

**Political Science 4010: Security Analysis and Briefing
Fall 2015**

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Office Hours:
TR 9:00-12:00
or by Appointment

Time and Location:
TR 2:00-3:15
AGH 361

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the world of intelligence analysis. Students will gain a basic understanding of the different types of intelligence, the way intelligence is analyzed, and the ways that analysts present their findings to the consumer. During the course we will develop critical thinking techniques and apply them to both hypothetical and real-world problems. Lastly, we will focus on the techniques used by professionals to present the results of their analyses

Required Reading:

Heuer, Richards J. and Randolph Pherson. 2015. *Structured Analytic Techniques for Intelligence Analysis* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Prunckun, Hank. 2015. *Scientific Methods of Inquiry for Intelligence Analysis* (2nd ed). Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

I have also assigned various other readings. These are marked with an asterisk (*). These will all be available on D2L.

Course Requirements and Grading:

<i>Component:</i>	<i>Grade Weight</i>	<i>Date</i>
Group Exercises	30% (10% x 3)	Various
Paper Assignment	25%	Tuesday, November 30 th
Briefing	10%	Week 16
Final Exam	25%	Tuesday, December 8 th
Attendance	10%	N/A

Group Exercise – There will be two types of group exercises in this class. In the first group exercise, you and your group will be tasked with teaching the class one of the structured analytical techniques. You are free to choose whatever pedagogical approach that you prefer. You will do this type of exercise twice over the course of the semester. We will discuss this in more detail later.

For the second group exercise, I will assign you to an analytical “desks”. These desks (which will number somewhere from 3 to 5) will be focused on some broad issue area that would be relevant to intelligence analysts. In the past, these have been: CN - Counternarcotics, CT - Counterterrorism, MIL - Military, and P.E.S.T. - Political, Economic, Social, and Technological. I will let you know your desk and the issue we will analyze when I assign you to the groups. Each of these groups will be responsible for assembling a dossier in their particular issue area.

I will ask you to compile identical physical *and* online (on D2L) dossiers. The information for these dossiers should come from credible and verifiable sources. The optimal dossier will draw from a wide mix of news sources and scholarly papers. The physical dossiers will be turned in at the beginning of

class on Tuesday, November 9th. You will be graded on your own contribution to the dossier and your group's performance during our team analytical exercise.

Paper - You will also complete an individual paper. This paper will address an issue affecting U.S. intelligence and national security from your particular analytical "desk" issue area. Approach this paper as if you are developing a policy position for a superior to take to the Director for National Intelligence or a congressional hearing. Papers will contain four main sections (be sure to label them clearly):

1. Description – Briefly describe the analytical problem you intend to address. Provide background information needed for the subsequent sections (who, what, when, where, and how – set the conditions for your argument). You are welcome to draw from your "desk's" dossier.
2. Explanation – Identify the main analytical techniques you intend to use. Briefly describe why you selected these techniques and what you expect them to produce. What are the most important aspects that may possibly lead to a solution?
3. Analysis – This is where you apply the analytical techniques we have learned and describe how you organize and categorize the data. At the end of this section, state your position and justify your reasoning.
4. Recommendations – Draw conclusions and make some predictions based on your analysis. Critical thinking and imagination are crucial here. These can be solutions you have developed on your own, or they may be ones you have read in your sources (as long as you reference them and integrate your own analysis).

You will be responsible for turning in two copies of this paper – one hard copy due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, November 30th, the other due before midnight on that same Tuesday on D2L. Both papers should be identical. Failure to turn in identical copies will result in a zero for the paper grade. Turning in both papers completes the assignment; missing due dates for either component will result in a lateness penalty being assessed until both are submitted. Late assignments are penalized 10 points for each day late. We will discuss grammar and citation style as the course progresses.

Briefing – You will present your individual paper in class. I will provide a rubric regarding what I expect to see from this component. The presentations will occur over the last several class periods.

Final - The final exam will be taken in class and is cumulative. It will also consist of 20-25 questions, analytical technique exercises and a short essay integrating everything we have learned.

Attendance – Attendance is crucial to your success. Students are expected to attend class and complete all of the required readings prior to class. I will take attendance at the beginning of class. Late arrivals will be noted and repeated instances of being late will negatively affect your grade. Each student is allowed two (2) "grace days" before absences (excused or unexcused) begin to impact the final grade. This grade will be calculated proportionally to your actual attendance. If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining notes from a classmate.

Grades:

Grades will be based on a 100 point scale:

<u>Point Range</u>	<u>Final Course Letter Grade</u>
90 - 100	A
80 - 89.99	B
70 - 79.99	C
60 - 69.99	D
59.99 or below	F

Note: I will not round grades to the nearest whole number. I believe that this is the fairest way to determine your earned grade. I will not entertain requests to “bump up” your grade. Any concerns that you have about your grade need to be discussed with me during the semester, not after it has ended (with the exception of the final exam). Any requests for grade changes on tests, assignments, etc. during the semester must be accompanied by a written statement detailing the request and the nature of the problem. The request must detail a substantive issue (clerical error, unclear question, mathematical error, etc...), frivolous requests will be denied. This will be followed up by an office meeting between the instructor and student. Grading challenges will never result in a lower grade.

University Guidelines:

Please see the attached document regarding university policies and procedures.

