

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

## American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

School of Security and Global Studies IRLS603 Politics and War Credit Hours: 3 Length of Course: 8 Weeks Prerequisite: NSEC500
---

### Table of Contents

<a href="#">Instructor Information</a>	<a href="#">Evaluation Procedures</a>
<a href="#">Course Description</a>	<a href="#">Grading Scale</a>
<a href="#">Course Scope</a>	<a href="#">Course Outline</a>
<a href="#">Course Objectives</a>	<a href="#">Policies</a>
<a href="#">Course Delivery Method</a>	<a href="#">Online Library and Turnitin</a>
<a href="#">Course Resources</a>	<a href="#">Selected Bibliography</a>

### Instructor Information

Instructor Name: [insert name with credentials & link from APUS website]  
Office Hours: [1 hour/wk if teaching 1 course or 2 hours/wk if teaching 2+ courses.

Please contact me through the "messages" tab in the classroom while our class is in session.

After the course ends, please contact me through the university email system: [insert mycampus address]

## Course Description (Catalog)

IRLS603 (3 credit hours)

This course examines the relationship between military affairs and statecraft, ranging from how war is a logical consequence of political behavior. Case studies in the great powers' use of force and military issues clarify the connection between politics and the use of force, including war in its international context, attitudes toward war and its causes, the notion of "vital interests," WHY humans fight, and aspects of past areas of conflict that appear relevant to the future.

[Table of Contents](#)

## Course Scope

This course focuses on specialized area knowledge and sources in the field. Students will engage in a specialized task based project.

[Table of Contents](#)

## Course Objectives

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

**CO-1:** Analyze the themes inherent in theories of war.

**CO-2:** Examine the underlying causes of war within a political context.

**CO-3:** Apply theories of war to a contemporary case study in conflict.

**CO-4:** Evaluate the impact on society from prosecution of war.

**CO-5:** Critique political decision-making in the 21st century in response to the changing nature of war.

These course objectives harmonize with the Degree Program Objectives, which require graduates to:

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

- Construct and criticize the theory and politics of conflict, war, diplomatic relations, and the evolving nature of the international system.
- Provide students with a research-active teaching environment to provide grounding in the study of international relations including its political, social, and economic aspects.
- Assess how state, non-state, and supra-national actors behave and interact through a dynamic appreciation of different levels of analysis.
- Critique the theories of international relations, the heritage and development of the discipline, its major debates, its inherent nature as an interdisciplinary study, and a critical appreciation of the essentially contested nature of politics in general, and international relations in particular.
- Evaluate the nature and distribution of power in the international systems, the problems of political order and the social economic, historical and cultural context within which international actors operate.
- Assess the current challenges to international order, cooperation, identity, social formations, and global issues, and possible strategies to address them.
- Evaluate the changing role of the state in the context of globalization and regional integration and the implications for international peace and security.

[Table of Contents](#)

### **Course Delivery Method**

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

## Course Resources

### Required Course Textbooks

The **required** text for this course is:

No textbook is required for this course

### Required Readings

- External websites and other assigned readings are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.
- Weekly Lesson Notes and videos or audio files are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.

## Evaluation Procedures

The course grade is based on the following assessments:

### Discussion Forums – 30 percent

Discussion questions will be provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings and respond to the assigned topic(s). Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to 2 or more classmates 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 – 20 percent

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

### Specialized Project – 30 percent

This sequenced project is an Authentic Assessment to demonstrate your ability to synthesize discipline specific material. This is a task based exercise. 12-15 pages.

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Final Assignment – 20 percent

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

ASSIGNMENT	Percentage
Midterm Assignment	20 percent
Specialized Project Assignment	30 percent
Discussion Forums	30 percent
Final Assignment	20 percent
TOTAL	100 percent

[Table of Contents](#)

**8 – Week Course Outline**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Course Objectives</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
-------------	--------------	--------------------------	-----------------	--------------------

1	<b>Nature of War</b>	<b>CO-1:</b> Analyze the themes inherent in theories of war.	Lecture Notes - Lesson 1; Readings: Fisher; Smith; Avineri; Dressler; Frank; Miller; Martin; See video Links: <a href="http://www.globalsecurity.org">www.globalsecurity.org</a>	Introductions; Week One Forum Discussion
2	<b>Relationships &amp; Actors</b>	<b>CO-1:</b> Analyze the themes inherent in theories of war. <b>CO-4:</b> Evaluate the impact on society from prosecution of war.	Lecture Notes - Lesson 2; Readings: Li, Snyder, Shuurman Website Material: Clausewitz (Book 1, Chapter 1, "What is War?")  See video links: <a href="http://www.clausewitz.com/readings/OnWar1873/TOC.htm">http://www.clausewitz.com/readings/OnWar1873/TOC.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.clausewitz.com/readings/Bassford/Cworks/Works.htm#AShortBiography">http://www.clausewitz.com/readings/Bassford/Cworks/Works.htm#AShortBiography</a>	Week Two Forum Discussion; Authentic Assessment Part I due.

