Spring 2020
Every Other Thursday 10:00-11:50 am

University of Central Florida

Professional Development: The Practice of Security Studies

(POS 7930)

Professor: Dr. Michael Macedonia
E-Mail: mrm@ucf.edu
Phone: 407-453-1551
Location: PII 210
Office Hours: By Appointment

Overview

This professional development course is designed to expose graduate students in security studies to the professional challenges of national security careers. Taught by a national security professional with experience at ODNI, NSA, the US Army, defense think tanks, government contractors, and Federal Advisory Committees, this course will touch upon important issues faced by practitioners in the field. It will also focus on the unique characteristics, cultures, and dynamics of the primary enterprises associated with US national security. Largely taught from a practitioner's view, this course is designed to expose graduate students to the complex world of everyday security policymaking and career development..

As a professional development seminar, this course will expose students to the array of US national security "players" inside and outside of Washington, including diplomats, military officers, policy makers, trade specialists, intelligence officers, congressmen, and others. Some discussions will include expectations for entry-level practitioners as well as opportunities and strategies for post-graduate employment in government, think tanks, and international organizations. This seminar also will feature a variety of exercises to demonstrate the vastly different requirements mandated by various national security enterprises. Above all, the course aims at educating first-rate security studies scholars at the University of Central Florida. The course seeks to strengthen the odds that students will go on in their careers to nimbly navigate between the realms of scholarship in the academy and of practice in and around government.

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need specific access in this course, such as accommodations, should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss various access options. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable.

Requirements

One credit hour will be awarded for the successful completion of the course. Students are required to attend eight classes. Each class will meet for an hour and fifty minutes. Students will be given either a satisfactory or an unsatisfactory grade based solely on class attendance of a minimum of six classes and participation. Students are encouraged to complete the optional writing assignments, but they are certainly not mandatory and will not be graded. Additional information on writing assignments will be handed out in class. All students will be expected to give a presentation. Grade reporting and contacts will be through Webcourses@UCF.

Required Texts

The course has no required textbooks.

Other Readings

The course primarily relies on a variety of policy-relevant articles from magazines and journals. These articles are selected because they are more likely to be consumed by security studies practitioners than the scholarly peer-reviewed journals consumed by political scientists. The reading of these articles will give students a better sense as to how national security practitioners "think" about all-too-real national security problems.

Web Sources

The majority of readings are available on the web for easy student access. The syllabus also provides web links to government agencies, military organizations, and think tanks. Students may investigate these links to get a firmer grasp of the types of policy-relevant analyses produced outside of universities. They may also search these websites for employment and career leads.

Class 1: Scholars vs. Practitioners in Security Studies -- 16 January 2020

Joseph S. Nye, Jr., "Scholars on the Sidelines," *Washington Post,* 13 April 2009. Available at

Michael R. Macedonia, "Command and Control in Desert Storm", *Military Review*, January 1992

Please note: All instructors/faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, all students must take a short quiz by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Class 2: The Government in Practice: A View from the Pentagon –23 January 2020

(Guest Speaker: Pentagon Expert)

Perry M. Smith et al., Assignment Pentagon: How to Excel in a Bureaucracy, 4th edition, Revised, 2007.

Army Science Board, The Character of Future Warfare, August 2017.

Joint Staff, J-7 JET, Joint Officer's Handbook 2nd Edition, August 2011

WikiHow, How to Write a Position Paper, WikiHow to do Anything, web site.

Class 3: Entry-Level Realities – Becoming Visible, Building a Network, Getting Social –6 February 2020

(Guest Speaker: Honarable James Bacchus)

Patrick Tammer, HOW TO GET A JOB AT THE UN

Alison Doyle, The Most Effective Ways to Use LinkedIn

The Modern Warfare Institute, Writing To Be Read

US News, Living in Washington, DC

Class 4: Implementing Policy Outside of Washington – 20 February 2020

(Guest Speaker: David Walsh)

Phil Primack, "Foreign Disservice: Too Many Hot Spots, Too Few Seasoned Diplomats," *Tufts Magazine*, Summer 2011. Available at http://www.tufts.edu/alumni/magazine/summer2011/features/foreign-disservice.html

Michael R. Macedonia, Games Soldiers Play, IEEE Spectrum, March 2002.

Class 5: Spooks and Analysts: The Influence of the Intelligence Community – 5 March 2020

(Guest Speaker: Captain, USN (R) Dale Helmer)

Jeffrey T Richelson, The US Intelligence Community, 5th edition, 2007

Marty Peterson, "What I learned in 40 Years of Doing Intelligence Analysis for US Foreign Policymakers" *Studies in Intelligence*, (vol. 55, no. 1, 2011), cia.gov.

Class 6: Preparing to Enter the Bureaucracy – 19 March 2020

(Guest Speaker: Security Cleanrance official)

How to Obtain a Security Clearance. http://govcentral.monster.com/security-clearance-jobs/articles/413-how-to-obtain-a-security-clearance

William Henderson, How to Prepare for a Security Clearance Polygraph Examination

Standard Form 86. Questionaire for National Security Positions.

Class 7: Supporting National Security from the Private Sector – 2 April 2020

(Guest speaker: Defense Contractor)

Dana Priest, and William Arkin, Top Secret America, "Functions and Intelligence Analysis," (Really a listing of gov't agencies and private companies associated with US national security); The Washington Post, July 2010.

Think Tanks and Civilian Societies Program, International Relations Program, University of Pennsylvania, http://www.gotothinktank.com

Class 8: Campaigns, Elections, and Patronage: Government Ethics in Theory and Practice – 16 April 2020

(Guest Speaker: Ethics official)

The Hatch Act, Preventing Conflicts of Interest in the Executive Branch; The United States Office of Government Ethics. (See .pdf and OSC website.)

Brief Summary of Employee Standards of Conduct, Preventing Conflicts of Interest in the Executive Branch; The United States Office of Government Ethics.

OGE Form 450: Confidential Financial Disclosure Report, Office of Government Ethics