

PLSC 486L State Strategy in a Modern Era

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Room: FA354
Meets: 10AM-11.40AM
Office Hours: T/R 1PM-2PM

1. Seminar Description:

This seminar is aimed at evaluating how states pursue national goals and attain security in the complex international environment. As states and external environments vary across time so too will the strategies that states pursue. The goals of this course are specifically related to understanding the strategies that states pursue to ensure their security, but more broadly we will examine the varieties of cooperative endeavors in which states engage. We will start by exploring how states produce security, how we might measure security, and why the allocation of resources within states shapes foreign policy behavior. Then we will examine why states cooperate and how interests and preferences are integrated into cooperation. Further, we will explore how the differential capacities of states and the domestic constraints they face shape their foreign policy behavior. Subsequently, our attention will focus on why unobservable strategic factors are consequential and why flexibility in institutions encourages cooperation. Finally, we will link security strategies to economic strategies and discuss the broader implications.

2. Reading Materials: *All books below are **required** for the course. They are available at the University Bookstore.*

1. Keohane, Robert. 1989. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton UP.
2. Lake, David and Robert Powell. 1999. *Strategic Choice and International Relations*. Princeton UP.
3. Martin, Lisa. 2000. *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*. Princeton UP.
4. Milner, Helen. 1997. *Interests, Institutions and Information: Domestic Politics and International Relations*. Princeton UP.
5. OPTIONAL Book –Baldwin, David A. 1985. *Economic Statecraft*. Princeton UP. (also in Reserve Room)

Additionally, a number of articles and book chapters will be available in the Reserve Room (RR) and online at the course's blackboard website (BB). Further, you are required to remain up-to-date on the current events by reading either a major news magazine (e.g. *Newsweek*, *Time*, *US News & World Report*, *The Economist*) or a major newspaper (e.g. *New York Times*, *Washington Post*) regularly. Finally, the instructor reserves the right to add reading assignments from other sources as necessary.

3. Course Requirements

As this is a seminar course, there will be a sizable amount of reading for each meeting. You should endeavor to keep up with the reading and to that end each student will write a series of THREE short papers worth 10% each (30% total). The short papers should be at least two typed (single-spaced) pages. The main purpose of these papers is to provoke critical thinking about the material and to relay those thoughts in the discussion. Your grade will be based on the quality of your paper but also how you relate the key points of your paper in the seminar. You should access outside sources and literatures as they relate to your paper but outside sources are not required. **Because of the unique time constraints posed by the summer semester—these papers will be collected weekly (as opposed to daily).** Your paper should cover at least 2-3 days of course material and attempt to unify the topics of the course.

*******Papers are due on WEDNESDAY of each week no later than 6 PM via email to the instructor. You are ALSO required to bring a HARD copy of your paper to the seminar for the instructor on THURSDAY's class meeting.*******

And those who write papers will be expected to discuss their paper in seminar on Thursday. (ONLY during the first week of class I will accept papers on Friday, June 3rd)

You may consider the following questions as you read to help you in writing your paper:

What is the author's main argument?; What evidence does the author use to support his or her claim?; How is this argument similar or different from other work we have discussed in class?; What are the strengths and weaknesses of the author's analysis?; Do you agree or disagree with the author?; Can you think of an alternative explanation for the author's evidence?; Is there additional evidence that lends support to, or casts doubt upon, the author's conclusions?; What advice would you give to policy makers based on this reading?

Participation is also critical to your success in this course and will account for 20% of your grade. Attending seminar is necessary for attaining participation. There will be one free absence for the entire term (this includes those absences for sickness). Any absence beyond your free one will count against you in your participation grade (health center excuses will not be accepted as a valid reason for absence). You are in class less than two hours a day and need to schedule personal appointments around the class. However, the overall quality of your participation is the most important element and as such your comments should *meaningfully contribute* to the discussion of the material. In an effort to encourage greater participation, each student will also submit TWO sets of questions (minimum of 6 questions each) on the material read that will account for 15% of your total grade. These questions are also due no later than 5 PM on the day preceding class and they will be posted on blackboard for all students to access before the seminar. Do NOT rely on answering the questions alone to attain complete participation for the seminar. Additionally, you CANNOT write questions and a paper for the SAME material. You should not procrastinate in writing the papers. (I reserve the right to impose due dates if procrastination becomes a problem). All students should have their first paper written by 6/10/05.

