



Syllabus

COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Course Prefix, Number & Name:	103398 PS 5317:W01 Seminar in U.S. Government/National Security and the Constitution
Semester:	Fall 2019
Credit Hours:	3.000 Credit Hours Seminar
Class Meeting Day & Time:	On-Line/Seminar
Mode of Delivery:	On-Line
Instructor Name:	John J. Smietana, Jr.
Office Location:	LH 307
Office Telephone Number:	TBD
Campus Email Address:	jsmi3241@sulross.edu
Alternative Contact Information:	By Appointment

Office Hours

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
930a-1030a and 1200p – 100p		930a – 1030a and 1200p -100p		930a-1030a 1200p-100p

Course Description

Seminar on policy of the United States in national security and how the Constitution impacts that policy. How and why the United States acts when it comes to national security. National security actions inside and out of the United States.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify and explain national security issues faced by the United States.
2. Understand and analyze the Constitutional limitations on the government of United States when it comes to national security.
3. Explain and analyze specific national security cases decided by the Supreme Court.
4. Theorize and discuss the balance of individual rights and national security.
5. Theorize on whether the United States is safer after law changes since 9/11 or not?

Program Learning Outcomes (Political Science)

The graduating student will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of significant theoretical approaches of political science through written work and oral communication.
2. Demonstrate the ability to analyze domestic and international political processes in written work.
3. Demonstrate the ability to develop arguments about global equity and equality issues in politics through written work and oral communication.

Marketable Skills

LO1 - Demonstrate knowledge of significant theoretical approaches of political science through written work and oral communication.

Marketable skill: The student can identify and utilize information from various sources to identify data to make a compelling oral and written presentation.

LO2 - Demonstrate the ability to analyze domestic and international political processes in written work.

Marketable skill: The student can identify and utilize information presented from differing points of view to develop a specific course of action.

LO3 - Demonstrate the ability to develop arguments about global equity and equality issues in politics through written work and oral communication.

Marketable skill: Student will be able to identify and recognize diverse points of view to develop an ability to create an ethical and fair decision-making process.

Core Competencies

1. **Personal Responsibility:** Students will develop principles of personal responsibility for living in a diverse world; to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.
2. **Social Responsibility:** Students will develop principles of social responsibility for living in a diverse world, to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Required Course Materials

Required Textbook or Textbooks

Textbook Title: National Security Law and the Constitution.

Textbook Author: Corn, Gurule, and Kahn

Textbook Publisher: Wolters Kluwer, New York

Textbook Edition/Year: 2017

Textbook ISBN#: 978-1-4548-7378-5

Textbook Title: The 9/11 Commission Report
Textbook Author: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.
Textbook Publisher: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
Textbook Edition/Year: 2004
Textbook ISBN#: 0-393-32671-3 (pbk)

Textbook Title: Man, the State and War: A Theoretical Analysis
Textbook Author: Kenneth N. Waltz
Textbook Publisher: Columbia University Press
Textbook Edition/Year: 1959
Textbook ISBN#: 0-231-08564-8

Required Publisher Resources

None

Other Required Materials

None

Communications

Generally communications in this class will be online. My email address is jsmi3241@sulross.edu.

Students should expect a timely response to email questions and prompt grading and posting of assignments. Unless an announcement is posted indicating my lack of availability, you should receive a response to your email within 24-36 hours. If you haven't received a response within 36 hours, please email again just in case I overlooked it.

Since we will not be meeting face to face you can visit me at my office located at Lawrence Hall 307 if you are in the Alpine area. My office hours are posted above or by appointment.

Grading Policy/Course Measurements

You should expect to spend as much time in this class as you would for a face-to-face class. Face-to-face classes meet for three hours a week, and that amount of time does not include the time devoted to outside assignments. You should expect to spend six to nine hours per week, maybe more, working on assignments for this course.

Discussions will be posted in Blackboard on Friday at 4p. Your response to the discussion question will be due, for full credit, the following Monday by 1130p. 5 Points will be deducted each day until Thursday at 1130p. For Discussion you will be expected to comment on the initial response of three other student posts. 5 points will be deducted for each failure to respond. 0 credits will be given for anything turned in after Thursday. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your responses. Sometimes Blackboard is down due to regular maintenance or other issue, which means it may not be available during the time you want it to be. In addition, your computer or internet connection may not be working when you need them to be. Give yourself plenty of time to submit your assignments.

There will be eight (8) discussion learning questions. Discussions will be in Discussions Boxes. The discussions will each be worth 40 points. For the eight (8) discussions your initial answer will comprise of at least 4 paragraphs and include proper citations. Students are required to comment on the initial response of three fellow students for each of the eight (8) discussions. Responses are required to be in complete sentences and be more than “I agree with your statement; good point or similar statement.” There is a deduction of five points for each missed response and responses that are not complete. Follow up discussion is encouraged. All assignments will be graded on grammar, spelling, content, completeness and participation. Failure to answer and reply to a test or discussions will result in a 0 assigned for that particular assignment.

There will also be a term paper on National Security and the Constitution. This paper will be between 17 and 20 pages at a minimum. You will use proper citations to support your topic. You will provide your research question (topic) to me by week 4. The paper itself will be due by Friday of Week 15. The paper will be worth 200 points. You will be provided specifics on how the paper will be formatted and grading criteria.

