

**SECS 1000**  
**Introduction to Security Studies**  
FALL 2018

Professor Hanna Samir Kassab

Office:

E-mail:

Office phone:

Class Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30am - 10:45am

Location: Brewster D-111

Office hours: THURSDAYS 3:00PM-4:00PM

**PURPOSE:** How secure are we as a country? How secure can we possibly be? What threats exist, at home and abroad, that challenge our sense of security? What would you be willing to trade to be increasingly secure? If you are not thinking about these questions, you should be...and soon will. The purpose of this class is to challenge students to think more broadly about security. It will include, but go beyond, security as defined by warfare and terrorism. The course will introduce students to diverse challenges such as pandemic disease, migration patterns, water, piracy, environmental degradation, economics, and other modern security issues.

**FOUNDATION CURRICULUM:** This course will introduce students to the concepts and theoretical approaches of Security Studies, which is an interdisciplinary program comprised primarily of Social Sciences. (In other words, for those who were unaware, the course counts as a Social Science in your Foundation Curriculum requirements). Students will learn about the economic, social, political, military, and environmental conceptualizations of security. They will then use these concepts to learn more about, and conduct research on, challenges to international and domestic security. Finally, the course will examine the way in which this interdisciplinary approach contributes to an improved understanding of the world and the accumulation of general knowledge.

**OBJECTIVES:** At the end of the course, student will be able to:

- Express and explain theories of security and the challenges governments face as they attempt to provide it.
- Describe and compare the broad spectrum of potential security challenges faced by the international community.
- Collect relevant research, analyze it appropriately, and apply class concepts to security threats in writing.
- Understand the diversity of threats to homeland and international security.
- Engage in respectful debate and exploration of current issues

## **Principle of Academic Integrity**

**Academic integrity** is a cornerstone value of the intellectual community at East Carolina University. Academic integrity ensures that students derive optimal benefit from their educational experience and their pursuit of knowledge. Violating the principle of academic integrity damages the reputation of the university and undermines its educational mission. Without the assurance of integrity in academic work, including research, degrees from the university lose value, and the world beyond campus (graduate schools, employers, colleagues, neighbors, etc.) learns that it cannot trust credits or a diploma earned at ECU. For these reasons, academic integrity is required of every ECU student. Maintaining the academic integrity of ECU is the responsibility of all members of the academic community. Faculty should ensure that submitted work accurately reflects the abilities of the individual student. Toward this end, faculty should—through both example and explicit instruction—instill in students a desire to maintain the university’s standards of academic integrity and provide students with strategies that they can use to avoid intentional or accidental violation of the academic integrity policy.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Policy and University Commitment to Diversity**

East Carolina University celebrates diversity among its faculty, staff, and students, and is committed to fostering respect for human difference and equal opportunities for all, regardless of membership in a University protected class. To that end, the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations develops and implements equal employment opportunity policies and diversity programs. Information about the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations programs and policies, the University’s protected classes and related non-discrimination policies and procedures may be found by visiting the Office’s Web site at [www.ecu.edu/edc](http://www.ecu.edu/edc). (FS Resolution #10-86, November 2010)

## **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:**

If there were to be a weather or other emergency, students can get information from ECU emergency notices at [www.ecu.edu/alert](http://www.ecu.edu/alert) or by calling 252-328-0062. In the event of a prolonged closing of the school, students should continue to check in on Blackboard to see if there are any updates about this course.

## **DISABILITY SERVICES**

East Carolina University seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a covered disability must go to the Department for Disability Support Services located in Slay 138 to verify the disability before any accommodations can occur. The telephone number is 252-737-1016.

## GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades will be based on a combination of class attendance and participation, the written assignments and the examinations. The breakdown of grading for the course is summarized as follows:

Class attendance and participation:	10 percent of grade
Two Essays (5 pages each) Due: Sept 25 and Nov 29	30 percent of grade (15 percent each)
Examinations:	
Mid-term exam, Oct 4:	25 percent of grade
Final examination (cumulative) date TBA:	35 percent of grade

## READINGS AND BOOKS

One book will be used **but other readings may be added** during the course

Alan Collins, *Contemporary Security Studies*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Oxford University Press, 2016.

**Papers:** There will be two short papers assigned for the course. Essays will answer the following questions:

- 1) Why do states go to war? Due: September 25.
- 2) Which theoretical approach to security is best to explain and predict international/global outcomes? Due: November 29.

### Writing Expectations:

**Grammar:** Regardless of whether the paper is a thought piece or a research assignment, students will be required to write professionally. Excessive grammatical errors or poor writing will be penalized.

**Formatting:** A formatting guide is provided on the Blackboard site for this class. Students must follow those guidelines. In addition, students must have 1” margins all around, 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, and no extra spaces between paragraphs. Students who fail to comply with these guidelines will receive a full letter grade reduction on their first assignment and a failing grade on all subsequent assignments.