The final requirement for the course will be a 15 page research paper related to international cooperation or the security strategies that states pursue. This paper will be worth 35% of your grade suggesting you need to treat it seriously. I will post on blackboard a separate handout that covers the details of the paper. I encourage you to think about and start the paper

early and you should see me regarding your topic idea during the second week of class (June 6-10, 2005).

To summarize,

- Short papers (3) – 10% each or 30% total
- Discussion questions (2 sets) – 15 % total
- Participation – 20% total
- Final Paper – 35% total

4. Guidelines and Information

NOTE: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner conducive to classroom learning. This means be on time, keep personal discussions to a minimum, no cell phones or beepers. If your cell phone or beeper rings you will be asked to leave the class and will miss out on any potential quiz given on that day but will still be responsible for the material as it may appear on an exam. There will be a 10% depletion of the final grade for any student with recurring cell phone issues. In addition, the instructor reserves the right to ask any student who is being disruptive to leave the classroom for the day and perhaps the course altogether.

Plagiarism & Cheating: Plagiarism and cheating are serious matters that, should they occur, will be pursued to the limits of University rules. Moreover, academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course. For details regarding the University's policy on cheating and plagiarism and academic dishonesty more generally, see the University Handbook. Further information regarding what constitutes dishonesty is available at the University Writing Center and on their website.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and wish to request accommodations, please notify the instructor by the second week of class. Students with disabilities should register with the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (777-2686). Their office is in LH-B51. Extra time for exams and other necessary arrangements can be made in conjunction with that office and the instructor. Information regarding disabilities is treated in a confidential manner.

5. Syllabus

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| May 31 | Introduction |
| June 1 | Why cooperate? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keohane Book Part I• K. Abbott & D. Snidal. 1998. "Why States Act through Formal International Organizations." <i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i>. 42(1): 3-32. (BB)• Goldberg, Victor. 1980. "Relational Exchange: Economics and Complex Contracts." Pp. 72-78 in Putterman and Krozner (eds) <i>The Economic Nature of the Firm</i>. (RR) |
| June 2 | Preferences, Interests, and Cooperation I <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keohane Book Parts 2-5 |
| June 3 | Preferences, Interests, and Cooperation II |

- Lake and Powell Ch. 1-2
- Baldwin Ch. 2 (RR)

******You MUST see me in my office in the week of June 6 - 10 to discuss your term paper!!******

- June 6 Interests and Information I
- Milner Ch. 1 - 4
- June 7 Interests and Information II
- Milner Chs.(read 2 of the following 4 chapters [5-8]) & Ch. 9
- June 8 Producing (Extracting) Security: How can we measure security capacity?
- Mastanduno, Michael, David A. Lake, and G. John Ikenberry. 1989. "Toward a Realist Theory of State Action." *International Studies Quarterly*. 33(4): 457-474. (BB)
 - Singer, J. David, Stuart Bremer, and John Stuckey. 1972. "Capability, Uncertainty, and Major Power War, 1820-1965." In Russett, Bruce (ed.) *Peace, War, and Numbers*. Sage Publications: New York. (RR)
 - Baldwin, Chapter 7 (RR)
- June 9 Domestic Constraints
- Martin Book Chs. 1-4, 8 (and select 1 of chs. 5, 6, or 7)
 - Putnam, Robert. 1989. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games." *International Organization*. 42(3): 427-460. (BB)
- June 10 Resource Allocations I
- Powell, Robert. 1993. "Guns, Butter, and Anarchy." *American Political Science Review*. 87(1): 115-132. (BB)
 - Powell, Robert. 1996. "Stability and the Distribution of Power." *World Politics*. 48(2): 239-267. (BB)
 - Powell, Robert. 1999. *In the Shadow of Power*. Princeton UP. Chapter 3. (RR)
- June 13 Resource Allocations II
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, James D. Morrow, Randolph Siverson, and Alastair Smith. 1999. "An Institutional Explanation for the Democratic Peace." *American Political Science Review*. 93(4): 791-807. (BB)
 - Kimball, Anessa. 2005. "Alliances from the Inside Out: A Domestic Politics Theory of Alliance Formation." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Honolulu, HI, March 1-5, 2005. (BB)
- June 14 Different Capacities Lead to Different Strategies

- Barnett, Michael N. and Jack S. Levy. 1992. "Alliance Formation, Domestic Political Economy, and Third World Security." *Jerusalem Journal of International Relations*. 14(4): 19-40. (RR)
- Wiberg, Hakan. 1987. "The Security of Small Nations: Challenges and Defences" *Journal of Peace Research*, 24(4): 339-363. (BB)
- Reiter, Dan. 1994. "Learning, Realism and Alliances: The Weight of the Shadow of the Past." *World Politics*. 46(4): 490-526. (BB)