Grading Scale:

GRADE	PERCENTAGE	POINTS
A	90% - 100%	468-520
B	80% - 89%	416-467
C	70% - 79%	364-415
D	60% - 69%	312-363
F	Below 60%	≤311

Course Measurements:

Discussions	320 points (8 Discussions at 40 points each) Submitted in Blackboard
Term Paper	200 points (1 paper 200 points) Submitted on Line

Total 520 points

Late Work

Assignments are due when they are due. Assignment due dates will be clearly stated in the Course Schedule. To receive full credit for an assignment, you must turn it in when it is due. If there are extenuating circumstances (car accident, death in the family, bear attack, etc.) that prevent you from submitting an assignment on time, please let me know at least two hours before the assignment is due via email. Understand that since most assignments are due by 11:30p on Thursday night, I may not respond immediately to your email. You might not receive a response until the following day.

Extra Credit

No extra assignments will be given at any time during the semester to “bring up your grade!” Work diligently from the beginning and complete every assignment as if *it* is worth extra points that will raise your grade!

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity

Faculty expects students to demonstrate integrity in their academic work. Sul Ross State University does not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or collusion. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. We will use SafeAssign plagiarism software for your term paper.

I expect you to do your own work. If you are caught cheating or fail to credit others with work you will be given a 0 grade on the topic for the first offense. A 2nd offense is a failure in the course.

Attendance Policy

You are required to attend and participate in class. You can be dropped from the class for 5 unexcused absences. Participation can be determined by when and how often you log on to the system. You should be checking in at a minimum of several times a week to participate in the discussions.

Classroom Policies

Netiquette

Netiquette, or internet etiquette, are guidelines for maintaining civil and professional communication in an online environment, which includes participation in coursework and email exchanges. Written communication will be conducted using appropriate netiquette and using standard business English. Here are a few basic guidelines:

- Be polite and respectful
- Do not use ALL CAPS in the online environment as this is considered “shouting.”
- Keep comments and questions relevant to the discussion. Do not reply to comments or questions that are inappropriate or off topic.
- Model the same manners online as you would when speaking to someone in person
- **Failure to follow these rules will result in a grade of 0 for the particular week that the incident occurs.**

SUPPORT SERVICES

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator.

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832, Telephone Number 432-837-8203.

TECHNOLOGY

Course Technology Requirements

This is an on-line class and requires you access to the online learning management system (Blackboard). You are responsible for having access to a computer and to a reliable Internet source. Microsoft Word is the program to be used for written papers and documents in this class. If you do not have Microsoft Word please contact Sul Ross IT who will assist you in obtaining the program.

COURSE CALENDAR

COURSE SCHEDULE*

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1. Identify and explain national security issues faced by the United States.**
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- 3. Explain and analyze specific national security cases decided by the Supreme Court.**
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- 5. Theorize on whether the United States is safer after law changes since 9/11 or not?**

COURSE SCHEDULE*

DATE	TOPICS COVERED	CLASS PREPARATION	ASSIGNMENT	DATE DUE
Week 1 08/25 – 08/31	Constitutional Framework: History	Read: Waltz pp 1- 41 Corn et.al. Chap. 1	Intro discussions Discussion 1 opens 08/30	
Week 2 09/01 – 09/07	Governmental Frictions	Read: Waltz pp 42-79 Corn et.al. Chap 2	Discussion 1 due 09/05 Discussion 2 opens 09/06	09/05
Week 3 09/08 – 09/14	Governmental Interaction	Read: Waltz pp 80-123 Corn et.al. Chap 3	Discussion 2 due 09/12	09/12
Week 4 09/15 – 09/21	International Law and National Security	Read: Waltz pp. 124 – 158 Corn et. Al. Chap 4	Term Paper topic and outline due.	9/18
Week 5 09/22 – 09/28	War Powers	Read: Waltz pp 159 – 238 Corn et. Al. Chap 5	Discussion 3 opens 09/27	
Week 6 09/29 – 10/05	Military Force and International Law	Read: 9/11 Chap 3 Corn et.al. Chap 6	Discussion 3 due 10/03 Discussion 4 opens 10/4	10/03
Week 7 10/06 – 10/12	Preventive Detention Alternative	Read: 9/11 Chap 4 Corn et. Al. Chap 7	Discussion 4 due 10/10 Discussion 5 opens 10/11	10/10
Week 8 10/13 – 10/19	Criminal Investigations and National Security	Read: 9/11 Chap 5 Corn et.al. Chap 8	Discussion 5 due 10/17	10/17
Week 9 10/20 – 10/26	Prosecuting National Security Crimes	Read: 9/11 Chap 6 Corn et.al. Chap 9	Discussion 6 opens 10/25	
Week 10 10/27 – 11/02	Intelligence Exploitation	Read: 9/11 Chap 7 Corn et. Al. Chap 10	Discussion 6 due 10/31 Discussion 7 opens 11/01	10/31
Week 11 11/03 – 11/09	Protecting Sensitive Information	Read: 9/11 Chap 10 Corn et. Al. Chap 11	Discussion 7 Due 11/07	11/07
Week 12 11/10 – 11/16	National Security and the Press	Read: 9/11 Chap 12 Corn et.al. Chap 12	Discussion 8 opens 11/15	
Week 13 11/17 – 11/23	Economic Powers, National Security, and the Homeland	Read: 9/11 Chap 13 Corn et.al Cap 13&14	Discussion 8 Due 11/22	11/22
Week 14 11/24 – 11/30			Thanksgiving Break 11/27-29	
Week 15 12/01 – 12/07	Term Paper	Term Paper	Term Paper DUE 12/06	12/06
Week 16 – 12/08 – 12/14		Feedback and term paper grade		

- The instructor reserves the right to alter this calendar in any way during the semester with full disclosure to the student.

