

**Security Studies**  
**Spring Semester, 2019**

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*Monday 18.30, 304 aud.*  
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**Course Description**

Security studies course aims to introduce students to the main security concepts and theories which are employed to explain contemporary security issues. Students will learn to define and analyze contemporary security challenges, to provide creative security solutions and recommendations.

The sequence of the topics and reading list could be the subjects for change.

**Grading**

- Active participation in seminar discussions and preparation for in-class activities – 60 per cent of the final mark.
- Essay (3 pages Policy Paper) – 30 per cent of the final mark.
- Review of the Essay – 10 per cent of the final mark.

**1 week**

**4 February, Introduction to Security Studies.**

**2 week**

**11 February, Theoretical approaches: Realism.**

Reading list:

- P. Williams, Security Studies: an Introduction, 2008, Realism (p. 15-26).
- J. Mearsheimer, "Why the Ukraine Crisis Is the West's Fault",  
<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/141769/john-j-mearsheimer/why-the-ukraine-crisis-is-the-west-s-fault>
- M. McFaul, "Who started the Ukraine crisis? Moscow's choice",  
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/eastern-europe-caucasus/2014-10-17/faulty-powers>

Questions for discussion:

- What are the main assumptions of Realism?
- What is a Classical Realism, main arguments?
- How Neorealism differs from Classical Realism?
- What are key arguments of Defensive Structural Realism?
- How Offensive Structural Realism differs from Defensive Structural Realism, key arguments?
- Main assumptions of Neoclassical Realism, how it differs from Classical Realism?
- Main aspects of criticism against Realism?
- Based on the articles provide the arguments (pro and contra) on how Ukrainian crisis started.

### **3 week**

#### **18 February, Peace Studies and Conflict Prevention.**

##### Reading list:

- P. Williams, Security Studies: an Introduction. Routledge, 2008. Peace studies (p.73-88).
- J. Galtung, Cultural Violence, Journal of Peace Research, vo. 27, no 3. , 1990.
- J. Galtung, A Structural Theory of Imperialism, Journal of Peace Research, vol.8, No. 2, 1971.

##### Questions for discussion:

- What are distinguishing features of Peace Studies?
- What is the difference between negative and positive peace?
- What is a definition of direct, structural and cultural violence? How these three interact?
- What are the key issues of Peace Studies agenda?

##### Task:

- Provide practical examples from the region of how cultural and structural violence prevent construction of positive peace?

### **4 week**

#### **February 25, Gender and Security Studies.**

##### Reading list:

- Sjoberg L., Introduction to Security Studies: Feminist Contributions, Security Studies, 18:2, 2009, pp. 183-213.
- Miglinaitė R., Šešelgytė M., Lithuania, Gender and Human Security: a view from the Baltic Sea Region, Zinatne, 2015, p.p. 222-240.
- Vinogradova S., Ruschin D., Russia: Saint Petersburg, Gender and Human Security: a view from the Baltic Sea Region, Zinatne, 2015, p.p. 241-258.

##### Questions for discussion:

- What are feminist security studies?
- How feminist security studies differ from traditional, critical/post-positivist security studies?
- What are main issues of feminist security studies agenda?
- What are the main divisions in feminist security studies?
- How a concept of knowledge pre-determines methodologic choices?
- What are main gender security concerns in Lithuania, why?
- What are main gender security concerns in Russia, why?

##### Task:

- What are the main gender security and gender integration challenges in Eastern Europe, provide the examples? (up to 3 min)

## 5 week

**February 26 Introduction to the post-soviet space: geographical, geopolitical and strategic challenges.** (dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the Graduate Institute Geneva)

## 6 week

**February 26, Russia's role in shaping and adapting security agenda in the post-soviet countries.** (dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the Graduate Institute Geneva)

### Reading list:

- Haas, Marcel de. Russia's foreign security policy in the 21st century : Putin, Medvedev and beyond. London ; New York : Routledge 2010 ; p. 15-82.
- Thornton, Rod. Military modernization and the Russian ground forces. Published Carlisle, PA : Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College, 2011. 1-47 p.
- Corum, James S. The security concerns of the Baltic states as NATO allies. Carlisle, PA : Strategic Studies Institute and U.S. Army War College Press, 2013. p. 1-40.
- Nikitina, Yulia. The Collective Security Treaty Organization Through the Looking Glass. Problems of Post-Communism, 5/1/2012, Volume 59, Issue 3, p. 41-52

### Questions for discussion:

- Why Russia matters?
- Russia's military reform: plans vs dreams.
- NATO enlargement in the post-soviet space and Russian response (Collective Security Treaty Organization).
- Regional military build-up in the Baltic region.

## 7 week

**February 27, Ukraine at crossroads: between survival and integration.** (dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the Graduate Institute Geneva)

### Reading list:

- Sergei, Markedonov. The Crimean Question (2015)/ <https://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/sergei-markedonov/crimean-%E2%80%98question%E2%80%99>
- Dragneva, Rilka; Wolczuk, Kataryna. Ukraine between the EU and Russia: the integration challenge. Basingstoke ; New York, NY : Palgrave 2015. p. 100-122

### Questions for discussion:

- The dynamics of Ukrainian foreign and security policy.
- Military assessment on the ground.
- Interests of regional and global stakeholders in Ukraine.
- Commonalities and differences of Crimea and Donbass.

