


# IR 331

## War, Peace and Security


### Fall 2008

Pinar Bilgin

 A328B

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 Monday 15:40-17:00, Tuesday 15:40-17:00, and by appointment

#### Aims

This course is about three concepts that have been at the core of our ways of ‘thinking’ about and ‘doing’ world politics, namely: war, peace and security. By introducing a variety of intellectual traditions and contemporary ideas about these concepts to students, this course aims to provide a comprehensive basis for understanding the dynamics of world politics.

#### Teaching

This course is designed to encourage **active learning**. It will therefore be taught by mixing lectures and seminars. You should expect me to lecture some weeks when I introduce a new topic and/or approach. Other weeks, I will provide a basic overview of that week’s topic and seek to start a discussion based on the readings. The aim is to encourage you to think independently and critically whilst remaining firmly grounded in the knowledge provided in the readings.

Needless to say you are expected to prepare for every class. Research has shown that students retain 10 % of what they read; 26 % of what they hear; 30 % of what they see; 50 % of what they see and hear; 70 % of what they say; 90 % of what they say and do. The assumption behind the design of this course is that learning is more effective if students learn themselves by faculty guidance than if they sit passively and receive content from the instructor. What you should remember at all times is that good discussions depend on serious preparation by students.

You are required to attend all the classes (in accordance with the University regulations). If you cannot attend please let me know beforehand, or contact me (immediately) afterwards to provide a “legitimate” excuse for your absence. Attendance will be taken and absences will be noted. If you have any problems regarding the reading material or with the course in general, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can try and address the problem.

### **Assessment**

You will be assessed in the following ways:

- ✚ 30% attendance and participation
- ✚ 30% book review essay (word limit: 800-1000. The book to be reviewed is Mary Kaldor’s **New and Old Wars**. (Several copies are available at Meteksan bookstore) Deadline for submissions: 17 October, 2008, 17:30.
- ✚ 40% research essay (word limit: 1200-1500. Please find below a list of essay topics to choose from. You are expected to formulate your own research question and submit a research proposal indicating your topic (my topic is...), your research question (I will seek to answer...) and why you are interested in this topic (I am interested in this topic because...). Once I approve that proposal, you are expected to write a 1200-1500 word research paper. Please note that I will not accept those research papers whose proposals I have not approved. The deadline for the submission of research essays is January 10, 2009, before 17:30).
- ✚ 10% bonus (participation in class debates, special presentations, etc.).

## In-class discussions

What I am looking for

- ✚ Evidence of active listening
- ✚ Evidence of reading and independent thinking
- ✚ Gradual development of seminar skills

I will be using the following criteria to assess your performance

- ✚ Evidence of having read the required material
- ✚ Relevant contribution
- ✚ Concern not to dominate the discussion
- ✚ Avoidance of anecdotal / irrelevant accounts
- ✚ Encouragement / enablement of others' contributions
- ✚ Respectful treatment of others' beliefs, values and opinions
- ✚ Evidence of ability to identify and evaluate different theoretical positions, bias, and orientation
- ✚ Confident handling of critical concepts and analytical terms
- ✚ Ability to respond effectively to constructive feedback

## Presentation of book reviews and essays

- ✚ Each assignment should be **typed**.
- ✚ State the **number of words** used at the end. The word limit is there to make you decide what is or is not important to say. The ability to say what you want in a limited number of words is also a skill you need to gain. Essays that are over length will be penalised.
- ✚ Appropriate **footnotes and/or bibliography** should be supplied.
- ✚ **Do not use single-spacing** and leave a sufficient margin for comments.
- ✚ **Pay attention to how you write the essay (your style) as well as its content.** It is important to develop your 'writing skills' as a student of politics.

## Course Outline

### **Week 2**

#### **What is War?**

Paul Williams, 'War', in *Security Studies: an Introduction*, ed. Paul Williams (London: Routledge, 2008): 151-170.

### **Week 3**

#### **Bayram**

### **Week 4**

#### **Uncertainty in World Politics and the Security Dilemma**

Ken Booth & Nick Wheeler, 'Uncertainty', in *Security Studies: an Introduction*, ed. Paul Williams (London: Routledge, 2008): 133-150.

### **Week 5**

#### **What is Peace?**

Peter Lawler, 'Peace Studies', in *Security Studies: An Introduction*, ed. Paul Williams (London: Routledge, 2008): 73-88.

### **Week 6**

#### **What is Security?**

Pinar Bilgin, 'Critical Theory', in *Security Studies: An Introduction*, ed. Paul Williams (London: Routledge, 2008): 89-102.