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

3	<b>The Changing Face of War</b>	<b>CO-5:</b> Critique political decision-making in the 21st century in response to the changing nature of war.	Lecture Notes - Lesson 3; Readings: Gray, <i>How Has War Changed Since the End of the Cold War?</i> ; Gray, <i>Continuity in Change</i> ; Cebrowski, <i>Transforming Transformation -- Will it Change the Character of War?</i> ; Morris; Sidky; Nasr	Week 3 Forum Discussion; Authentic Assessment Part II due.
4	<b>Root Causes of War</b>	<b>CO-2:</b> Examine the underlying causes of war within a political context	Lecture Notes - Lesson 4; Readings: Calabressi; Cole; President Bush's address on Iraq; Cordesman, <i>Analysis of President Bush's Address</i> ; Fey; Heintz; Mirra; Thomas.	Week 4 Forum Discussion; Mid-Term Assignment

5	<b>Quest for Influence</b>	<b>CO-2:</b> Examine the underlying causes of war within a political context	<p>Lecture Notes - Lesson 5;  Readings:  Cordesman;  Fuller; Galbraith;  Lai; Perry; Reed;  National Security Strategy</p> <p>See video links:  <a href="http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/060911_isr_hez_lessons.pdf">http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/060911_isr_hez_lessons.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/sites/default/files/file/news/National%20Security%20Strategy%202013%20%28Final%20Draft%29.pdf">http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/sites/default/files/file/news/National%20Security%20Strategy%202013%20%28Final%20Draft%29.pdf</a>  <a href="http://armscontrolcenter.org/issues/iraq/articles/the_victor/">http://armscontrolcenter.org/issues/iraq/articles/the_victor/</a></p>	Week 5 Forum Discussion; Authentic Assessment Part III due.
---	----------------------------	--	---	---



**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

6	<b>Promoting Democracy</b>	<b>CO-2:</b> Examine the underlying causes of war within a political context.	<p>Lecture Notes - Lesson 6;  Readings: Barnett, <i>Does the U.S. Face a Future of Never-ending Sub-national &amp; Transnational Violence?</i>; Goldstein; Fazal; Reiss; Schneider.</p> <p>See video links:  <a href="http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/vietnam/">www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/vietnam/</a>  <a href="http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2003/iraq/war.tracker/index.html">www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2003/iraq/war.tracker/index.html</a>  <a href="http://www.command-post.org/gwot/">www.command-post.org/gwot/</a>  <a href="http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/ilj/vol35/iss2/12">http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/ilj/vol35/iss2/12</a>  <a href="http://2001-2009.state.gov/s/p/rem/36915.htm">http://2001-2009.state.gov/s/p/rem/36915.htm</a></p>	Week 6 Forum Discussion
---	----------------------------	---	---	-------------------------

7	<b>Case Study</b>	<b>CO-3:</b> Apply theories of war to a contemporary case study in conflict.	<p>Lecture Notes - Lesson Week 7  <b>"Title?"</b> Readings: Blanchard; van Creveld, Record, <i>Bounding the War on Terrorism</i>; Lecture by Michael Walzer: <i>The Ethics of Humanitarian Intervention</i>; The Israeli-Lebanese Crisis (2006); Walzer. <i>Terrorism</i>; Review Cordesman article (Wk 5)</p> <p>See video links:  <a href="http://them.polylog.org/5/awm-en.htm">http://them.polylog.org/5/awm-en.htm</a>  <a href="http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/71845.pdf">http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/71845.pdf</a></p>	Week 7 Forum Discussion; Authentic Assessment Part IV due
8	<b>Lessons Learned</b>	<b>CO-1:</b> Analyze the themes inherent in theories of war.	Review lecture notes and readings; New Readings: Kaldor, Senese; Frank; Sullivan; Walzer	Week 8 Final Assignment

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

[Table of Contents](#)

## Policies

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

[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

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.

### 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 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: ;-), : ), ☺

[Table of Contents](#)

## 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](mailto: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.

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:

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of 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.

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

[Table of Contents](#)

## Turnitin.com

Faculty require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. The instructor will post information in the classroom on student procedures.

[Table of Contents](#)

## Selected Bibliography

Thucydides, *The History of the Peloponnesian War*, M.I Finley, Ed., Penguin Books, London, 1972.

Walzer, Michael, *Just and Unjust Wars*, Basic Books, New York, 2006.

Clausewitz, Carl von, *On the Nature of War*, Anatol Rapaport, Ed, Penguin Books, London, 1982.

Sun Tsu, *The Art of War*, Lionel Giles, Tr., Simon and Brown, 2009.

Stoessinger, John G., *Why Nations go to War*, Wadsworth, Boston, 2011.

Hegel, G.W.F., *Phenomenology of Spirit*, A.V. Miller, tr., Oxford, 1977.

Jervis, Robert, *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*, Princeton Univ. Press., 1976.

[Table of Contents](#)