This course provides a broad introduction to the study of international security. We will examine competing perspectives on the meaning of security and on the measures that states take in their efforts to achieve and maintain this important goal.

In the first part of the course, we will explore a range of influential theoretical approaches within the study of security. These include: realism, liberalism, Marxism, constructivism, and securitization. We will then examine the framework of human security, which focuses on the vulnerabilities and threats faced by individuals, and we will explore the ways in which this framework challenges more state-centric approaches. In studying these diverse perspectives on security, we will evaluate a range of policies and practices associated with each of them. In this section of the course, we will also consider the role that international law plays in the pursuit of security. For example, we will look at important legal restrictions on the use of military force.

In the second part of the course, we will explore a number of specific challenges and risks associated with: terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, and climate change. We will also take up debates about the best ways to respond to these challenges.

**Textbooks:**
The following book is available at the SFU Bookstore and is on reserve at the library: Alan Collins. 2016. *Contemporary Security Studies*. 4th edition. Oxford. ISBN: 9780198708315. This book is required. Other required readings, which will include articles and book excerpts, will be available online or on reserve (via Canvas).

**Course Requirements:**
The final grade for the course will be based on the following requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (October 12)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay (due November 16; submitted via turnitin.com)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To receive credit for the course, you must complete all of the above written requirements (i.e. the essay and exams) and you must also participate in tutorial discussions.
Teaching Assistant:
Olivia Clarke-Bancroft – oclarkeb@sfu.ca

Following the news:
The central goal of this course is to help you develop a deeper understanding of security and its significance in international affairs. To achieve this outcome, it is important that you follow the news by regularly reading sources with good coverage of international topics. Such sources include: The New York Times, The Economist, the BBC, the Guardian, and, The Washington Post.

Electronic devices: Using electronic devices in class in ways that are not directly relevant to the course (such as tweeting, checking Facebook, or watching videos) is a significant distraction to other students and is not permitted. You may use electronic devices in class to take notes and to consult electronic copies of the assigned readings.

Essay: The essay is due on November 16, at the beginning of class. The maximum length is 2800 words. I will distribute topics and instructions for the essay in class and will also post them on Canvas.

Submission of the Essay:
Each assignment should be submitted electronically to Canvas AND to Turnitin.com by the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments that are not submitted to both websites by the deadline will be subject to a penalty.

Use the following procedures for electronic submission to Turnitin.com:
1. Go to http://turnitin.com
2. Login if you already have an account, or register yourself as a new user if you do not. Your e-mail address and a password of your choice are used for subsequent logins.
3. Login as a student and then click on "enroll in a class."
4. We will provide the Class ID and the enrollment password in class and will also post them on Canvas.
5. Select the appropriate assignment from the pull-down menu.
6. Choose and upload your file.

If you wish, you can remove your name from the assignment to further protect your identity. For technical assistance, e-mail: helpdesk@turnitin.com
For more information see the Protection of Privacy section of the SFU calendar at www.sfu.ca/students/calendar/2014/spring/fees-and-regulations/student-contract/pop.html.

If you have a serious and principled objection to submitting your essay to Turnitin.com, I will offer you an alternative, which will involve submitting clear and detailed research notes that indicate what you have learned from your different research sources and how you have used them. To use this alternative method of submission, you must email your TA with an explanation of the reason(s) for your objection to using Turnitin.com, at least three weeks ahead of the essay deadline.
If you plan to submit your essay to Turnitin.com using a pseudonym or anonymous identity in your interactions with Turnitin.com, you must inform your TA two weeks prior to the deadline.

**Late essay policy:** Essays handed in after the deadline will lose five percentage points for each day or portion of a day they are late. Extensions will only be granted when unforeseeable and urgent circumstances that are beyond your control have prevented you from completing the work on time. In such cases, we will require supporting documentation (e.g. a note from a doctor.)

**Exams:** A central goal of both the midterm and the final exam will be to test your knowledge of the required readings, which are listed on the schedule below. The final exam will be comprehensive: it will cover all the readings assigned this semester. In addition to the readings, the midterm and final exams will cover all of the concepts and material that I introduce and explain in the lectures (which will include material that is relevant to but is not directly based on the specific reading assignments.) For these reasons, **it is essential that you attend class regularly and keep up with the reading assignments throughout the semester.** If you have questions about the material that do not get fully addressed in lectures or tutorial discussions, I encourage you to discuss them with me during my office hours.

**Make-up exams** will only be given when significant medical circumstances or family emergencies make it impossible for you to attend the regularly scheduled exam. In these cases, I will require documentation (e.g. a note from a doctor).

**Participation:** Participating in tutorial discussions is an important part of learning in this course. Marks will be based on active engagement in discussions, rather than on attendance (though attendance is of course necessary in order to participate). More specifically, this part of your grade will be based on: 1) the regularity or consistency of your participation in tutorial discussions **throughout the semester;** and, 2) the extent to which your contributions in tutorials engage with the assigned readings (for example, by raising questions about them, by thoughtfully responding to or criticizing them, by comparing them to each other, by applying them in thoughtful ways to cases or current events, etc.)