### **Week 7**

#### **Security and Development**

Caroline Thomas, 'Poverty', in *Security Studies: An Introduction*, ed. Paul Williams (London: Routledge, 2008): 244-259.

### **Week 8**

#### **Postcolonial Insecurities**

Himadeep Muppidi, 'Postcoloniality and the Production of International Insecurity: The Persistent Puzzle of U.S.-Indian Relations', in *Cultures of Insecurity: States, Communities and the Production of Danger*, eds. Jutta Weldes et al. (Minneapolis: Minnesota University Press, 1999): 119-146.

**Week 9****Terrorism in a Globalizing World**

Paul Rogers, 'Terrorism', in *Security Studies: An Introduction*, ed. Paul Williams (London: Routledge, 2008): 171-184.

'Are Military Means the Best Way to Defeat Terrorism?' in John T. Rourke, *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics*, 11<sup>th</sup> ed. (USA: McGraw Hill, 2004) essays by Benjamin Netanyahu and Bill Christison.

**Week 10****Nuclear Weapons and the 'Long Peace'**

Richard Ned Lebow & Janice Gross Stein in Ken Booth, ed. *Statecraft and Security: The Cold War and Beyond* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998), pp.71-86.

'Does the World Need to Have Nuclear Weapons at all?' in John T. Rourke, *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (USA: McGraw Hill, 1996) essays by Alex Roland & Joseph Rotblat.

**Week 11****Legacies of the 'Long Peace': The case of 'Failed States'**

Pinar Bilgin & Adam David Morton, 'From "Rogue" to "Failed" States? The Fallacy of Short-termism', *Politics*, vol.24, no.3 (2004), pp.169-180.

**Week 12****'New Wars'? The case of Bosnia-Herzegovina**

Mary Kaldor, *New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era* (Oxford: Polity, 1999), Chapters 3 & 4.

**Week 13****Bayram****Week 14****'Just and Unjust Wars'**

William V. O'Brien, 'The Conduct of Just and Limited War,' in David P. Barash, ed., *Approaches to Peace: A Reader in Peace Studies* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), 80-85.

Richard Falk, 'Appraising the War against Afghanistan.' Internet. Available at <http://www.theglobalsite.ac.uk/press/201falk.htm>

Barry Buzan, 'Who May we Bomb' in *Worlds in Collision: Terror and the Future of World Order*, ed. Ken Booth and Tim Dunne (London: Palgrave, 2002): 85-94.

**Week 15****Globalization and War**

Tarak Barkawi, *Globalization and War* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2006), pp.1-25.

'Is Globalization Likely to Create a Better World?' in John T Rourke, *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics*, 11<sup>th</sup> ed. (USA: McGraw Hill, 2004) essays by Thomas Friedman and Robert Kaplan.

**Week 16****Overview**

**List of essay topics** (no more than two students can select the same topic)

Child Soldiers  
Conflict Resolution  
Counter-insurgency warfare  
Environmental security  
Defence Economics  
Disarmament and Arms Control  
'Failed' States  
Nonviolence  
Gender and militarism  
Golden Age of Strategy  
Gorbachev's 'New Thinking'  
Gulf War (1990-91)  
Human security  
Humanitarian Intervention  
Just War theory  
Limited War  
Militarism  
Military Industrial Complex  
National Security State  
Non-proliferation  
*Ostpolitik*  
The Palestinian *Intifada*  
Peace Dividend  
Revolution in Military Affairs  
UN and Rwanda  
UN and Somalia  
Security Sector Reform  
Structural Violence  
US 'National Security Strategy' (2001)  
Violence  
War and the Media

**Tips for essay writing**

- Work to the research question at all times
- Use material drawn from the course
- Work at 'constructing' an argument—i.e. putting points together in groups, organized around a simple essay plan, with a beginning, a middle and an end
- Write clearly and simply
- Write a clear introduction and conclusion—use the introductory paragraph to hint at your main argument and present the plan for the essay; never present new ideas in the conclusion
- Do not over-rely on quotes—they are somebody else's words

- Write for the intelligent ‘person in the street’
- Read your work aloud to yourself so that you can ‘listen’ for sentences that do not work

**Before handing in your essay...**

- Run spell check
- Check if you have used double spacing when printing out the essay
- Indicate the word-count on the title page
- Put the research question on the title page
- Use proper referencing (not only for direct quotes but also for ideas that you borrowed from somebody else)
- When writing footnotes/endnotes make use of a style guide—the Chicago style guide is available at <http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocChicago.html>
- If you use parenthetical references make sure you append a bibliography