

## **INTA 8000 Syllabus**

Science, Technology, & International Affairs I, Section A, 3 Credits

Fall 2026

### **Instructor Information**

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**Instructor: Margaret E. Kosal, Ph.D.**

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### **General Course Information**

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#### **Description**

The course will explore and enable better understanding of the interactive roles; the effects of science and technology; and the economic, institutional, policy, and social contexts in which science and technology may be implemented.

This course introduces theories and methodologies for science and technology policy analysis and for analysis of geopolitics. Students will learn how science and technology policy is made, with specific attention to the roles of government agencies, expert advisory committees, and other epistemic groups. This analytic toolkit will be drawn from literature in a range of disciplines, including political science, public policy, economics, law, sociology, and history.

#### **Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of principal contemporary global challenges in the fields of international affairs and science and technology.

Students will develop research skills to produce a research or policy paper on specific technological and scientific issues in international affairs.

#### **Required Course Materials**

Readings will be uploaded to Canvas.

### **Grading Policy:**

International agency/office/agreement relevant to S&T 15%, International scientific or technology controversy 15%, Project proposal 15%, Project status report 5%, Project peer-review 10%, Final Project paper 25%, Final project presentation 15%

A>90; B>80; C>70; D>60

### **Assignments**

- 1) International agency/office/agreement relevant to S&T (15% of grade)
- 2) International scientific or technology controversy (15%)
- 3) Project (70%)
  - a. Proposal
  - b. Status report
  - c. Round-robin peer review of draft documents
  - d. Semester document
  - e. Semester presentation

### **Description of Graded Components**

Essay on international treaty, agreement, organization, or agency with a mission that includes an S&T component: students will write a 1000–1500-word essay detailing brief history, policy role and impact, and why you chose that international entity. Be prepared to talk about your selected topic in class. Students are also responsible for asking questions during each other's presentations.

Essay on an international scientific or technology controversy: students will write a 1000–1500-word essay detailing brief history, policy role and impact, and why you chose that international entity. Be prepared to talk about your selected topic in class. Students are also responsible for asking questions during each other's presentations.

Proposal: students will generate a 2-page proposal on their project topic. Be prepared to present and defend your proposal in class. Students are also responsible for asking questions during each other's presentations.

Status Update: to be given in class. No paper or electronic submission required. Students are also responsible for asking questions during each other's presentations.

Peer-review of drafts: students will review 2-3 of their colleagues' draft papers.

Final paper: students will research and write a 6000-word paper on a topic related to science, technology, and international affairs.

Presentation: students will prepare and present in class a 10-minute MS PowerPoint presentation on their semester project. Students are also responsible for asking questions during each other's presentations.

## Course Policies

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### **Attendance and/or Participation**

You are expected to make reasonable efforts to attend all classes. I recognize that both anticipated and unanticipated events may overlap with the regularly scheduled class time.

### **Academic Integrity**

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

### **Core IMPACTS**

[Core IMPACTS](#) is the University System of Georgia's General Education curriculum.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

### **Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement**

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

### **Pre- &/or Co-Requisites**

None

### **Collaboration, Group Work, and Use of Generative AI**

Collaboration and group work are encouraged. Using AI LLM's or other AI/ML assistants must be identified and cited, otherwise it may constitute plagiarism and be subject to the GT Honor Code.

### **Late Assignments**

Late submission of required assignments will be penalized 10% of the grade per day.

### **Student Use of Mobile Devices in the Classroom**

They are allowed. My right to rescind is reserved. It has been found that use of electronic devices can hinder learning and impact your grade, see e.g., "Checking phones in lectures can cost students half a grade in exams" and primary data included therein,

<https://phys.org/news/2018-07-students-grade-exams.html>.

### **Arriving Late and Departing Early**

While it is recognized that both anticipated and unanticipated events may overlap with the regularly scheduled class time, if you have an ongoing conflict that occurs at the same time as this class, perhaps you should reconsider. Repeated tardiness reflects poorly on you and can disrupt the entire class. Professor reserves the right to make attendance a portion of the grade and penalize for lateness if it is a reoccurring problem.

## **Campus Resources for Students**

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### **Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources:**

A list of resources for graduate students is given on the [Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education](#) website. Specific information for [current graduate students](#) includes

- [Academic Resources](#) such as the Communications Center, Language Institute, Library, Catalog, Registrar, resources for conducting research, Advocacy and Conflict Resolution resources, and how to manage unexpected situations that may impact your academic performance;
- [Student Resources](#) such as Campus Services, Child Care/Family programs, Health & Wellness, Career Services, and the Student Resource Guide; and
- [Professional Development](#) such as *the programming from the Career Center and other professional development resources and events*"

**Student Well-Being:**

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A [comprehensive list](#) of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being ([student-resource-guide \(gatech.edu\)](#)),