June 15 Varieties of Cooperation: Arms or Alliances

- Diehl, Paul F. 1994. "Substitutes or Complements?: The Effects of Alliances on Military Spending in Major Power Rivalries." *International Interactions*. 19(3): 159-176. (RR)
- Leeds, Brett Ashley, Jeffrey M. Ritter, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, and Andrew G. Long. 2002. "Alliance Treaty Obligations and Provisions, 1815-1944." *International Interactions*. 28: 237-260. (BB)
- Morrow, James D. 1993. "Arms Versus Allies: Trade-Offs in the Search for Security." *International Organization*. 47(2): 207-233. (BB)

June 16 Flexibility in Institutions I

- Lake and Powell Ch. 3-5

June 17 Flexibility in Institutions II

- Koremenos, Barbara. 2001. "Loosening the Ties that Bind: A Learning Model of Agreement Flexibility" *International Organization*. 55(2): 289-325. (BB)
- Wallander, Celeste A. 2000. "Institutional Assets and Adaptability: NATO After the Cold War," *International Organization*, 54, 4: 705-735. (BB)
- Alter, Karen. 1998. "Who are the 'Masters of the Treaty'?: European Governments and the European Court of Justice." *International Organization*. 52(1): 121-147. (BB)

June 20 Money Talks! Dollar Diplomacy and Foreign Aid

- Baldwin, Chapters 3, 8, 10 (RR)

June 21 Linking Security Strategies to Economics

- Mastanduno, Michael. 1998. "Economics and Security in Statecraft and Scholarship." *International Organization*. 52(4): 825-854. (BB)
- Powers, Kathy L. 2004. "Regional Trade Agreements as Military Alliances." *International Interactions*. 30(4): 373-395. (BB)

June 22 Strategic Interactions/Unobservable Factors I

- Clark, David H. 2003. "Can Strategic Interaction Divert Diversionary Behavior? A Model of US Conflict Propensity." *Journal of Politics*. 65(4): 1013-1039. (BB)

- Clark, David H. and Patrick M. Regan. 2003. "Opportunities to Fight: A Statistical Technique for Modeling Unobservable Phenomena." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 47(1): 94-115. (BB)
 - Reed, William. 2003. "Information & Economic Interdependence." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 47(1): 54-71. (BB)
- June 23 Strategic Factors II
- Smith, Alastair. 1995. "Alliance Formation and War." *International Studies Quarterly*. 39(4): 405-425. (BB)
 - Kimball, Anessa. 2003. "Selling the State on a Private Market: Reassessing Alliance Commitments." Working Paper, BU OR Draft Copy of Chapter 4 of PhD dissertation. (BB)
- June 24 NO CLASS!!
*****Your term paper is due by 2.30PM on Friday, June 24, 2005*****
A HARD copy must be handed to the instructor in her office before 2.30PM.
(Late papers will be penalized 1 letter grade per day until turned in—papers will NOT be accepted after June 30th)
- June 27 Non-state challenges to security: The Mafia
- Skaperdas, Stergios. 2001. "The Political Economy of Organized Crime: Providing Protection when the State Does Not." *Economics of Governance*. 2(3): 173-202. (RR)
 - Konrad, Kai and Stergios Skaperdas. 1998. "Extortion." *Economica*. 65:461-477. (RR)
 - Galeotti, Mark. 2001. "Underworld and Upperworld: Transnational Organized Crime and Global Society" pp. 203-217 in Josselin and Wallace (eds) *Non-state Actors in World Politics*. (RR)
- June 28 Non-state challenges to security: Terrorism/Rebellion
- Sobek, David and Alex Braithwaite. Forthcoming. "Victims of Success: American Dominance and Terrorism." *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. (BB)
 - Heath, Julie A; Mason, T. David; Smith, William T. and Joseph P. Weingarten. 2000. "The Calculus of Fear: Revolution, Repression and the Rational Peasant." *Social Science Quarterly*. 81(2): 622-633. (RR)
 - Li, Quan. 2005. "Does Democracy Promote or Reduce Transnational Terrorist Incidents?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 49(2): 278-297. (BB)
 - Pillar, Paul. 2004. "Dealing with Terrorists" pp. 469-476 in Art and Waltz (eds) *The Use of Force: Military Power and International Politics*. (RR)
- June 29 Movie: *Fog of War*
- June 30 Finish movie and Discussion (Topic: TBA)
- July 1 Student paper presentations