

THE INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STUDIES

LONDON

THE NEW SECURITY AGENDA

Introduction

This course is an introduction to Strategic Studies, a branch of IR which dates back to the beginning of the Cold War. As a dynamic subject the course material frequently changes. In the Cold war we were interested in theories of nuclear deterrence; the struggle between the Superpowers in regions such as Southern Africa and the Middle East; and the rise of national liberation movements in the Third World. In the contemporary world the agenda has changed. Subjects of interest now include nuclear proliferation; asymmetrical conflict; crime, and even problems like AIDS (described by President Clinton in 2000 as a 'national security' threat to the United States).

Brief Course Description

An examination of theories and concepts designed to explain the nature of contemporary conflict.

1. An overview of the attempts by the West to 'humanise' war, including the rise of humanitarian intervention.
2. A study of the 'post-modern' (mostly but not entirely Western) societies and some of the sociological explanations for why they fight wars in the ways they do.
3. A discussion of other 'ways of warfare' (Chinese, Japanese, Islamic etc) and the rise of asymmetrical warfare (the word used to describe how different cultures exploit the perceived weaknesses of the way in which Western societies fight wars).
4. A discussion of some contemporary issues in the developing world such as genocide and the ways in which 'new wars' should be seen and interpreted.
5. An overview of problems posed by sub-state actors (criminal cartels, terrorist movements etc) and the new landscape of international conflict and insecurity.

Aims and Objectives

The *aim* of this course is to provide an intellectual challenge to academically able students by engaging with difficult and demanding material in the IR field. The material addresses a number of key normative issues such as the evolving nature of war (both western and non western), and the on going debate about the viability and legitimacy of the use of force in international society. In providing an insight into the relationship between theory and practice it will provide a basis for further study or for careers in government, international organisations, media and the military.

The *objective* of the course is: to promote a critical engagement with a wide range of literature, predominantly from the social sciences, but also including contemporary literature, philosophy and sociology; and to display this engagement through the development of a succinct writing style (for essays) and the ability to present complex arguments in class presentations.

Topics

1. War and the Modern World
2. Can we make war more humane?

3. Is there a Western way of warfare?
4. Is there a non-Western way of warfare?
5. War and Genocide
6. The Revolution in Military Affairs and the future of war
7. War and Huntington's *The Clash of Civilisations*
8. War and the Developing World
9. NATO as a Post Modern Alliance
10. Terrorism, Nuclear Proliferation and Crime

Readings

* denotes books held in the INSTEP library and readings in the folder

1. War and the Modern World

two essential books

* John Keegan - *A History of Warfare*

* John Keegan - *War and Our World*

Experience of War

R. Aron - *War and Industrial Society: a reappraisal (Millennium v.7 1978/9)*

Christopher Coker - *War and the 20th Century: the impact of war on the modern consciousness*

J. P. Gooch - *Armies in Europe: military organization and society 1789-1945*

R. Haycock, editor - *Men, Machines and War*

O. Bartov - *The Eastern Front 1941-5: German troops and the barbarisation of warfare*

War and Ideas

* Michael Howard - *War and the Liberal Conscience*

Christopher Coker - *War and the Illiberal Conscience*

W. Mommsen - *Theories of Imperialism*

W. Connor - *Ethno-nationalism*

* Ernest Gellner - *Nations and Nationalism*

A. Horne - *A Savage War of Peace: Algeria 1954-62*

H. Bulhan - *Franz Fanon and the Psychology of Oppression*

War and Technology

Daniel Pick - *The War Machine: the rationalisation of slaughter in the modern age*

E. J. Leed - *No Man's Land: combat and identity in World War I*

R. Rhodes - *The Making of the Atom Bomb*

R. J. Lifton - *The Genocidal Mentality: Nazi holocaust and nuclear threat*

M. van Creveld - *War and Technology*

M. Pearton - *The Knowledgeable State: diplomacy, war and technology since 1830*

* Jonathan Bailey - *The First World War and the Birth of the Modern Style of Warfare* (Camberley Strategic and Combat Studies Unit, *Occasional Paper*, no.22, 1996)

2. Post Modern Warfare

J. W. Gibson - *The Perfect War: technowar in Vietnam*

Les Levidow and K. Robins, editors - *Cyborg World: the military information society*

* C. H. Gray - *Postmodern war: the new politics of conflict*

A. D. Toffler - *War and Anti-War*

J. Baudrillard - *The Gulf War did not take place*

Edward Luttwak - *Towards a post-heroic warfare (Foreign Affairs, May/June 1995)*

