



Master Syllabus

Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation – A Critical Perspective

Target Audience: Graduate/Postgraduate Students

Provided by Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF)

Section I: Introduction

Session 1: An Introduction to Critical Security Studies

Booth, K. (1997). Security and Self: Reflections of a Fallen Realist. In K. Krause & M. C. Williams (Eds.), *Critical Security Studies: Concepts and Cases*. (pp. 83–120). University of Minnesota Press.

Peoples, C., & Vaughan-Williams, N. (2020). Introduction: Mapping critical security studies and travelling without maps. In *Critical Security Studies* (3rd ed., pp. 1–14). Routledge.

Session 2: Deconstructing “Weapons of Mass Destruction”

Enemark, C. (2011). Farewell to WMD: The Language and Science of Mass Destruction. *Contemporary Security Policy*, 32(2), 382–400.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13523260.2011.590362>

du Plessis, G. (2017). War machines par excellence: The discrepancy between threat and control in the weaponisation of infectious agents. *Critical Studies on Security*, 5(1), 45–61. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21624887.2017.1329473>

Section II: New Perspectives on Nuclear Weapons

Session 3: Nuclear Deterrence – Does it Make Sense?

Pelopidas, B. (2015). A Bet Portrayed as a Certainty: Reassessing the Added Deterrent Value of Nuclear Weapons. In G. P. Shultz & J. E. Goodbye (Eds.), *The War that Must Never be Fought. Dilemmas of Nuclear Deterrence* (pp. 5–55). Hoover Press.
<https://www.sciencespo.fr/nk/fr/content/publications/bet-portrayed-certainty-reassessing-added-deterrent-value-nuclear-weapons>

Williams, M. C. (1992). Rethinking the “Logic” of Deterrence. *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*, 17(1), 67–93.

Session 4: The Morality and Psychology of Nuclear Deterrence

Lee, S. (1985). The Morality of Nuclear Deterrence: Hostage Holding and Consequences. *Ethics*, 95(3), 549–566.

McDermott, R., Lopez, A. C., & Hatemi, P. K. (2017). “Blunt Not the Heart, Enrage It”: The Psychology of Revenge and Deterrence. *Texas National Security Review*, 1(1), 68–88. <https://doi.org/10.15781/T2RR1Q41T>

Session 5: Nationalism and Nuclear Weapons

Meier, O., & Vieluf, M. (2021). Upsetting the nuclear order: How the rise of nationalist populism increases nuclear dangers. *The Nonproliferation Review*, 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10736700.2020.1864932>

Ritchie, N., & Pelopidas, B. (2015). European nuclear nationalism: UK and French perspectives on nuclear disarmament. In *Global Nuclear Disarmament* (pp. 225–250). Routledge.

Session 6: Feminism and Nuclear Weapons

Cohn, C. (1987). Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals. *Signs*, 12(4), 687–718. JSTOR.

Session 7: The Environmental and Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons

Alexis-Martin, B., & Davies, T. (2017). Towards nuclear geography: Zones, bodies, and communities. *Geography Compass*, 11(9), e12325. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gec3.12325>

Alexis-Martin, B., Bolton, M. B., Hawkins, D., Tisch, S., & Mangioni, T. L. (2021). Addressing the Humanitarian and Environmental Consequences of Atmospheric Nuclear Weapon Tests: A Case Study of UK and US Test Programs at Kiritimati (Christmas) and Malden Islands, Republic of Kiribati. *Global Policy*, 12(1), 106–121. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.12913>

Session 8: Are Nuclear Crises Manageable?

Pelopidas, B. (2017). The unbearable lightness of luck: Three sources of overconfidence in the manageability of nuclear crises. *European Journal of International Security*, 2(2), 240–262. <https://doi.org/10.1017/eis.2017.6>

Session 9: Colonial Discourse – Who is a Responsible Nuclear Power?

Gusterson, H. (1999). Nuclear Weapons and the Other in the Western Imagination. *Cultural Anthropology*, 14(1), 111–143.

Section III: New Perspectives on Conventional Weapons and Emerging Technologies

Session 10: Small Arms and Light Weapons

Tar, U. A., & Adejoh, S. (2021). The Theoretical Parameters of the Proliferation and Regulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Africa. In U. A. Tar & C. P. Onwurah (Eds.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Small Arms and Conflicts in Africa* (pp. 41–68). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-62183-4_3

Session 11: Drones

Sauer, F., & Schörnig, N. (2012). Killer drones: The ‘silver bullet’ of democratic warfare? *Security Dialogue*, 43(4), 363–380. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0967010612450207>

Akhter, M. (2019). The proliferation of peripheries: Militarized drones and the reconfiguration of global space. *Progress in Human Geography*, 43(1), 64–80. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0309132517735697>

Session 12: Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems

Bourne, M. (2012). Guns don’t kill people, cyborgs do: A Latourian provocation for transformatory arms control and disarmament. *Global Change, Peace & Security*, 24(1), 141–163. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14781158.2012.641279>

Session 13: Is there an Arms Race in Space?

López, L. D. (2012). Predicting an Arms Race in Space: Problematic Assumptions for Space Arms Control. *Astropolitics*, 10(1), 49–67. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14777622.2012.647391>

Mueller, K. P. (2003). Totem and Taboo: Depolarizing the Space Weaponization Debate. *Astropolitics*, 1(1), 4–28. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1477-760391832499>

Session 14: Algorithmic Warfare

Suchman, L. (2020). Algorithmic warfare and the reinvention of accuracy. *Critical Studies on Security*, 8(2), 175–187. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21624887.2020.1760587>