

**Political Science 4000: Security Analysis and Briefing
Fall 2013**

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Office Hours:
T, TH 1:00-3:00
or By Appointment

Time and Location:
M,W, F 2:30-3:20
CLB 308

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the theory and practice of security analysis and briefing. Students will first gain a basic background of the history of American intelligence and its practices. The second part of the course focuses on the development of critical thinking techniques and their application to both hypothetical and real-world problems. Lastly, the course will focus on the techniques used by professionals to present the results of their analyses.

Required Reading:

Clark, Robert M. 2013. *Intelligence Analysis: A Target-Centric Approach*. Washington DC: CQ Press.

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

I have also assigned various other readings. These are all available on D2L.

Course Requirements and Grading

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade Weight</u>	<u>Date</u>
Exam I	15%	Friday, September 20 th
Final Exam	20%	Wednesday, December 11 th 2:00-3:50
Unannounced Quiz (total of 5)	10% (2% each)	N/A
Group Exercise	15%	Monday, October 28 th
Paper Assignment	25%	Monday, November 25 th
Presentation	5%	December 2 nd – December 6 th
Attendance/Participation	10%	N/A

Exam - The test will be taken in class and consist of 20-25 questions and a short essay.

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.

Unannounced Quizzes - I will randomly assign 6 (or more) quizzes throughout the semester. These will be given in class and will concern the reading that is due for that day. I will assign them based on participation and feedback. The format will be multiple choice. These are meant to ensure that you do the reading. During the quiz, you may use 1 page of notes (both sides of the page can be used) to assist you. This is to encourage you to take notes while you read and to build up a supply of notes to assist you in preparation for the exams. An additional bonus is that these questions have a habit of showing up on the two exams. I will keep the best 5 quizzes.

Group Assignment – Over the course of the semester, I will assign you to one of four (or five) analytical “desks”. Tentatively, these desks will be separated into the following categories: CN: Counternarcotics, CT: Counterterrorism, MIL: Military, and P.E.S.T.: Political, Economic, Social, and Technological. I will let you know of the basic area 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 both a physical and an online (on D2L) dossier. Both dossiers should be identical. The information for these dossiers should come from credible and verifiable sources. The optimal dossier will be a wide mix of news sources and scholarly papers. I would then ask you to summarize the information in the dossier with a 5-7 page report. The physical dossiers will be turned in at the beginning of class on Monday, October 28th. 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, not to exceed 10 pages. 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. Essays will contain four main sections, labeled as follows:

1. Description – Briefly describe the analytical problem you intend to address and 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 based on your analysis. Make some predictions based on your analysis. Critical thinking and imagination are crucial here. These can be solutions you have developed on your own. They also can 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 is due at the beginning of class on Monday, November 25th and the other is due before midnight on that same Monday on D2L. This uploaded copy will be submitted to turnitin.com. Both papers should be identical. 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. Assignments are considered late if they are not turned in at the beginning of class, if they miss sections that you turn in later, or you miss the deadlines online. Late assignments are penalized 10 points for each day late. We will discuss grammar and citation style as the course progresses.

Briefing – Lastly, you are to present your individual paper. Presentations should not exceed 7 minutes and must adhere to the principles described in the Major (2008) text and the other sources we read. I will provide a rubric regarding what I expect to see from this component.

Attendance/Participation – A final note. I expect you to participate actively in class and contribute to class discussion. Since this is a class about security analysis, we need to be aware of current events. Part of class discussion will be a constantly evolving forum on D2L about current events. Your participation in this forum will be looked upon favorably in this portion of your grade. As a result, I would encourage you to read national newspapers and to utilize other credible sources.

In the classroom, I will note whether you are excessively late or absent, and your grade will correspondingly reflect that. You will also notice that class becomes more difficult if you are repeatedly missing and having to constantly catch up. Please note that attending and participating are two different things. Lastly, please let me know beforehand about any official activities that cause you to miss class. And, if you do miss for some legitimate reason, please provide me with some documentation.

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

University Guidelines

Please see the attached document regarding university policies and procedures.

Note

Please feel free to see me if you have any questions or concerns. Problems and concerns about grades are easier to solve early in the semester than late.

