

INTA 4803 | INTA 8803 Syllabus

Corporate Strategic Decision-Making in the Global Environment, 3 Credits
Fall 2026

Instructor Information

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General Course Information

Description

When a global company decides to stay in a conflict zone, weigh the cost of supply chain exposure in a region facing rising political instability, or balance shareholder expectations against the realities of operating under a foreign government's rules, who makes that call — and how? This course puts you inside those decisions. You will examine how multinational companies navigate the intersection of national security, government policy, and private sector strategy, developing practical frameworks for making high-stakes choices in complex, geopolitically charged environments. The cases are real, the trade-offs are hard, and the skills you build here apply the moment you leave this classroom.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Decode the motivations and constraints driving private sector decisions in international markets — and where they collide with what governments actually want
- Apply a structured risk assessment framework — economic, legal, reputational, operational, and geopolitical — to scenarios where the stakes are real and the information is incomplete
- Map stakeholder ecosystems and determine what it truly takes for a company to earn and keep its license to operate in a given market
- Build and defend a strategic posture for a company facing a geopolitical inflection point — and make the case under pressure
- Produce practitioner-quality deliverables: environmental scans, risk assessments, and strategic decision briefs you could walk into a boardroom with

Required Course Materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All readings will be made available through Canvas. Students are expected to follow current events through sources such as the Financial Times and The New York Times, and to bring relevant headlines to class discussions.

Grading Policy

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

Assignments

- Assignment 1: 15%
- Assignment 2: 25%
- Final Project: 40%
- Participation & In-Class Engagement: 15%

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

Regular attendance is essential for you to maximize your experience and value of this discussion- and case-based course. Students who miss class miss the collaborative analysis that cannot be replicated through notes alone. If you must miss class, please notify me in advance when possible.

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 this course counts towards Core IMPACTS, a statement about the Core area and associated career competencies will be provided separately.

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 email me as soon as possible 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.

Pre- and/or Co-Requisites

Students are expected to have a keen interest in international affairs, business, and/or public policy. Some prior exposure to international relations, economics, or political science is helpful but not required.

Collaboration, Group Work, and Use of Generative AI

You are encouraged to discuss course concepts and case studies with your classmates. All written assignments must be your own work. Generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc.) may be used for brainstorming and research assistance, but any AI-assisted content must be disclosed and the final analysis, arguments, and writing must be your own. Submitting AI-generated text as your own work without disclosure is a violation of the [University Academic Honor Code](#).

Extensions, Late Assignments, and Missed Classes

Assignments submitted late will be penalized 10% per day unless an extension is requested at least 48 hours in advance. Extensions will be granted for illness, approved Institute activities, and religious observances. Please communicate with me early — I would rather help you plan ahead than penalize you after the fact.

Campus Resources for Students

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources

A list of resources for undergraduate students' academic success and information about advising can be found at [Success at Tech](#).

Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources

A list of resources for graduate students is available on the [Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education](#) website.

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 by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being at students.gatech.edu/student-resource-guide.