

PSC 405Z Guns and Money (Special Topics in International Relations and Foreign Policy)
Wintermester 2019

Number of Credits

3

Instructor

Dr. Allison D. Evans

Catalog Description

Analysis of selected research and topical issues of political systems.

What is the relationship between money and a state's military capabilities? While it seems obvious that wealthy states would have the ability to fund strong militaries, the relationship is much more complicated than it appears. For example, resource poor states have been able to fund and win very long wars, while resource rich states have lost more than expected. This course will explore the politics of military spending and its effects on war.

Required Textbooks/Materials

No texts to purchase. The following texts are required material in this course, both books available through our library's website:

Rosella Cappella Zielinski. 2016. *How States Pay for Wars*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Kaija Schilde. 2017. *The Political Economy of European Security*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

All other materials are provided through WebCampus

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing PSC 405Z, students will be able to

- read and critically evaluate relevant academic literature in the specific topic area of the topics section taken;
- demonstrate an advanced level of competency in the specific topic area of the topics section taken;

- discuss the relationship of the specialized area of International Relations covered to the broader context of the field and to their own research interests; and
- develop and evaluate national and international policies that are linked to the specific topical area of the course to global issues.

First Week of Materials/Assignments

The following schedule is subject to change:

January 2: International Relations Theory & the Political Economy of National Security

January 3: A Fundamental Problem: Guns vs. Butter

- Narizny, K. (2003). "Both Guns and Butter, or Neither: Class Interests in the Political Economy of Rearmament." *American Political Science Review*. Vol. 97, No. 2, pp. 203-220.
- DiGiuseppe, M. (2015). "Guns, Butter, and Debt: Sovereign Creditworthiness and Military Expenditure." *Journal of Peace Research*. Vol. 52, No. 5, pp. 680-693.

January 4: Economic Components of Power

- Kahler, M. (1988). "External Ambition and Economic Performance." *World Politics*. Vol. 40, No. 4, pp. 419-451.
- Rasler, K. & W. Thompson. (1983). "Global Wars, Public Debts, and the Long Cycle." *World Politics*. Vol. 35, No. 4, pp. 489-516.

January 7: Economic Components of Military Power

- Mearsheimer, John J. (2001). "Wealth and Power." In *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. pp. 55-82.
- Earle, E.M. (1941). "Adam Smith, Alexander Hamilton, Friedrich List: The Economic Foundations of Military Power." In Edward Mead Earle, ed. *Makers of Modern Strategy*. New York: Princeton University Press. Pp. 117-154.

Course Details

This course explores issues in international relations and foreign policy that bring together political economy and security. The course will consider various theoretical frameworks for understanding the relationship between the economy, power, national security, and society. It combines reading, discussion, in-class activities, and documentaries to help illuminate the opportunities and dilemmas that states face.

Grade Breakdown

The point distribution for the course is:

Assignment	Percentage
Midterm	25
Attendance & Participation	10
Case Study Paper	20
Oral Presentation of Case Study	10
Response Paper	10
Final Exam	25
<i>Total</i>	100

The percentage distribution for the course is:

Letter	Percentage
A	94–100
A-	90–93.9
B+	87–89.9
B	84–86.9
B-	80–83.9
C+	77–79.9
C	74–76.9
C-	70–73.9
D+	67–69.9
D	64–66.9
D-	60–64.4
F	below 60