## 8 week

**March 1, Wars in the Caucasus region: game with no winners.** (dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the Graduate Institute Geneva)

Reading list:

- Frederic Coene, *The Caucasus: an introduction*. New York: Routledge, 2010. p. 139-169.
- Gražvydas Jasutis, Yoko Hirose. Analyzing the Upsurge of Violence and Mediation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict. // *International Journal of Security & Development*. 3(1):23 2014.
- 5 Days of War Full Movie, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bUGLk3X9FB4>; for Russian speakers - Август. Восьмого, available on-line
- Optional: Emil, Souleimanov, *An Endless War: The Russian-Chechen Conflict in Perspective*. Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften; 1 edition January 5, 2007. p. 71-93.
- Optional: Report of Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia', September 2009, [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/bsp/hi/pdfs/30\\_09\\_09\\_iiffmgc\\_report.pdf](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/bsp/hi/pdfs/30_09_09_iiffmgc_report.pdf)

Questions for discussion:

- Conflicts in Georgia.
- Arms race between Armenia and Azerbaijan.
- Phenomenon of Chechnya.
- Engagement of international actors in the Caucasus region.

**9 week**

**March 5, Terrorism in the post-soviet space and its linkage to global jihadist movements.** (dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the Graduate Institute Geneva)

Reading list:

- Stephen J. Blank (editor). *Russia's homegrown insurgency: jihad in the North Caucasus*. Published Carlisle, PA : Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College, 2012. p. 121-149.
- Gražvydas, Jasutis. *The Rise and Decline of the Caucasus Emirate*, *GCSP Strategic Security Analysis, July 2016, No. 9*, <https://www.gcsp.ch/News-Knowledge/Publications/The-Rise-and-Divide-of-the-Caucasus-Emirate>
- Moore, Cerwyn. *Combating terrorism in Russia and Uzbekistan*, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 01 June 2007, Vol.20(2), p.303-323

Questions for discussion:

- Terroristic organizations in the post-soviet space (primarily in North Caucasus and Central Asia).
- Their affiliation with al-Qaeda and ISIS.
- Efforts to curb it at national and international level.

## 10 week

### March 6, Who rules the rule in Central Asia; Russian, American and Chinese game and security interests.

(dr. Gražvydas Jasutis, the Graduate Institute Geneva)

#### Reading list:

- Lemon, Edward. Critical approaches to security in Central Asia: an introduction. Central Asian Survey, 02 January 2018, Vol.37(1), p.1-12
- Cooley, Alexander. Great games, local rules: the new Power contest in Central Asia. Oxford University Press, 2012 (Chapter 1 "The New Great Power Contest" and Chapter 2 "Local Rules: How CA regimes survive), available on-line
- Matveeva, Anna. Russia's changing security role in Central Asia. European Security, 2013, Volume 22, Issue 4, p. 478-499

#### Questions for discussion:

- Strategic interests of Russia, US and China in Central Asia.
- Assessment of security dilemma in Central Asia.
- National security policies in Central Asia.

## 11 week

### May 6, B. Buzan and Copenhagen School: Constructivism and Security Sectors.

#### Reading list:

- Barry Buzan, Ole Waever, Jaap de Wilde, Security: a New Framework for Analysis, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1998, p. p, 21-49.
- M. Albert, B. Buzan, Securitization, sectors and functional differentiation, Security Dialogue, 42(4-5), 2011.
- P. Roe, Actor, Audience (s) and Emergency measures: securitization and the UK's decision to invade Iraq, Security Dialogue, Vo. 39, no.6, 2008.

#### Questions for discussion:

- What are the main security sectors identified by Copenhagen school?
- Define the process of securitization.

#### Task:

- Provide the examples of successful and unsuccessful securitization cases in Eastern Europe and Russia. (up to 3 min) How these cases could be de-securitized?

## 12 week

### May 13, Strategic Culture

#### Reading list:

- Alistair I. Johnston, Thinking about Strategic Culture, International Security, Vol. 19, No. 4 (Spring, 1995), The MIT Press, pp. 32-64.
- Heiko Biehl, Bastian Giegerich, Alexandra Jonas, in Introduction, in Strategic Cultures in Europe: Security and Defence Policies Across Continent, Springer, 2013, pp. 7-17.

Questions for discussion:

- Definition of Strategic culture.
- What is the role of the concept of Strategic culture in the Security Studies?
- 3 generations of strategic culture and main assumptions of their proponents (differences).
- Alistair I. Johnston's definition of strategic culture.

Task:

Based on the methodology provided in the article of Heiko Biehl, Bastian Giegerich, Alexandra Jonas conduct an analysis of one of the countries (US, Russia, China, Belarus, Moldova, Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Tadjhikistan) and present in the class (up to 3 min).

**13 week**

**May 20, Information Security**

Reading list:

- Peter Pomerantsev, Michael Weiss, The Menace of Unreality: How Kremlin Weaponizes Information, Culture and Money, The Interpreter, Institute of Modern Russia, 2014. p.p. 5-43.

Questions for discussion:

- How information can be used in conflict?
- What is the difference between Soviet and current propaganda?
- What are the main goals of contemporary Russian propaganda?
- How information attacks are employed in various medias?
- How culture is used in information warfare?
- How money is used in information warfare?
- How all these instruments are used in post-soviet space and the West (differences and commonalities).
- Countermeasures in information warfare.

Task: Prepare one example of Russian information warfare in the region and present it in the class (up to 3 min). Comment upon the means, goals, targets, instruments. What countermeasures should be taken? Were they introduced or not, why?

**14 week**

**May 27, Course Evaluation.**