

## INR4314/5316: Grand Strategy in International Relations

Spring 2018 (12645/12646/12647)

MW 2:30-3:45, 11/217

Office Phone: 474-3008

Office and Office Hours: Bldg 50/Rm 126, MW 1:00-2:00, TR 1:30-3:30 or by appointment

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### Course Description

“A nation, despicable by its weakness, forfeits even the privilege of being neutral.” --attributed to Alexander Hamilton, *The Federalist* no. 10

“A great deal of world politics is a fundamental struggle, but it is also a struggle that has to be waged intelligently.” — Zbigniew Brzezinski

This course immerses students in grand strategic thinking through an innovative combination of classic readings, competitive simulation and contemporary analysis. As a topic, “grand strategy” refers to the link between a state’s goals and capabilities, and it entails historical, philosophical and systematic thought. It is how states understand and pursue their perceived interests and roles in the world. Understanding grand strategies offers an essential tool to evaluate states’ foreign policies as well as the international system. Next, as members of working groups, students will then grapple with a pressing contemporary issue, such as cybersecurity, in the context of a number of case studies, including Russia and China. These working groups then present and discuss strategic proposals they have developed. The course concludes with students guiding the fate of a nation through a collaborative, competitive online simulation. This experience involves diplomacy, planning and cooperation along with guile, spontaneity, and competition.

### Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will appraise and categorize current and historical grand strategies.
- In small groups, students will employ categories and characteristics in order to research and diagnose a grand strategy for an assigned state.
- Students will collaborate on decision making for a statecraft simulation.
- Students will review and analyze their own performance on the simulation and group work.

### Graduate Section SLOs

- Students will help organize and manage small groups.
- Students will evaluate and compare their analyses.

### Topics

- Historical examples of grand strategy and the debates and analyses surrounding them.
- Current examples, characteristics and types of grand strategy among great and middle powers.
- Theories and philosophies of strategy and foreign policy.
- Analytical tools to assess and diagnose grand strategy.

### Course Materials

- **Sign Up:** Go to the website listed below and sign up (at the top, click on “Login/Sign Up.” The account is \$35. Our class code is ARGO-GS2018.
  - o [www.statecraftsim.com](http://www.statecraftsim.com)
- Henry R. Nau and Deepa M. Ollapally (2012) *Worldviews of Aspiring Powers* Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-993747-9

- Grad Students: Lawrence Freedman (2013) *Strategy: A History* Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-932515-3

### **Course Requirements**

You will be graded on participation (8%), attendance, (7%), your country brief project (30%), the simulation (20%), and your two reflection papers (20% & 15%).

#### ***Participation* (8%)**

Participation: We will engage in discussion, group work and individual assignments during class time, and you will be graded on materials you submit, your overall contributions to class and your attendance record. I prioritize considered, thoughtful contributions over many contributions. When in doubt, though, try to speak up once a week in addition to written work.

#### ***Attendance* (7%)**

Attendance: You may miss two class meetings with no penalty but will lose points from your final participation grade for each missed period after that. Absences due to illness, religious observance, emergency or university-sponsored activities will be excused with proper documentation. No need to contact me about missing class unless you have already missed two class periods and/or have documentation to present.

NOTE: Regular attendance will be recorded and is required to receive financial aid. I will circulate an attendance sheet for you to sign most class meetings.

#### ***Country Brief Project* (25%)**

This will be a presentation of 8-10 minutes. Imagine that you and your team work for an agency like the Department of State, Department of Defense or the National Security Council, and you are tasked with analyzing another government's grand strategy. Your team will be assigned a real state, and you will need to do two things: 1) identify that state's current grand strategy and 2) evaluate how that state is pursuing or is likely to pursue its foreign policy and interests in the immediate (1-4 years), middle term (5-20 years), and long term (beyond 20 years). Submit an outline, PowerPoint or other related materials to the designated discussion board on eLearning (NOTE: this will be visible to the entire class).

Your team will be graded on your application of course concepts, systematic (as opposed to impressionistic or inconsistent) analysis, clarity, focus and fit with the time parameters.

#### ***Country Brief Analysis Paper* (20%)**

DUE TWO WEEKS AFTER PRESENTATION. At least 5 pp, double-spaced. This is an individual project. Include two elements. Submit to the assigned dropbox on eLearning.

- (1) Write your portion of the research/work as an essay. You may add additional content and analysis not included in the briefing. If your work was primarily organizational, write an overview of the briefing.
- (2) Describe your role in the group and your analysis of how well (or not well) you worked as a team and either a) what concepts of grand strategy you applied effectively and how AND/OR b) what concepts should have been included or were improperly applied.

