

INTA 6103 Syllabus

International Security, Section A, 3 Credits

Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Jenny Jun

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General Course Information

Description

This graduate-level course provides a broad introduction to the study of international security for students outside of the International Affairs major, combining foundational theory with contemporary policy debates. The course examines core questions such as why conflict, despite it being an inefficient way to settle differences, persists in an anarchic international system and how states and non-state actors navigate issues of war, peace, and cooperation. Students will then explore topics such as deterrence, alliance formation, civil conflict, and the role of domestic politics in shaping security outcomes. The course then applies these frameworks to pressing global challenges, including nuclear proliferation, great power competition, terrorism, and emerging domains such as cyber conflict, climate security, and artificial intelligence, equipping students with the analytical tools to interpret and engage with complex security issues in today's world.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Develop a foundational understanding of key theories and concepts in international security and how they explain conflict and cooperation.
- Analyze why states and non-state actors engage in conflict despite its inefficiencies, with attention to strategic, institutional, and domestic factors.
- Evaluate core security issues such as deterrence, alliances, and civil conflict using theoretical and empirical perspectives.
- Apply international security frameworks to contemporary global challenges, including nuclear proliferation, terrorism, and emerging technologies.

- Critically assess policy debates and formulate informed perspectives on complex security issues in today's international system.

Required Course Materials

No textbook required.

Grading Policy:

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 0-59%

Per Georgia Tech policy, grades are awarded on a scale of A-F with no +/- grades permitted. Additional information regarding Georgia Tech's grading system is provided by the Registrar.

Incompletes (I): Students may be assigned an "incomplete" when they were doing satisfactory work, but for nonacademic reasons beyond their control and deemed acceptable by the instructor, the student was unable to meet the full requirements of the course.

Withdrawals (W): Withdrawals from individual courses without penalty will not be permitted after 60 percent of the term has been completed, as specified by the official calendar, except in cases of hardship.

Description of Graded Components

In-Class Case Leadership & Discussion Facilitation (20%)

In-Class Oral Briefing + Live Q&A (15%)

In-Class Debate (15%)

Midterm Policy Memo (20%)

Timed Take-Home Final Exam (20%)

Participation (10%)

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

While I won't be formally checking attendance, participation is worth 10% of your grade. The expectation is that you attend lectures and stay actively engaged for the entire class time. We only meet once a week, so missing one lecture is a bigger deal than a typical 75-minute lecture. Having said that, I understand that various circumstances can arise during the semester. The point is to act in good faith - email me in advance, and we can figure things out. On the other hand, students with regular, unexcused absences should not expect to receive full marks on participation. Having full marks on participation can often make or break a borderline grade.

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. If you are teaching a course that counts towards Core IMPACTS, you should include a syllabus statement about the Core area and associated [career competencies](#). [This resource](#) developed by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and Online Education at Georgia State University includes template syllabus statements for each of the Core IMPACTS areas that you may adapt for your course.

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 also 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.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Late Assignment Policy: Out of fairness to others, late assignments will receive deductions according to below:

- 0-24 hours 30% of total available points
- 24-48 hours 50% of total available points
- 48-72 hours 70% of total available points
- 72 hours- 100% of total available points

Campus Resources for Students

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 \(gatech.edu\)](#))