr.edu/rdenever/ppa%20730-11/sagan.pdf>
- S. Paul Kapur, *India and Pakistan's Unstable Peace: Why Nuclear South Asia is not like the Cold War Europe*, *International Security* 30:2 (2005), pp. 127-152.
<http://fsi.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/kapur.pdf>
- Peter Paret, *Makers of Modern Strategy: From Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age* (1986), pp. 735-814.

Week 3: September 19, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Irregular Warfare and Counterinsurgency

Reading Due Today:

- David Ucko, *Innovation or Inertia: The U.S. Military and the Learning of Counterinsurgency*, *Small Wars Journal* (2008), 290-310.
<http://smallwarsjournal.com/documents/uckocoin.pdf>
- David Kilcullen, *The Accidental Guerrilla, Fighting Small Wars in the Midst of a Big One* (2009), pp. 263-289.
- Department of State & USAID Joint Strategy on Countering Violent Extremism (May 2016).
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/257913.pdf>

Week 4: September 26, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Nation-Building and Peacekeeping

Reading Due Today:

- Theo Farrell, *Humanitarian Intervention and Peace Operations* (2009).
<https://thefarrell.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/farrell-chap-in-strategy-vol-2009.pdf>
- *The UN's Role in Nation-Building from Belgian Congo to Iraq*, Rand (2005).

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2005/RAND_MG304.pdf

- Gareth Evans and Mohamed Evans, *The Responsibility to Protect*, Foreign Affairs (Nov./Dec. 2002).

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2002-11-01/responsibility-protect>

Week 5: October 3, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Transnational Organized Crime

Reading Due Today:

- White House Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime (July 2011).
https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/Strategy_to_Combat_Transnational_Organized_Crime_July_2011.pdf

Week 6: October 10, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: **Mid-Term Exam**

Week 7: October 17, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Special Operations Forces

Reading Due Today:

- *U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF): Background and Issues for Congress*, Congressional Research Service (Apr. 8, 2016).
<https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RS21048.pdf>
- David Kilcullen, *The Accidental Guerilla: Fighting Small Wars in The Midst of a Big One* (2009), pp. 291-301.

October 24, 2016: No Class / Fall Break

Week 8: October 31, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Intelligence Policy and Oversight

Reading Due Today:

- Declassified 21-page excerpt from the *Report of the 2002 Joint Congressional Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001*.
<http://intelligence.house.gov/uploadedfiles/declasspart4.pdf>
- Pilkington, *Colin Powell Demands Answers Over Curveball's WMD Lies*, The Guardian (Feb. 16, 2011). <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/feb/16/colin-powell-cia-curveball>
- Lieutenant General Greg Newbold (Ret.), *Why Iraq Was a Mistake*, Time Magazine (Apr. 9, 2006).
- *In 9/11 Document, View of a Saudi Effort to Thwart U.S. Action on Al Qaeda*, New York Times (July 15, 2016).
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/16/us/28-pages-saudi-arabia-september-11.html?_r=0
- Mark Mazzetti, *Saudi Arabia Warns of Economic Fallout if Congress Passes 9/11 Bill*, New York Times (Apr. 15, 2016).
<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/16/world/middleeast/saudi-arabia-warns-of-economic-fallout-if-congress-passes-9-11->

bill.html?action=click&contentCollection=U.S.&module=RelatedCoverage®ion=Marginalia&pgtype=article

Week 9: November 7, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Homeland Defense and Security

Reading Due Today:

- Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (2014)
<https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/2014-qhsr-final-508.pdf>
- Benjamin H. Friedman, *Managing Fear: The Politics of Homeland Security*, Political Science Quarterly (Mar. 2011).
<https://sgsnow.files.wordpress.com/2009/08/friedman-2011-managing-fear.pdf>
- *Domestic Security Revisited: An Update on the Progress U.S. Intelligence and Law Enforcement Agencies have Made in Confronting a Dynamic Domestic Threat Landscape*, Business Executives for National Security (Mar. 2016).
http://www.bens.org/file/DomesticSecurityRevisited_March2016.pdf