Note:

Technology Policy - There will be a website for the class on D2L (oc.okstate.edu). Non-text book readings, the syllabus, and information about deadlines, assignments, etc... will be posted there. Each student is responsible for checking the website for announcements and to retrieve any assignment in a timely manner. The instructor is not responsible for any technical difficulties encountered when accessing the course website. Technical difficulties with the course website do not serve as an excuse for late assignments. If you do experience technical problems, there is a “Student Help” link on D2L. Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Email Policy - Please note that all class-wide emails will be sent to your school email address. If this mail is forwarded to another account, it is your responsibility to receive messages that I send. Failure to adequately and periodically check your email does not serve as an excuse for late/incomplete assignments or absences. Please also be aware that email is not necessarily a secure medium so, as a result, I will not provide grade information via email. If you have a question/concern about your grade, it is your responsibility to meet with me during office hours.

Incomplete Policy - University Policy states that “a student must satisfactorily complete the majority of course work, and average ‘D’ or better on work to date, but has been ‘unavoidably prevented from completing the remaining work of the course’”.

Class Cancellations - In the event that class must be cancelled (instructor illness, inclement weather, Thanos finally getting the Infinity Gauntlet, etc.), I will contact you via your OSU email and I will make note of the cancellation on the D2L course site.

Meeting with Students – Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns. Please note that questions and concerns about grades are easier to solve early in the semester rather than late. My

office is located in 208 Murray Hall and office hours are from 9am to noon Tuesdays & Thursdays. If you cannot meet me during that time, I will attempt to accommodate an alternative meeting time.

Syllabus Changes - I reserve the right to change the syllabus during the semester. Such changes may be the addition of new readings, new policies, etc... If I do this, I will make an announcement of the change in class and on the class website.

Course Outline:

Note: All reading should be completed BEFORE class on the date for which they are listed

Week 1 (August 17 - August 21): Introduction

Tuesday

- Review Syllabus

Thursday

- Prunckun. 2015. Chapter 1
- Cozine, Keith. 2013. Teaching the Intelligence Process: The Killing of Bin Laden as a Case Study. *Journal of Strategic Studies* 6(3): 80-87*

Week 2 (August 24 - August 28): Anatomy of Intelligence

Tuesday

- Prunckun. 2015. Chapter 2

Thursday

- Lowenthal, Mark. 2012. *Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. Chapter 3.*

Week 3 (August 31 - September 4): Getting Intel

Tuesday

- Prunckun. 2015. Chapters 8-9

Thursday

- Dahl, Erik. 2014. Finding Bin Laden: Lessons for a New American Way of Intelligence. *Political Science Quarterly* 129(2): 179-210*

Week 4 (September 7 - September 11): Inquiry & Methodology

Tuesday

- Prunckun. 2015. Chapters 4-5

Thursday

- Prunckun. 2015. Chapters 6-7

Structured Analytical Techniques:

Week 5 (September 14 - September 18): Decomposition & Visualization

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. Chapter 4

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012. "The Assassination of Benazir Bhutto"*

Week 6 (September 21 - September 25): Idea Generation

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. Chapter 5

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012. "Who Poisoned Karinna Moskalenko?"*

Week 7 (September 28 - October 2): Scenarios & Indicators

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. Chapter 6
- Berkowitz, Bruce. 2008. US Intelligence Estimates of the Soviet Collapse: Reality and Perception. *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence* 21(2): 237-250.*

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012. "Colombia's FARC Attacks the US Homeland"*

Week 8 (October 5 - October 9): Hypothesis Generation and Testing

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. Chapter 7

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012. "Who Murdered Jonathan Luna?"*

Week 9 (October 12- October 16): Cause and Effect

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. Chapter 8

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012. "Defending Mumbai from Terrorist Attacks"*

Week 10 (October 19 - October 23): Challenge Analysis I

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. 240-259

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012. "Is Wen Ho Lee a Spy?"*

Week 11 (October 26 – October 30): Challenge Analysis II

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. 260-265

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012, "The Road to Tarin Kowt"*

Week 12 (November 2 - November 6): Decision Support

Tuesday

- Heuer and Pherson. 2015. Chapter 11
- Prunckun. 2015. Chapter 18.

Thursday

- Beebe and Pherson. 2012, "Violence Erupts in Belgrade"*

Week 13 (November 9 - November 13): TEAM ANALYSIS

Tuesday

*** NOTE * - Completed Dossiers Due at Beginning of Class**

- Johnson, Loch. 2008. Glimpses into the Gems of American Intelligence: The President's Daily Brief and the National Intelligence Estimate. *Intelligence and National Security* 23(3): 333-370.*

Thursday

- What the PDB looks like:
<http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB116/> *

Week 14 (November 16 – November 20): The Art of the Brief

Tuesday

- Major, James S. 2008. *Communicating with Intelligence: Writing and Briefing in the Intelligence and National Security Communities*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press. Chapter 1*

Thursday

- Prunckun. 2015. Chapters 17 & 19

Week 15 (November 23 – November 27): Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday

- TBA

Thursday – THANKSGIVING – University Holiday

Week 16 (November 30 – December 4): Briefings¹

Tuesday

*** NOTE * - Completed Analytical Papers Due at Beginning of Class**

- TBA

Thursday

- TBA

Final – 2:00-3:50 Tuesday, December 8

¹ I would encourage you to read Appendices B-D in Major (2008) prior to your presentation. These are posted to D2L.