**Chicago Style (footnotes).** For a full methodological guideline on Chicago style of citation look at: [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

**No citation from Wikipedia, dictionaries or any type of encyclopedia will be acceptable.**

Late Papers: Papers are due at the BEGINNING of class on the assigned due date. Late papers (i.e. any paper turned in after the beginning of class) will be penalized ½ letter grade each day they are late, counting from the beginning of the class period. No paper will be accepted more than one week beyond the due date without my express permission.

Grading: Grades for this course will be assigned as detailed below.

Grade Percentage Approximate Point Value:

93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
< 60	F

**STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL MAJOR CLASS ASSIGNMENTS OR THEY WILL FAIL THE CLASS**

**Course Rules and Honor Code:**

1. Academic honesty: All work for this course must be the student's own. By enrolling in this course you pledge to abide by the ethical academic standards listed in the above document. Anyone guilty of academic dishonesty will fail the course. One of the most common sources of problems arises in the failure to indicate sources used in completing requirements. Students are guilty of plagiarism, intentional or not, if they copy material from books, magazines, or other sources without identifying and acknowledging them. Students guilty of, or assisting others in, either cheating or plagiarism on an assignment, quiz, or examination may receive a grade of F for the course involved and may be referred to the University Honor Code. In short, all ideas that are not your own or are not part of "common wisdom" should be footnoted. A general rule is that, if the information cannot be found in three or more commonly available sources, it should be referenced. All direct quotations must be placed in quotation marks. These guidelines will be enforced. If you are unsure whether or not to footnote, err on the side of caution and footnote. For additional information on this and related matters see the guidelines on writing that follow the syllabus timetable.
2. Arrive in class and be seated before class is scheduled to start
3. In the classroom please turn off cell-phones.

4. Dress appropriately
5. **No laptops.**
6. Only in the most serious of circumstances [serious personal illness, family emergency, and travel for unavoidable university business] will the primary instructor grant permission – which must be obtained in advance – to delay the due date for an assignment.
7. Students may request the grader to reassess exam questions that they believe have been inaccurately evaluated. Requests for re-evaluation must be submitted to the grader in writing [including via e-mail], within a week after the work is returned to students. The written statement must suggest and defend the grade that the student believes he/she deserves. Note that the initial responsibility for grading lies with the grader. Therefore, all questions about exams and other graded projects should be raised initially with the appropriate grader.
8. The professor is interested in helping you master the course materials. Your questions are invited in class, especially in the discussion sessions. Also, you are encouraged to take advantage of office hours to raise questions about materials covered in the course or about other matters. Also, e-mail is a wonderful way to pose questions and share materials; please be sure that you provide your current e-mail address.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### PART I

### APPROACHES TO SECURITY

**Topic 1**  
**August**  
 21, 23

**Introduction to the Course**  
 Syllabus and texts, short discussion

**Readings:** Collins: introduction, chapter 1

### PART II:

### THEORY AND THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Topic 2**  
**August**  
 28, 30

**Theories of World Politics I: Realism and Liberalism**

**Readings**  
 Collins: chapter 2, 3

**Topic 3**  
**September**  
4, 6

**Theories of World Politics III: Marxism/Post-colonialism**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 4, 9

**Topic 4**

**Theories of World Politics IV: Constructivism and Securitization Theory**

**September**  
11, 13

**Readings**  
Collins: chapters 5, 12

**Topic 5**

**Critical Security Studies**

**September**  
18, 20

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 7, 8

**Topic 6**

**Human Security and Gender**

**September**  
25, 27

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 10, 11

**ESSAY 1 due!!!**

**PART III**

**DEEPENING AND BROADENING SECURITY**

**Topic 7**  
**October**  
2, 4

**Military and Regime Security**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 13, 14

**OCTOBER 4**

**Mid-term Exam**

**FALL BREAK**

**Topic 8**  
**October**  
9, 11

**Economic and Environmental Security**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 16, 17

**Topic 9**

**Societal and Developmental Security**

**October**  
16, 18

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 15, 18  
Optional: 21, 22, 24

**PART III**

**TRADITIONAL AND NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY**

**Topic 10**  
**October**  
23, 25

**Coercive Diplomacy and WMD's**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 19, 20

**Topic 11**  
**October**  
30, November 1

**Terrorism and Organized Crime**

**Readings**  
Collins: 21, 26

**Topic 12**  
**NOVEMBER**  
6, 8

**Defense Trade and Cyber-security**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 24, 27

**Topic 13**  
**November**  
13, 15

**Individual Security: Health and Humanitarianism**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapters 25, 22

**Topic 14**  
**November**  
20

**Energy Security**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 23

**NOVEMBER**

**THANKSGIVING BREAK!**

**Topic 15**  
**NOVEMBER**  
27, 29

**Security Studies: Past, Present, and Future**

**Readings**  
Collins: chapter 28  
**ESSAY II DUE!!!**

**FINAL EXAM**

Wednesday 5, December, 8:00am-10:30am