**Absence from tutorials:** Missing tutorials will have a significant impact on your grade. Everyone will automatically have the option of completing a make-up assignment for one (and **only one**) **missed** tutorial during the semester. In other words, if you miss a tutorial, for any reason, and then complete the make-up assignment, your grade will not be affected. (Please note: the make-up assignment **cannot** be used for additional bonus credit towards the participation grade; in other words, it **cannot** be used to increase the credit you receive for active engagement during tutorials that you do attend.) Instructions for the make-up assignment will be posted on Canvas. There will be **no make-up credit for additional absences from tutorials,** except in extraordinary ongoing medical circumstances or in significant ongoing family emergencies for which you can provide compelling documentation. In such cases, the “free” make-up option will be used to cover the first tutorial that you miss as a result of these extraordinary circumstances. **So please use your “free” make-up option wisely: save it for when it is truly needed.**
**Academic integrity:** I will strictly enforce the University’s policies on academic dishonesty in this course. There are significant penalties for violation of these policies. It is your responsibility to read and understand these policies. For more information, see the statement titled “Academic Integrity” at the end of this syllabus.

**Changes to the syllabus:** As the course proceeds, I may make one or two changes to the assigned readings. Such changes will not increase the overall amount of required reading. Any changes will be announced in advance on Canvas and in class. Please check Canvas (and your related email notifications) regularly.

**READING SCHEDULE:**

**WEEK 1 – Introduction** (Sept. 7)

Alan Collins, “Box 1.1 Definitions of security”, in *Contemporary Security Studies*, p.3

**WEEK 2 – Realism and Liberalism** (Sept. 14)

*This video is part of the required materials for this week. It will not be screened during class, so please watch it before class. We will discuss it during tutorials, in connection with the Glaser and Morgan chapters.


**WEEK 3 – Realism, Liberalism, and the Iraq War** (Sept. 21)


WEEK 4 – Marxism and Peace Studies (Sept. 28)

Eric Herring, “Historical Materialism”, Chapter 4 in Collins.
Paul Rogers, “Peace Studies”, Chapter 5 in Collins.

Debating a pacifist response to 9/11 and the war in Afghanistan:
Jeffrey C. Isaac, “Ends, Means and Politics,” Dissent (Spring 2002.)
Manfred B. Steger, “Ends, Means, and the Politics of Dissent.” Dissent (Fall 2002.)
Jeffrey C. Isaac, “Jeffrey C. Isaac Responds.” Dissent (Fall 2002.)

WEEK 5 – Constructivism; & the Chemical Weapons Taboo (Oct. 5)


WEEK 6 – MIDTERM; and, film (Oct. 12)

WEEK 7 – Securitization, Societal Security, and the Rwandan Genocide (Oct. 19)


WEEK 8 – Human Security, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Intervention (Oct. 26)

Alex J. Bellamy, “Humanitarian Intervention”, Chapter 22 in Collins.
Darryl Robinson & Valerie Oosterveld, “The Evolution of International Humanitarian


Vox video, “The US may be aiding war crimes in Yemen”, Dec. 12, 2016. We will watch this short video in class; but you can preview or review it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwwP3SiBIC8

WEEK 9 – The Responsibility to Protect (Nov. 2)


WEEK 10 – Terrorism and the “War on Terror”; &, Weapons of Mass Destruction (Nov. 9)


WEEK 11 – State Weakness, State Failure, and International Security (Nov.16)


March 21, 2017; online at https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/21/world/africa/libya-isis.html?_r=0


ESSAY DUE (at the beginning of class)

WEEK 12 – The Environment and Security (Nov. 23)


WEEK 13 – Cyber-Security; &, Conclusion (Nov. 30)


Film: Zero Days – We will watch an excerpt of this documentary about the Stuxnet worm in class. If you are interested in seeing the whole film, SFU Library has the DVD.

The FINAL EXAM is scheduled for Friday, December 15, 2016, at 3:30 pm. It is your responsibility to confirm this time and date by checking the university’s official exam schedule, in case there are changes.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are expected to read and understand the university’s policies with regard to academic dishonesty (T10.02 and T10.03). These policies are available through the following url: http://www sfu ca/policies/gazette/teaching.html
Forms of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to the following:

- Submitting all or a portion of the same work for credit in more than one course.
- Representing another person’s work as your own for course assignments.
- Failure to acknowledge sources of facts, information, analyses, interpretations, and arguments that you incorporate in your work, whether from a source that is written, spoken communication, or the internet and whether it is published and unpublished. Appropriate documentation of your sources is necessary when you quote, paraphrase or incorporate information and ideas generated by others. In particular, please be aware that “patchwriting” is unacceptable.

All students in SIS classes are expected to read the SFU Library lesson on “What is Plagiarism?” and take the interactive tutorial, “Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism”

SFU Library: What is plagiarism?
http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/writing/plagiarism

Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism:
http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/tutorials/plagiarism-tutorial