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American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
INTL 434
Threat Analysis
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 Weeks

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Instructor Information

Instructor: Name and link to bio

Office Hours via Adobe Connect: [1 hour/wk if teaching one course, 2 hours/wk if teaching 2+ courses], and by appointment.

Please contact your instructor through the Messages tab in the classroom.

After the class is over, instructor contact information: @mycampus.apus.edu.

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Course Description (Catalog)

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INTL434 Threat Analysis (3 hours)

With a focus on non-state actors as threats, this course examines the development and characteristics of threats to nation-states. An understanding of threats to the state and their vulnerabilities is developed through discussion of the types of non-state actors, which pose threats in the post-Cold War era. Analytic procedures to assess a threat as well as the possible ways for states to counter those threats are included. Ethical considerations for nation-states in countering non-traditional threats are also covered. This course is a prerequisite to any of the intelligence studies country analysis courses.

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Course Scope

As a 400-level course, this course provides a higher level of knowledge building on the material taught at the 300 level. The purpose and scope of this course is to enable the student to build a deeper understanding of the discipline.

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Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- CO-1 Identify threats to states.
- CO-2 Describe the difference between traditional and non-traditional threats to states
- CO-3 Demonstrate the ability to identify how to counter threats to states
- CO-4 Assess the ethical issues involved in countering non-traditional threats
- CO-5 Analyze a non-traditional threat and ways to counter that threat

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Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course resources and access to an online learning

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management system will be available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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Course Resources

- There is no required textbook.
- Various resources from the APUS Library are used. Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the course eReserve.
 - Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> and search by the course number (ex: LITR210) to access your required resources.
- External websites and other assigned reading found in the Lessons area of the classroom.
- Weekly lectures and videos or audio files are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.

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Evaluation Procedures

Forum discussions – 25 percent

Each week, a discussion question is provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings. Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to at least 2 classmates (more than 2 substantive replies are necessary for maximum credit) by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. Forum posts are graded on timeliness, relevance, knowledge of the weekly readings, and the quality of original ideas.

Midterm assignment – 25 percent

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 2 questions, 3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

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Progress assignment - 25 percent

Specialized Exercise. 8-10 pages including research and analysis.

Final assignment – 25 percent

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 2 questions, 3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

Grade Instruments	Percentage
Forum Discussions (8)	25
Midterm Assignment	25
Progress Assignment	25
Final Assignment	25
Total	100

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8 – Week Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Course Objective(s)</u>	<u>Reading(s)</u>	<u>Assignment(s)</u>
1	Intro to Threat: The definition of threat The impacts of threat on the nation-state. The nature of threat to the nation-state	CO (1)	Read: Ford: Varieties of Realism Stein: Threat Perceptions News Media Use and Americans’ Perceptions of Global Threat Video: Peloponnesian War and Thucydides:	Week One Forum Discussion

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2	Theory of Threat: Traditional Forms of Threats and How States Respond	CO (1) CO (3)	Read: Sechser: Goliath’s Curse: Coercive Threats and Asymmetric Power Baldwin: Thinking About Threats Thucydides: The Peloponnesian War. Introduction: Pages X – XXIV. (access with APUS login/password) Video: The Art of War	Week Two Forum Discussion
3	Conventional Military Threats	CO(2)	Read: Worldwide Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community pp. 12-27 Beyerchen: Clausewitz, Nonlinearity, and the Unpredictability of War Zur: The Psychohistory of Warfare: The Co-evolution of Culture, Psyche and Enemy Machiavelli: The Art of War (Book Four) Video: USAWC expert discusses Clausewitz	Week Three Forum Discussion Begin Midterm Assignment
4	Terrorist & Insurgent Threats Analyzing Non-traditional Threats	CO(3) CO(5)	Read: Worldwide Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community pp. 4-5 Banks: Alternative Views of the Terrorist Threat Jihadi Terrorism: A Threat Assessment	Week Four Forum Discussion Midterm Assignment Due

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			Muller & Seligson: Inequality and Insurgency Video: Fifteen Reasons Why Terrorism Exists	
5	WMD and CBRNE Threats	CO(5)	Read: Worldwide Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community pp. 5-7 Fuhrmann: Exporting Mass Destruction? The Determinants of Dual-Use Trade Koblentz: Pathogens as Weapons	Week Five Forum Discussion Submit Progress Assignment Topic for Approval Begin Progress Assignment
6	Economic Threats	CO(4)	Read: Worldwide Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community pp. 8-11 Kousis: Economic opportunities and threats in contentious environmental politics: A View from the European South Williams & Timberlake: Structured Inequality, Conflict, and Control: A Cross-National Test of the Threat Hypothesis	Week Six Forum Discussion Continue Working on Progress Assignment

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7	Miscellaneous Threats	CO(5)	<p>Read:</p> <p>Clayton & Segal: Energy Brief: Addressing Cyber Threats to Oil and Gas Suppliers</p> <p>De Soysa & Nordas: Islam’s Bloody Innards? Religion and Political Terror, 1980-2000</p> <p>Goodwin: A Theory of Categorical Terrorism</p> <p>Krapp: Terror and Play, or What Was Hacktivism?</p>	<p>Week Seven Forum Discussion</p> <p>Progress Assignment Due</p> <p>Begin Final Assignment</p>
8	Future and Emerging Threats	CO(5)	<p>Read:</p> <p>Dzambic: NATO’s New Strategic Concept: Non-Traditional Threats and Bridging Military Capability Gaps</p> <p>De Mesquita: The Quality of Terror</p> <p>Krieger & Meierrieks: Terrorism in the Worlds of Welfare Capitalism</p> <p>Bergesen & Lizardo: International Terrorism and the World-System</p> <p>Video:</p> <p>Future Trends and Challenges</p>	<p>Week Eight Forum Discussion</p> <p>Final Assignment Due</p>

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Policies

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

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[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the Turabian/Chicago Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University.

See <http://www.apus.edu/Online-Library/tutorials/chicago.htm>.

Late Assignments

Each assignment will be evaluated by the instructor using a rubric scoring guide and comments inserted into the Word document. Forum grades will be determined using a rubric scoring guide. Additionally, comments may be given informally within the forum or in more detail within the forum grader tool.

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Deductions:

Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means

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that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.

- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

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Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

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If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library:
librarian@apus.edu.

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