### **Simulation (20%)**

You will sign up for an account with Statecraft Simulation, as described above. (Note: tutorials and other support are available any time on the website.) You will be graded on several dimensions.

- 1) Memos – 10% of course grade.
  - a. Keep notes on country/world developments, group dynamics, and decisions in each turn.
  - b. Each week turn in a memo of no fewer than 300 words reviewing these developments and your individual assessment. This includes what you think is working well, problems for your country/government, emerging strategies, likely outcomes, and likely future moves of your government and others.
  - c. Submit to assigned dropbox on eLearning.
- 2) Performance – 10% of course grade. Assessed as a group score.
  - a. Points received in 3 categories: Cooperation (available to everyone); Competitiveness; Development. 10-25 points is typical, but 20 will be considered 100%. Anything above that is considered **extra credit**.

### **Simulation Analysis Paper (20%)**

At least 4 pp, double-spaced. This is an individual project. Did your team explicitly or implicitly develop a grand strategy? Did it apply certain principles or assumptions? What was successful? Refer to course materials and principles in your paper (there is no minimum, but strong papers will integrate as many as possible). In addition, compare the strategies that emerged—both yours and those of others—to the real governments (China, India, etc.) and strategies we reviewed earlier in class. Submit to the assigned dropbox on eLearning

*LATE SIMULATION & FINAL PAPERS lose 5 points a day.*

### **Graduate Students**

Your work is broadly the same as outlined above with a few changes.

#### *In class students:*

- Weekly Discussion Board on Lawrence Freedman's Strategy These are DUE by 11:30 PM the Sunday after they are assigned.
- Country Brief Analysis Paper: this is to be 6-8 pages.
- Simulation: Same requirements as undergrad section.
- Simulation Analysis Paper: this is to be 8-10 pages.
  - o Follow the elements above, but be sure to expand particularly on the following: Which teams do you believe developed an identifiable grand strategy? Can you at least identify certain operating principles or assumptions? What was successful and why? Refer to course and outside materials in your paper (there is no minimum, but stronger papers will integrate several).
  - o Also include outside sources and your assessment of the world's overall development and final results (there is no minimum, but stronger papers will integrate several).

#### *Online students:*

- Weekly Discussion Board on Lawrence Freedman's Strategy These are DUE by 11:30 PM the Sunday after they are assigned.

- Country Brief Analysis Paper: this is to be 8-10 pages. Rather than a presentation, you will develop a mid-length analysis paper. Select and compare at least three governments covered in the Nau and Ollapally reading. The comparison should 1) systematically identify the states' current grand strategies and 2) compare how they are or are likely to integrate a certain issue (as assigned by the instructor) into the grand strategy.
- Simulation: Same requirements as the undergrad section. NOTE: you will collaborate with the other online students to manage a country.
- Simulation Analysis Paper: this is to be 8-10 pages.
  - o Follow the elements above, but be sure to expand particularly on the following: Which teams do you believe developed an identifiable grand strategy? Can you at least identify certain operating principles or assumptions? What was successful and why?
  - o Also include outside sources and your assessment of the world's overall development and final results (there is no minimum, but stronger papers will integrate several).

**Letter Grades**

94% or better	A	87% to 89%	B+	77% to 79%	C+	67% to 69%	D+
90% to 93%	A-	83% to 86%	B	73% to 76%	C	60% to 66%	D
		80% to 82%	B-	70% to 72%	C-	59% or less	F

GRADING In general, I consider how well you followed directions and focused tightly on your given topic; your mastery (i.e. correct understanding and general use) of the readings and other course material; your argument's clarity, consistency and accuracy; overall structure and logic; overall clarity and grammar. See the document "Shively Paper Grading Rubric" for detailed break-down.

Academic Conduct

PLAGIARISM and ACADEMIC DISHONESTY involve adding others' words to your text as if they were your own and will not be tolerated. For University policies on plagiarism and other misconduct, see the Student Code of Conduct: <http://uwf.edu/osrr/documents/BOTApprovedStudentCodeofConduct-2010edition.pdf>.

Assistance for Students with Special Needs

If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) at <http://uwf.edu/sdrc/internal/>, which requires documented needs of the individual. For information, e-mail [sdrc@uwf.edu](mailto:sdrc@uwf.edu) or call 850.474.2387.

Your Major

If you are interested in but not yet a major in **Political Science, Pre-Law, or International Studies** you should contact **The Department of Government at 474-2929 or [govt@uwf.edu](mailto:govt@uwf.edu)**. If you are undecided about you major you should contact your academic advisor or the Career Center at 850-474-2254.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

- Readings not in assigned texts will appear in PDF form in eLearning > Course Materials>Content
- Some dates and assignments may be changed. I will announce these by email and in class.

