

As of January 17, 2019- Subject to Change

The Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy  
University of Michigan  
Winter 2019

PUBPOL 475  
Issues in U.S. National Security

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2:30-3:50pm  
Weill Hall, Room 1220

Instructor
<p><u>Ambassador (ret) Melvyn Levitsky</u> Professor of International Policy and Practice Weill Hall, Room 3224 Email - <a href="mailto:levitsky@umich.edu">levitsky@umich.edu</a> <u>Office Hours:</u> Wednesdays, 1-5 PM or by appointment</p>

<p><b><i>NOTE: CANVAS Contains readings and assignments</i></b></p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------

Course Description

In this course, we will examine international aspects of U.S. national security policy. We will study the Cold War preface to current policy as well as broad issues of substance, strategic doctrine and governmental processes affecting national security policy. We will examine and discuss the NSC system, the place of human rights and American values in national security policy, civil-military relations, unilateralism and multilateralism and the role of the United Nations, the use of force and its alternatives (sanctions, negotiations, coercive and traditional diplomacy), and the use of intelligence in decision making. We will examine U.S. policies in regions and countries such as Europe, Russia, China, North Korea, the Middle East and Iran. The course is policy focused and students will be challenged to think about policy options, alternative approaches, lessons learned from the past, and recommendations regarding initiatives underway or to be taken. Our sessions will involve a high degree of student participation.

**NOTE: Students should strive to stay aware of current developments. Newspapers and periodicals like *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, *LA Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, *Foreign Policy* and other newspapers and magazines cover the national security debate, and students should consider such periodicals as strongly suggested reading material for class discussion. Most can be accessed online.**

**NOTE: Except for the case studies below, all readings for each session can be found in the Public Policy 475 CANVAS site under FILES**

## **Readings, Assignments and Class Preparation**

### **Case studies**

***A Casebook containing the four cases we will examine may be purchased at Dollar Bill Copying, 611 Church St. (665-9200). They should be ready the week of January 14.***

1. **Generals Versus the President: Eisenhower and the Army, 1953-55.** Andrew Bacevich and Lawrence Kaplan. Maxwell/SAIS Case 1997
2. **The Kuwait Crisis: Sanctions, Negotiations and the Decision to Go to War.** Dorinda Dallmeyer, GUIDS/Pew Case Study
3. **Going to the United Nations: George W. Bush and Iraq.** Curtis H. Martin. GUIDS/Pew Case Study

### **Written Assignments**

- A. **Case Study Policy Papers.** Students will write a one-page policy paper on case study #1 and a two-page comparative analysis of the next two cases, #2 Bush 41 and #3 Bush 43 policies on Iraq. Guidance for these papers can be found in CANVAS: Files.
- B. **Analysis of the Trump Administration’s National Security Policies.** Guidance for this 2/3 page paper will also be found in CANVAS: Files. **Due on February 19.**
- C. **Policy Action Memorandum.** Students will write a decision memorandum of up to five pages to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the National Security Advisor, or the President on a policy issue chosen in consultation with their instructor. Guidance is provided in CANVAS: Files. **Due on Friday, March 1.**

### **Grading**

Case Policy Papers.....	25%
National Security Strategy analysis.....	25%
Final Policy/Action Memorandum .....	40%
Class Participation.....	10%

## **FORD SCHOOL WRITING CENTER**

I encourage you to take advantage of the services of our very effective Writing Center Staff. They are available to meet with you and assist in the writing of your papers. They will help boost your writing skills under close supervision. For more information visit

<http://www.fordschool.umich.edu/writing-center/> .

## **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS**

Please also go to this link and read carefully an important statement on Ford School Academic Expectations:

<http://fordschool.umich.edu/academics/expectations>

## **Course Outline**

***Reminder: ALL READINGS CAN BE FOUND IN CANVAS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.***

### **Session 1 - Thursday, January 10**

#### **Introduction and Discussion of the Cold War Preface**

Discussion of course objectives, readings, guidelines for papers, other requirements and assignments.

Discussion of US Cold War Policies

- Breakup of WW II Coalition
- Beginnings of Cold War – Iron Curtain, Berlin Blockade and Airlift
- Containment doctrine
- U.S. Response – Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine, Point Four, NATO, SEATO, CENTO, Korean War , Cuba, Hungary
- Detente: Nixon and Kissinger – China, Russia
- Reagan and Negotiating with the “Evil Empire”
- Fall of the Berlin Wall and the Demise of the Soviet Union
- “We will play a trick on you. We will take your enemy away.”

