**Description**

This seminar offers graduate students an introduction to the subfield of international relations labeled strategic studies (or security studies). In addition to exploring key theoretical issues, we will consider their usefulness for understanding relevant events in international politics since World War II. Although the course emphasizes the distinctive features of great power strategy in the nuclear age, we will also look at the continuing role of conventional forces and the strategic choices of lesser powers. Guiding thematic questions for the course include the following: What are the fundamental logical and practical distinctions among the alternative strategies available to states for ensuring their national security? To what extent does the choice among these alternatives reflect a clearly defined national interest, domestic political and economic pressures, international constraints, or the state of military technology? We will address these and other questions in four sections. First, we will briefly explore some of the subfield's basic concepts. Second, we will look at strategic policy during the Cold War. Third, we will consider the lessons that scholars have drawn from this recent historical experience. Fourth, building on the preceding theoretical and empirical background, we will analyze selected security problems that have become prominent at the turn of the century.

**Books available for purchase:**


Strategic Studies Seminar

Course Requirements

Required readings are found directly beneath each section heading. All required books should be available at the University of Pennsylvania bookstore. Readings from sources other than the required books are preceded by an asterisk (*). Because of the high cost of copyright clearance, enrollment and student demand will determine whether these readings will be put into a course pack.

Exams: There will be a midterm exam covering weeks 1-7 and a final exam. Each will be a take-home exam.

Presentation: In addition each student will undertake a mini-research project on and lead the seminar in discussion of a selected topic about a contemporary problem in international security. Presentations will begin during week 9. Details about this requirement (exact schedule and selection of topics) will be worked out after the first seminar session and will depend on enrollment and student interests.

Grades:

Midterm Exam (30%)
Presentation (20%)
Participation (10%)
Final Exam (40%).
**Strategic Studies Seminar**

**Required Readings**

**Basic Concepts in Strategic Studies**

**Week One** (January 17)


**Strategic Theory, Policy, and History During the Cold War**

**Weeks Two and Three** (January 24, January 31)

**Deterrence Embraced** (1945-1968)


**Crisis Management**


Schelling. *Arms and Influence*, pp. 221-259.

Strategic Studies Seminar

Weeks Four and Five  (February 7, 14)

**Deterrence Questioned** (1969-1980)

- Schelling. *Arms and Influence*, pp. 190-220.

**Extended Deterrence and Defense: The Cold War in Europe**

- Schelling. *Arms and Influence*, pp. 35-69.


Strategic Studies Seminar

Lessons from the Cold War

Week Six (February 21)

Legacy of Theory and Practice during the Cold War (I)

Jervis, Robert. *The Meaning of the Nuclear Revolution*, chaps. 1,3,7; the rest are recommended.


Week Seven (February 28)

Legacy of Theory and Practice during the Cold War (II)


*MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED*
Strategic Studies Seminar

Week Eight (March 7)

*MIDTERM DUE*

Arms Control and Controlled Arms


Strategic Theory and Policy in the Post-cold War World

Week Nine (March 21)

New Threats: Proliferation

Sagan, Scott and Kenneth Waltz. *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons*

New Threats: Terrorism

*Deutch, J. “Terrorism.”* *Foreign Policy* No. 108 (Fall 1997), pp. 10-22.
Strategic Studies Seminar

Weeks Ten and Eleven (March 28, April 4)

Revolution in Military Affairs (Concept)


Revolution in Military Affairs (Air Power)

Revolution in Military Affairs (BMD)


Week Twelve (April 11)

Europe and International Security in the Post-Cold War World


Week Thirteen (April 18)

East Asia and International Security in the Post-Cold War World


Week Fourteen (April 25)

US Security Policy in the Post-Cold War World


O’Hanlon, Michael. How to Be A Cheap Hawk

