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PSC 495.01: National Security Policy Making

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PSC 495: National Security Policy-Making
Professor Michael Punke
Spring 2004

Part I: An Introduction to National Security Policy-Making

January 27, 2004. Course Overview.

January 29, 2004. National Security: A Brief Post-War History

Reading: Jordan et al, American National Security ("Jordan"), Chapters 4 and 3,
Forward (pages vii-ix).

February 3, 2004. The First Gulf War: An Introductory Case Study

Reading: Bob Woodward, The Commanders, Chapters 16-21.

February 5, 2004. The First Gulf War: (cont.)

Reading: Bob Woodward, The Commanders, Chapters 22-25.

Part II: The Institutions of American National Security Policy

February 10, 2004. The Institution of the Presidency.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 5.

February 12, 2004. The National Security Council.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 10.

Due Date: topic selection for projects, including honors and graduate papers

February 17, 2004. The Department of Defense. Discussion of Writing Project I.

Reading: Jordan et al, Chapter 8. Eliot A. Cohen, "A Tale of Two Secretaries,"
Foreign Affairs, May/June 2002.

February 19, 2004. The Department of State.

Reading: Jordan et al, pp 105-109, 152.

February 24, 2004. The Central Intelligence Agency.

Reading: Jordan et al. Richard K. Betts, "Fixing Intelligence", *Foreign Affairs*,
January/February 2002.

February 26, 2004. The Department of Homeland Security.

Reading: Stephen E. Flynn, "America the Vulnerable," *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2002. Jonathan Stevenson, "How Europe and America Defend Themselves", *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2003.

March 2, 2004. Economic Agencies: The NEC, Treasury and USTR.

Reading: Robert Rubin, *In an Uncertain World*

March 4, 2004. The Public Opinion, Congress, and the Press.

Reading: Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*, "A Note to the Reader," pp 31-34; Jordan et al

Part III: Case Studies in National Security Policy

March 9, 2004. The Cuban Missile Crisis.

Reading: Allison, *Essence of Decision*, Chapters 2, 6.

March 11, 2004. The Cuban Missile Crisis (cont.)

Reading: Allison, *Essence of Decision*, pp 13-23; 143-147; 255-258.

March 16, 2004. Tiananmen Square

Reading: Suettinger, *Beyond Tiananmen*; Robert Sutter, CRS Report

March 18, 2004. Tiananmen Square (cont.). Discussion, Writing Project II.

Reading: Suettinger, *Beyond Tiananmen*; Robert Sutter, CRS Report

Due Date: Writing Project I

March 23, 2004. Afghanistan/Iraq

Reading: Bob Woodward, *Bush at War*

March 25, 2004. Afghanistan/Iraq (cont.).

Reading: Bob Woodward, *Bush at War*

March 30, 2004. Spring Break

April 1, 2004. Spring Break

Part IV: Current Issues in National Security Policy

April 6, 2004. Terrorism/The Doctrine of Preemption.

Reading: Jordan et al. G. John Ikenberry, "America's Imperial Ambition," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2002.

April 8, 2004. Terrorism/Preemption (cont.)

Reading: Sebastian Mallaby, "The Reluctant Imperialist", *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2003.

Due Date: Writing Project II

April 13, 2004. Student Presentations.

April 15, 2004. Student Presentations.

April 20, 2004. Globalization.

Reading: Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*

April 22, 2004. International Trade.

Reading:

April 27, 2004. The United Nations.

Reading: Jordan et al.

April 29, 2004. National Security: Election 2004.

Reading: to be provided

May 4, 2004. Current Issue to be announced.

May 6, 2004. Review for test and test-taking skills.

Due Date: Writing Project III (Honors and Graduate students)

May 10-14, 2004. Final exam. Date to be announced.

Books.

Jordan, Taylor, and Mazarr, *American National Security*
Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*
Graham Allison, *Essence of Decision*
Bob Woodward, *Bush at War*
Thomas Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*
Robert Rubin, *In an Uncertain World*
Robert Suetinger, *Beyond Tiananmen*

Class participation. This will be an active class, with an emphasis on discussion as much as lecturing. I will use a Socratic format (like law school), calling upon students to draw out key parts of assigned readings. Much of what you learn will come from your classmates. Because of this format, I will expect that students arrive at class prepared, having completed the assigned reading. Part of your grade will be determined by your class participation.

Writing assignments. In addition to the substance of national security policy-making, this class will emphasize writing. In particular, the class will emphasize the type of writing done commonly in policy-oriented jobs (e.g., legislative assistant, White House aide). Each student will complete two short projects, both of which will relate to a short class presentation in April.

Honors/Graduate increment. Honors and graduate students will complete an additional writing project ("Writing Project III"), details to be discussed individually.

Grading. Grades will be based on the following breakdown:

Class Participation: 10%
Writing Project I: 20%
Writing Project II: 20%
Final Exam: 50%

(Honors/Graduate Students: Same as above except that the final exam will count for 25% and Writing Project III will count for 25%.)

Office Hours. I will maintain office hours from 9:45 to 10:45 on Tuesday and Thursday. My office is located at DHC #106. I can also be contacted by email at mpunke2003@yahoo.com.

Possible Topics for Writing Projects/Oral Presentation

In consultation with me, you will pick *a single research topic* that will form the background for Writing Project I, Writing Project II, and the short oral presentation. (In other words, you will *not* pick a different subject for each of these three projects.) **No two people can pick the same topic, so reserve a topic early if you are passionate about a particular subject.** Pick your topic by emailing me; the first student to email me gets the topic. Once you have confirmed your topic selection with me, visit me during office hours so that we can narrow your research. Other specifics of these projects will be discussed in class.

You may propose your own topic, subject to my approval. Possible subjects include the following:

Middle East peace talks.
India/Pakistan dispute.
China/Taiwan dispute.
Donald Rumsfeld's role in formulating National Security Policy
Condoleezza Rice's role in formulating National Security Policy
George Tenet's role in formulating National Security Policy
Bush's immigration policy and the US relationship with Mexico
The US embargo of Canadian cattle over "mad cow" concerns
Drug interdiction and the US relationship with Colombia.
Current US global efforts to halt the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
US efforts to keep North Korea from building nuclear weapons.
The US relationship with Saudi Arabia
US efforts to combat AIDS internationally
US efforts to combat global warming
The role of the United States in the United Nations
The role of the United States in the WTO
Foreign Policy and Montana
Leadership crisis in Iran