<u>Week 1</u> Jan 8	<u>Introduction</u>
Jan 10	STRATEGY
Jan 17	<u>Definitions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Biddle, "Strategy in War"</li> <li>- Palfreeman, "Defining Security"</li> <li>- <i>Recommended:</i> Sayle, "Defining and Teaching Grand Strategy"</li> </ul>
<u>Week 2</u> Jan 15	NO CLASS – MLK Day
Jan 17	<u>Classic Writings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Plutarch, "How to Profit by One's Enemies." §§1, 4, 8, 9, 11</li> <li>- Cicero, "On Running for the Consulship." §§1, 3, 6, 10, 12, 14</li> <li>- <i>Grad Discussion:</i> Freedman, Preface &amp; Ch 1</li> </ul>
<u>Week 3</u> Jan 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i>. "Dedication" and ch. 8,9, 14-18, 21, 24, 25</li> <li>- (Grad) Freedman ch 4</li> </ul>
Jan 24	<u>Geostrategy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mackinder, "The Geographic Pivot of History."</li> <li>- Mahan, "Influence of Sea Power Upon History." Ch 1 (pp 25-29 &amp; 89)</li> <li>- <i>Grad Discussion:</i> Freedman, ch 7 &amp; 8</li> </ul>
<u>Week 4</u> Jan 29	<u>Business Competition and Social Movements</u>
Jan 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedman, ch 29</li> <li>- Freedman, ch 23</li> <li>- <i>Grad Discussion:</i> Johnston, "Thinking about Strategic Culture"</li> </ul>
<u>Week 5</u> Feb 5	<u>Rationality</u>
Feb 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedman, ch 13</li> <li>- Freedman, ch 17</li> <li>- <i>Grad Discussion:</i> Schelling, ch 1</li> </ul>
<u>Week 6</u> Feb 12	<u>Historical Approaches</u>
Feb 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kagan, "Redefining Roman Grand Strategy"</li> <li>- Synopsis of Kennedy, "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers"</li> <li>- <i>Grad Discussion:</i> Freedman, ch 6, 16</li> </ul>
<u>Week 7</u> Feb 19	<u>Grand Strategy and National Security Strategy</u>
Feb 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freedman, 196-201</li> <li>- National Security Strategy, 2017</li> <li>- Zegart, "Get Rid of Grand Strategy"</li> <li>- <i>Grad Discussion:</i> Freedman, ch 15</li> </ul>

<u>Week 8</u>		ANALYZING GRAND STRATEGY
		<u>International Relations Theories</u>
Feb 26		- N&O, ch 1
Feb 28		- Lowenthal, “[Intelligence] Analysis” (pp 119-126; 129-131; 139; 157-160) <i>Establishing our Standards of Analysis</i>
		- <i>Grad Discussion: Freedman, ch 36</i>
<u>Week 9</u>		<u>China</u>
Mar 5		- CHINA GROUP PRESENTATION
Mar 7		- N&O, ch 2 <i>Establishing our Standards of Analysis</i>
		- <i>Grad Discussion: Freedman, ch 37</i>
Mar 12-16		SPRING BREAK
<u>Week 10</u>		<u>India</u>
Mar 19		- INDIA GROUP PRESENTATION
		- N&O, ch 3
Mar 21		<u>Iran</u>
		- IRAN GROUP PRESENTATION
		- N&O, ch 4
		- Statecraft Simulation: Turn 0
		- <i>Grad Discussion: Freedman, ch 12</i>
<u>Week 11</u>		<u>Japan</u>
Mar 26		- JAPAN GROUP PRESENTATION
		- N&O, ch 5
Mar 28		<u>Russia</u>
		- RUSSIA GROUP PRESENTATION
		- N&O, ch 1
		- Statecraft Simulation: Turn 1
<u>Week 12</u>		<u>Statecraft Simulation</u>
Apr 2		- Turn 2
Apr 4		- Turn 3
		- <i>Grad Discussion: Freedman, ch 11</i>
<u>Week 13</u>		<u>Statecraft Simulation</u>
Apr 9		- Turn 4
Apr 11		- Turn 5
		- <i>Grad Discussion: Freedman, ch 14</i>
<u>Week 14</u>		<u>Statecraft Simulation</u>
Apr 16		- Turn 6
Apr 18		- Turn 7
		- <i>Grad Discussion: Freedman, ch 38</i>
<u>Week 15</u>		<u>Simulation Conclusion and Analysis</u>
Apr 23		
Apr 25		
<u>Week 16</u>		
May 1		SIMULATION ANALYSIS PAPER DUE by Midnight to eLearning Dropbox