I also reserve the right to change reading (articles, not books) on my discretion. If that does occur, I will provide ample warning.

Course Outline

Week 1 (August 19 - August 24): Introduction

Monday

- Review Syllabus

Wednesday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 1

Friday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 2

Week 2 (August 26 - August 30): History of US Intelligence

Monday

- P.K. Rose, "The Founding Fathers of American Intelligence," *The Intelligencer*, Winter 2000, <https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/the-founding-fathers-of-american-intelligence/art-1.html> [Available on D2L]

Wednesday

- Tidd, John M. 2008. From Revolution to Reform: A Brief History of U.S. Intelligence. *SAIS Review* 28(1): 5-11.

Friday

- Berkowitz, Bruce D. and Allan E. Goodman A. 1998. The Logic of Covert Action. *The National Interest* 51(Spring): 38-46.

Week 3 (September 2 - September 6): Modern US Intelligence

Monday – University Holiday – No Class

Wednesday

- Best, Richard. 2008. What the Intelligence Community Got Right About Iraq. *Intelligence and National Security* 23(3): 289-302.

Friday

- Jervis, Robert. 2006. Reports, Politics, and Intelligence Failures: The Case of Iraq. *Journal of Strategic Studies* 29(1): 6-33.

Week 4 (September 9 - September 13): Intelligence Sources/Building the Model

Monday

- Clark 2013, 89-101
- STRATFOR, 'The Bin Laden Operation: Tapping Human Intelligence'
<http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20110525-bin-laden-operation-tapping-human-intelligence>
[Available on D2L]

Wednesday

Clark 2013, 101-125

Friday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 5

Structured Analytical Techniques:

Week 5 (September 16 - September 20): Idea Generation

Monday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 7
- Heuer and Pherson 2011, 89-107

Wednesday

- Beebe and Pherson 2012, "Who Poisoned Karinna Moskalenko?"

Friday

- Exam I

Week 6 (September 23 - September 27): Scenarios and Indicators

Monday

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

Wednesday

- Heuer and Pherson 2011, 119-143

Friday

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

Week 7 (September 30 - October 4): Hypothesis Generation and Testing

Monday

- Betts, Richard. 2002. Fixing Intelligence. *Foreign Affairs* 81(1): 43-59.

Wednesday

- Heuer and Pherson 2011, 147-176

Friday

- Beebe and Pherson 2012, "Who Murdered Jonathan Luna?"

Week 8 (October 7 - October 11): Cause and Effect

Monday

- Heuer and Pherson 2011, 179-200

Wednesday

- Beebe and Pherson 2012, "Defending Mumbai from Terrorist Attacks"

Friday – Fall Break – No Class

- Clark 2013, Chapter 10

Week 9 (October 14 - October 18): Challenge Analysis

Monday

- Heuer and Pherson 2011, 215-239.

Wednesday

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

Friday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 9

Week 10 (October 21 - October 25): Challenge Analysis

Monday

- Heuer and Pherson 2011, 240-250.

Wednesday

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

Friday – Peace Science Society Conference – No Class

Week 11 (October 28 - November 1): TEAM ANALYSIS

Monday

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

Wednesday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 11

Friday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 12

Briefing:

Week 12 (November 4 - November 8): Getting Ready to Write I

Monday

- Major 2008, Chapter 2

Wednesday

- Major 2008, Chapter 3

Friday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 16

Week 13 (November 11 - November 15): Getting Ready to Write II

Monday

- Major 2008, Chapter 5

Wednesday

- Clark 2013, Chapter 17.

Friday

- Major 2008, Chapter 12-15.

Week 14 (November 18 – November 22): The Art of the Brief

Monday

- Major 2008, Chapter 9-11.

Wednesday

- 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.

Friday

- What the PDB looks like:
<http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB116/> [Available on D2L]
- Clark 2013, Appendix I

Week 15 (November 25 – November 29): Thanksgiving Break

Monday

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

Wednesday – Thanksgiving Break – No Class

Friday – Thanksgiving Break – No Class

Week 16 (December 2 – December 6): Presentations

Monday

- PRESENTATIONS

Wednesday

- PRESENTATIONS

Friday

- PRESENTATIONS

Final – 2:00-3:50 Wednesday, December 11