Week 10: November 14, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Counterterrorism Policy

Reading Due Today:

- White House, *National Strategy for Counterterrorism* (June 2011).
https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/counterterrorism_strategy.pdf
- Rosa Brooks, Foreign Policy, *US Counterterrorism Strategy is the Definition of Insanity* (June 24, 2015).
<http://foreignpolicy.com/2015/06/24/u-s-counterterrorism-strategy-is-the-definition-of-insanity/>
- Steven Biddle and Jacob Shapiro, The Atlantic, *The Problem With Vows to Defeat the Islamic State* (Aug. 21, 2016).
<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/08/defeat-isis-containment/496682/>

Week 11: November 21, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Reading Due Today:

- Daniel Byman, *Why Drones Work*, Foreign Affairs Vol. 92, No. 4 (July/Aug. 2013).
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/somalia/2013-06-11/why-drones-work>
- Audrey Kurth Cronin, *Why Drones Fail: When Tactics Drive Strategy*, Foreign Affairs Vol. 92, No. 44 (July/Aug. 2013).
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/somalia/2013-06-11/why-drones-fail>
- Scott Shane, *The Moral Case for Drones*, New York Times (July 14, 2012), pp. 2-3 of compilation.
http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/15/sunday-review/the-moral-case-for-drones.html?_r=0
- John Kaag and Sarah Kreps, *The Moral Hazard of Drones*, New York Times (July 22, 2012).
<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/07/22/the-moral-hazard-of-drones/>
- Patrick Lin, *Drone-Ethics Briefing: What a Leading Robot Expert Told the CIA*, The Atlantic (2011).
<http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2011/12/drone-ethics-briefing-what-a-leading-robot-expert-told-the-cia/250060/>

- Louis Fisher, *What Grounds Secrecy?* National Law Journal (Jan. 21, 2013).
<http://www.loufisher.org/docs/ssp/legalsecret.pdf>
- John P. Abizaid and Rosa Brooks, *Recommendations and Report of the Task Force on US Drone Policy*, Stimson Center (June 2014), pp. 9-15.
<http://www.stimson.org/content/recommendations-and-report-stimson-task-force-us-drone-policy-0>
- Micah Zenko, *Reforming U.S. Drone Strike Policies*, Council on Foreign Relations, Report No. 65 (Jan. 2013), pp. 6-17.
<http://www.cfr.org/wars-and-warfare/reforming-us-drone-strike-policies/p29736>

Week 12: November 28, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: The Current Challenge of Afghanistan

Reading Due Today:

- Stephen D. Biddle, *Ending the War in Afghanistan*, Foreign Affairs (Sept./Oct. 2013).
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/afghanistan/2013-08-12/ending-war-afghanistan>
- Mark Peceny and Yury Bosin, *Winning with Warlords in Afghanistan*, Small Wars & Insurgencies Vol 22:4 (Oct. 2011) pp. 603-618.
http://www.unm.edu/~ybosin/documents/winning_with_warlords_2011.pdf

Week 13: December 5, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: The Current Challenges with Iraq and the Islamic State

Reading Due Today:

- Ilan Goldenberg, Nicholas A. Heras, and Paul Scharre, *A Strategic Framework for the Fight Against ISIL*, War on the Rocks (Dec. 22, 2015).
<http://warontherocks.com/2015/12/a-strategic-framework-for-the-fight-against-isil/>
- Frederic C. Hof, *The Syrian Crisis and the Challenge Presented By ISIL*, Atlantic Council (June 9, 2015). <http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/syriasource/the-syrian-crisis-and-the-challenge-presented-by-isil>
- Nate Rosenblatt, *All Jihad is Local: What ISIS' Files Tell Us About Its Fighters*, New America (July 2016).
<https://na-production.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/ISIS-Files.pdf>

Week 14: December 12, 2016

Topic and Content Covered: **Final Exam**

Copyright Statement

Unless explicitly allowed by the instructor, course materials, class discussions, and examinations are created for and expected to be used by class participants only. The recording and rebroadcasting of such material, by any means, is forbidden.