### **Session 2 – Tuesday, January 15**

#### **The National Security System – Who’s in Charge Here?**

History of the NSC

Purpose of the system. Structure and organization.

The Goldwater-Nichols Act – DoD, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Combatant Commanders

Ambassadors and their authority

### **Session 3 – Thursday, January 17**

#### **Realism, Idealism, Human Rights and National Interests**

- Realism and Idealism in US National Security Policy
- Role of American values
- Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention

### **Session 4 - Tuesday, January 22**

#### **Civil-Military Relations – Cold War Strategic Doctrine – Case Study**

##### **Case 1: Generals Versus the President: Eisenhower and the Army, 1953-55.**

Andrew Bacevich and Lawrence Kaplan. Maxwell/SAIS Case 1997. In casebook.

This case should be read for its insights into the issue of civilian control of the military, as well as the debate over Cold War strategic doctrine. (Deterrence, Massive Retaliation, Mutual Assured Destruction and Flexible Response)

*Be sure to look at “Other Readings” in CANVAS for this session regarding the June 2010 firing by President Obama of General Stanley McChrystal, US military commander in Afghanistan. We will refer to this during our discussion of civilian-military relations.*

**Note: One Page Case Policy Paper Due (See Guidelines for Format and Content.)**

### **Session 5 – Thursday, January 24**

The US and multilateral institutions.

The role of the UN Security Council (UNSC) and the UN General Assembly in US foreign and national security policy. How are US interests served?

Benefits and risks of multilateral diplomacy.

:

### **Session 6 – Tuesday, January 29**

The role of intelligence in national security.

### **Session 7 – Thursday, January 31 – Cancelled due to Cold Feet**

**FOLLOWING REVISED 1/30 DUE TO CANCELLED CLASS**

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE: THE NEXT TWO SESSIONS EXAMINE CASES INVOLVING MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY AND THE USE OF FORCE REGARDING IRAQ.**

**You are to write a policy paper of two pages comparing the circumstances and actions taken by the two US Administrations (Bush 41 and Bush 43) described in the two case studies listed below. The paper is due at the opening of Session 8 on Tuesday, February 5.**

**Session 8 – Tuesday, February 5**

**Multilateralism, Unilateralism and the use of force: Case Study 2**

Kuwait Crisis of 1990/91(Bush 41) Administration expulsion of Iraq’s forces from Kuwait)

**“The Kuwait Crisis: Sanctions, Negotiations and the Decision to Go to War.”**  
Dorinda Dallmeyer, GUIDS/Pew Case Study

**NO PAPER DUE FOR THIS SESSION.**

**Session 9 - Thursday, February 7**

**Multilateralism, Unilateralism and the use of force: Case Study 3**

The US-led Invasion of Iraq in March 2003 (Bush 43).

**“Going to the United Nations: George W. Bush and Iraq.”** Curtis H. Martin.  
GUIDS/Pew Case Study (In Casebook)

**NOTE; TWO-PAGE PAPER DUE: COMPARING THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE US GOVERNMENT IN THIS AND THE PREVIOUS CASE.**

**Session 10 – Tuesday, February 12**

**Russia – Rival, Enemy or Prospective Partner?  
US and Russian national interests compared.  
Positions of our EU/NATO allies.  
Is this a new Cold War?**

**Session 11 – Thursday, February 14**

**China – Rival, Enemy or Prospective Partner?  
US and Chinese interests compared.  
Who is playing the China card now?**

**Session 12 – Tuesday, February 19**

**Iran and North Korea - dealing with strategic “unfriendly”  
They may be rogues; they may seem irrational; or, they may be crazy like a fox.**

**Session 13 - Thursday, February 21**

**The Trump Administration’s National Security Policy: Policy Analysis**

***NOTE: A two-three page analytic paper on the Trump Administration’s national security policy from the perspective of other countries or actors will be due at the opening of class. Guidelines for the paper in CANVAS.***

**Session 14 – Tuesday , February 26**

**Last Session of our course  
The US, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Al Qaeda and the rise of ISIS (ISIL, DAESH)**

***NOTE: Final Policy Memo Due FRIDAY, March 1***