Overview

This course will introduce the student to the politics of nuclear weapons. The course will cover the origins of nuclear weapons, the reasons states seek them, the strategies developed for their use, the consequences of their development, and efforts to control and reverse their spread. In addressing these issues we will study a variety of countries, including North Korea, India and Pakistan, Israel, Iraq and Iran.

Readings

The readings are all available on-line at the Learn@UW website for the course.

A good encyclopedic source of information on weapons of mass destruction and related issues around the world is:


Discussions

There are discussion topics under the Discussion Groups menu tab for each lecture grouped into forums by the overall part of the course, as well as one for course administrative matters. We strongly encourage you to come up with questions and comments on the lectures and readings and post them to the relevant lecture topic as well as respond to the questions and comments of other students. Please be civil and respectful in your discussions; it’s the right thing to do and, unlike on the web more generally, you are not anonymous in the context of this course.

Office Hours and Contact Information

My office hours are listed below. At these times I will be monitoring chats under the Office Hours menu tab that you can log into and participate in. Feel free to ask any course related questions about lectures, readings, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office Hours (CDT)</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Kydd</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kydd@wisc.edu">kydd@wisc.edu</a></td>
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</table>

Tuesday 10 am-12 pm
In addition, you may send me questions via email. Turnaround time will usually not exceed 24 hours. While I am happy to respond to email, if your question is general and potentially of interest to other students, consider asking it in an office hours chat or posting it in a discussion topic.

The Research Paper

Each student will write a research paper of around 4,000 words. The paper should take a question or topic we cover in class, present the relevant theoretical arguments, and then consider a specific empirical case in light of these arguments. For instance, the question could be, “does nuclear proliferation make war more or less likely?” and the case could be the relationship between India and Pakistan. Another example could be, “will any more countries voluntarily give up nuclear weapons?” and the cases could be France and Great Britain. The papers need to start with a topic from the course and the readings related to that topic, but must then make use of at least three substantial sources not on the syllabus.

You should start thinking about your research paper as soon as possible. Scan down the syllabus to look for topics that are interesting and do a little advance reading to investigate them. In order to make sure that your paper is off to a good start, a one page summary of your project is due at the time noted on the course schedule. This should identify the topic and question you wish to ask, the readings from the syllabus that are relevant, and some ideas on additional sources to look at.

All written work must have a title page including the title of the document (your project title), your name, the date, the name of the class, the professor’s names, and the type of assignment it is, (one page prospectus, or final paper). The pages must be numbered. References are to be done with American Political Science Association (APSA) system. Check out the writing center for information: http://www.writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocAPSA.html. Make sure to cite specific page numbers so the reader can easily find the source for what you are saying. The last page in the document should be the reference list. For information on writing and formatting references, see the UW Writing Center website, particularly, their writer’s handbook, where you can find information about proper citing.


All documents must be submitted to the appropriate dropbox on the learn@uw site for the course. The name of the document must be your last name, followed by 1 for the paper proposal and 2 for the final draft, followed by the relevant document suffix. For instance, Smith’s proposal would be named Smith1.docx.

The paper will be due at the end of the semester at the time noted on the course schedule.
Exams

The exams will consist of a number of questions that require written answers of a few paragraphs. There will be more questions on the final exam than on the midterm, and the final will be cumulative, in that the first half of the course will receive some coverage as well as the second half. The exams will be closed book.

The exam will be available starting Friday at noon on the day indicated. They must be done before noon on the following Monday. You will have one hour for the midterm and two hours for the final.

Grading

The final grade will be based on the following five elements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Percent of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Outline</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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The grading scheme will be as follows.

A  93-100
AB 88-92
B  83-87
BC 78-82
C  70-77
D  60-69
F  0-59

Numerical scores will be rounded to integers using the usual convention, so that 87.5 will be rounded up to 88 and therefore get an AB, whereas 87.4999 will be rounded down to 87 and get a B.
Course Schedule

All the important dates, including due dates for all course requirements, are listed in the following table. This course is being taught simultaneously with a live version. The lectures should be posted on line a day or so after I give them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Month</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: Nuclear Weapons and How to Get Them</td>
<td>Lecture 1.1 Introduction</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>September</td>
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<td>No Class (Labor Day)</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lecture 1.2 Physics</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 1.3 Aid and Bureaucracy</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2: Why States Build Nuclear Weapons</td>
<td>Lecture 2.1 Three Models</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Lecture 2.2 India Pakistan</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>Lecture 2.3 Spiral vs. Deterrence</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 2.4 North Korea</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Lecture 2.5 Unit Level Theories</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 2.6 Argentina and Brazil</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3: The Consequences Of Nuclear Proliferation</td>
<td>Lecture 3.1 Arms Races and War</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>October</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lecture 3.2 Sagan/Waltz Debate Paper Topic Due</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Lecture 3.3 India and Pakistan</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 3.4 Iraq</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Lecture 3.5 China</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 3.6 Nuclear Terrorism</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Module 4: Nuclear Strategy</td>
<td>Lecture 4.1 The First Use</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>November</td>
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<td>Lecture 4.2 Dr. Strangelove</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 4.3 Nuclear Strategy</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lecture 4.4 Primacy/New States</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Lecture 4.5 Missile Defense</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Lecture 4.6 The Nuclear Taboo</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Module 5: Arms Control</td>
<td>Lecture 5.1 Arms Control Theory</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>December</td>
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<td>No Class (Thanksgiving)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Lecture 5.2 Superpower AC</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Lecture 5.3 NPT and the CTBT</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 5.4 FSU and South Africa</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Lecture 5.5 Libya and Iran</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Lecture 5.6 Nuclear Abolition</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Final Paper Due Time: Noon</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19</td>
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Course Outline:

Module 1: Nuclear Weapons and What it Takes to Get Them

Lecture 1.2  The Origin and Science of Nuclear Weapons


Lecture 1.3  Scientific Cooperation and Bureaucratic Competence


Module 2: Why States Build Nuclear Weapons

Lecture 2.1 Three Models of Proliferation


Lecture 2.2 Cases: India and Pakistan


Lecture 2.3 The Spiral Model vs. the Deterrence Model


Lecture 2.4 Case: North Korea


Lecture 2.5 Unit Level Perspectives


Lecture 2.6 Cases: Argentina and Brazil

Module 3: The Consequences of Nuclear Proliferation

Lecture 3.1 Have Arms Races Caused War?


Lecture 3.2 Is Nuclear Proliferation Good or Bad?


Lecture 3.3 India and Pakistan


Lecture 3.4 Preventive War I: Iraq


Lecture 3.5 Preventive War II: China


Lecture 3.6 Terrorism

Module 4: Nuclear Strategy

Lecture 4.1  The First Use


Lecture 4.2  Dr. Strangelove and Nuclear Deterrence

Movie: Dr. Strangelove

Lecture 4.3  Classical Nuclear Strategy


Lecture 4.4  Nuclear Primacy, New Nuclear States


Lecture 4.5  National Missile Defense


Lecture 4.6  Taboo or Not Taboo?

Module 5: Arms Control

Lecture 5.1  Arms Control Theory


Lecture 5.2  Superpower Arms Control


Lecture 5.3  The NPT and CTBT


Lecture 5.4  Giving up the Bomb: FSU, South Africa


Lecture 5.5  Libya and Iran


Lecture 5.6  Nuclear Abolition