* Edward Luttwak - *Post-heroic military policy (Foreign Affairs, July/August 1996)*

R. Gabriel - *No More Heroes: madness and psychiatry in war*

M. van Creveld - *On Future War*

J. Adams - *The Next World War*
 G. Friedman - *The Future of War*
 Andrew Krepinevich - Cavalry to Computer: the pattern of military revolutions
 (*National Interest*, 37, 1994)
 Jeremy Black - *A Military Revolution? Military change in European Society 1550- 1800*
 Clifford Rogers, editor - *The Military Revolution Debate: readings in the military
 transformation of early modern Europe*
 Frank Barnaby - *The Automated Battlefield: new technology and modern warfare*
 * Gary Stix - Fighting Future Wars (*Scientific American*, December 1995)
 S. Schwartzstein, editor - *The Information Revolution and National Security*
 * Elliott Cohen - A Revolution in Warfare (*Foreign Affairs*, 75:2, March/April 1996)

3. War and Genocide

Hans-Magnus Enzensberger - Civil War (*Granta* 1994)
 * K. Shehadi - Ethnic self-determination and the break-up of states (*Adelphi Paper* 283)
 W. van Horne - *Ethnicity and War*
 O. Bartov - *Murder on Our Midst*

4. War and * Huntington's *The Clash of Civilizations*

J. Esposito - *The Islamic Threat: myth or reality?*
 J. Esposito - *The Iranian Revolution: its global impact*
 M. Ayooob, editor - *The Politics of Islamic Reassertion*
 R. Dekmegian - *Islam and Revolution: fundamentalism in the Arab world*
 Ernest Gellner - *Postmodernism, reason and religion*

5. War and the Developing World

Robert Kaplan - *Ends of the Earth: a journey at the dawn of the 21st century*
 * William Pfaff - A New Colonialism? (*Foreign Affairs*, January/February 1995)
 * Charles King - Ending Civil Wars (*Adelphi Paper* 308)
 William Reno - *Corruption and State Politics in Sierra Leone*
 Paul Richards - *Fighting for the Rain Forest: war, youth and resources in Sierra Leone*
 Oliver Furley, editor - *Conflict in Africa*
 David Keen - A Rational Kind of Madness (*Oxford Development Studies* 25:1, 1997)
 W. Domke - *War and the Changing Global System*
 * Jan Aart Scholte - Global Capitalism and the State (*International Affairs* Summer 1997)
 * Dale C. Copeland - Economic Interdependence and War: a theory of trade (*International Security*
 20, Spring 1996)
 Bruce Mazlish - *Conceptualising Global History*
 Max Singe and Aaron Wildavsky - *The Real World Order: zones of peace, zones of turmoil*

6. NATO as a Post Modern Alliance

Christopher Jones - NATO Enlargement: Brussels as the heir of Moscow (*Problems of Post
 Communism* July/August 1998)
 Geoffrey Simon - *NATO Enlargement and Central Europe: a study in civil-military relations*
 Michael Mandelbaum - *The Dawn of Peace in Europe*
 M. J. Brenner - *Multilateralism and Western Strategy*
 F. Carr - *NATO in the New European Order*
 H. Gardner - *Dangerous Crossroads: Europe, Russia and the future of NATO*
 W. Goldstein, editor - *Security in Europe: the role of NATO after the Cold War*

7. Terrorism, Nuclear Proliferation and Crime

T. Greenwood - *Nuclear Proliferation*
 M. Taylor - *The Fanatics: a behavioural approach to political violence*
 G. Blainey - *The Causes of War* (3rd edition, chapter 1)

W. Domke - *War and the Changing Global system*
E. Rice - *Wars of the Third Kind: conflicts in under-developed countries*
M. Shaefer - *Deadly Paradigms: the failure of US counter-insurgency policy*

8. Policing the International Order

Mats Berdal - Whither UN Peacekeeping (*Adelphi Paper* 281, October 1993)
* K. Shehadi - Ethnic self-determination and the break-up of states (*Adelphi Paper* 283, 1994)
Hans-Magnus Entzensberger - Civil War (*Granta* 1994)
Takur Remesh, editor - *International Conflict Resolution*

Method of Assessment

Seminar Discussion

Two essays of at least 2500 words

The first to be submitted at the end of week 5

The second at the end of week 12

Note: If enrolment for this particular course is too low for it to be held as a two hour seminar with two required essays per semester it may be possible to run it as a one hour supervision with three essays per semester.