IS/PSCI 4024 Seminar in Diplomacy and Security

US-Soviet Union/Russia Arms Control Treaties & European Security

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

Fall 2024

Instructor's Contact Details

Instructor:	Prof., Dr. Yannis Stivachtis
Office:	528 Major Williams Hall
E-mail:	ystivach@vt.edu
Tel:	(540) 231-5816
Office Hours:	Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday 4:00-5:00 pm or with appointment
Zoom Meeting:	https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/8826427416

Class Information

Lectures:	Tuesdays & Thursdays: 2:00-3:15 pm
Location:	McBryde 226

Course Description

This is a seminar type course that requires active student participation in the delivery and analysis of the course material. The seminar will focus on US-Soviet/Russian arms control agreements and examine their impact on European security. Topics under discussion will include: the idea of common security; political and military means for achieving common security; arms control and common security; the impact of arms control on war and arms races; the evaluation of arms control proposals and agreements; and the conditions for successful arms control. Arms control agreements under examination will include: SALT I and II, the ABM Treaty, the INF Treaty, the CFE Treaty, SORT, START I and START II treaties, and the New START Treaty. Special emphasis will be given to the historical evolution and the politics related to arms control.

Course Outcomes

At the end of the study, students will be able to:

- Distinguish between national and common security and the relationship between the two terms;
- Understand the dynamics pertaining to the security dilemma facing states and the role of power in addressing it;
- Identify the various political and military means available to design a common security strategy;
- Evaluate the applicability of the various means related to common security;
- Design a common security strategy and utilize the relevant means necessary to implement it;
- Evaluate the viability of arms control proposals;
- Assimilate material and develop arguments in a short time period;
- Present and defend rational and well researched arguments related to arms control;
- Conduct research on the subject matter and write relevant reports and policy papers.

Required Readings

Thomas C. Schelling and Morton H. Halperin, *Strategy and Arms Control* (Martino Publishing, CT, 2014).

Michael Krepon, *Winning and Losing the Nuclear Peace: The Rise, Demise, and Revival of Arms Control* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2021).

If needed, additional material will be distributed by the instructor.

Suggested Readings

Scott Ritter, *Scorpion King: America's Suicidal Embrace of Nuclear Weapons from FDR to Trump* (Clarity Press 2020).

Scott Ritter, *Disarmament in the Time of Perestroika: Arms Control and the End of the Soviet Union* ((Clarity Press, 2022).

Yannis A. Stivachtis, *Cooperative Security and non-Offensive Defense in the zone of War* (Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2001.

Course Requirements

Total numbers of points: 100 points

Tests:	30 points (10 points X 3)
Research papers:	40 points (20 points X 2)
Presentations:	20 points (10 points X 2)
Professionalism:	10 points

Tests

Students are required to take three (3) tests during PART I and PART II of the course. The tests will be available on-line and will be taken out of class. The tests will include short answers/essay questions. **The days and times of those tests will be determined at the beginning of the semester in consultation with the students.**

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. Students will receive 1 penalization point for each class session they miss **unless a note from the Office of the Dean of Students is provided excusing the student's absence**. Penalization points will be subtracted from the students' grade for 'Professionalism'.

Only students who are in the classroom during the first ten (10) minutes of the class will count as being present.

If a student needs to leave the class early, s/he needs to inform the instructor. Students, who 'walk out' of class without doing so, will not receive credit for attendance and participation on the day or the class section in question and will be regarded as absent.

Professionalism

Professionalism includes in-class behavior and class attendance. Classroom discussion should be open, frank, and casual. Please respect the perspectives and inquiries of your peers and instructor. Do not interrupt someone who is speaking and refrain from deliberately demeaning language or intimidating behavior.

Research Papers

Students are required to write two (2) research papers of a maximum length of 2,000 words (excluding references).

No extensions will be provided. Late submissions will receive a 1.0 penalization point per day.

Research Paper 1: To be submitted on Tuesday, October 8, 2:00 pm.

Research Topic: Identify and discuss the conditions necessary for the successful implementation of an arms control treaty. Exemplify your answer.

Research Paper 2: To be submitted on Tuesday, December 3, 2:00 pm.

Research Topic: Examine critically the decision of the US Government to withdraw from the ABM and INF treaties and discuss the implications of these decisions for European security and transatlantic relations

Author's Guidelines

Except for those who are located in the NCR, students should submit a hard copy of their assignment in class.

The first page of the assignment should include the student's full name and the complete title of the assignment as it is stated in the course syllabus.

The assignment should be typed in single space, justified (both left and right) and presented in Times New Roman 12 format.

The author should use APA style.

The research paper should include at least ten (10) different bibliographical sources.

Research Paper Grading

The following criteria will be used in assessing students' research papers:

1. Definition of the topic

- Has the topic been clearly defined and directly addressed?

2. Structure of the essay

- Does the introduction present a clear statement of the issues to be covered?
- Does the essay have a clear structure or organization in which a) the main points are developed logically; and b) the relevance of the material to the theme or argument is clear?
- Is there an effective conclusion which draws together the main points?

3. Content

- Is there evidence of adequate reading and research?
- Is the breadth of coverage adequate?
- Are the issues and ideas analyzed in sufficient depth?
- Are arguments supported by evidence, examples, sources and quotations?

4. Analysis

- Are the arguments logical and consistent?
- Are opinions based on evidence and/or logic?
- Does the essay show evidence of original or independent thought?

5. Presentation

- Fluency and style of writing
- Spelling, grammar, paragraphing
- Presentation of data: effective use of figures and tables and correct use of units and quantities
- Neatness and legibility
- Sources: are sources acknowledged? Are references cited? Are references presented correctly?

Students with Special Needs

Students who need special assistance with note and exam taking should contact the course instructor within the first week of classes. However, those students should contact the relevant university office to obtain the necessary documentation before they meet with the course instructor. The instructor will do everything to address students' needs.

Course Evaluation

Toward the end of the semester, the online Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) questionnaire (https://eval.scholar.vt.edu) will be used to gather feedback on particular aspects of the course and instruction. We read and consider all student comments regarding the course and instruction.

Grade Scale

Please note that for this course the applicable grade scale is as follows:

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	0-59
F*	

Please note that grades ending at .5 will be rounded up.

The F represents failure in the course. The "*****" is intended to identify a student who has failed to uphold the values of academic integrity at Virginia Tech.

A student who receives a sanction of **F*** as their final course grade shall have it documented on their transcript with the notation "FAILURE DUE TO ACADEMIC HONOR CODE VIOLATION." You would be required to complete an education program administered by the Honor System in order to have the "*" and notation "FAILURE DUE TO ACADEMIC HONOR CODE VIOLATION" removed from your transcript. The "F" however would be permanently on your transcript."

Honor Code

Students are encouraged to complete the Academic Integrity Success Module. It may be found at this link: https://canvas.vt.edu/enroll/CE7YK9

This module covers necessary information regarding Academic Integrity at Virginia Tech that students will need throughout their time as a student. This information includes our policies and the importance of academic integrity at Virginia Tech. Even if a student has completed the module in the past, a refresher is always helpful.

Syllabus Statement

The Undergraduate Honor Code pledge that each member of the university community agrees to abide by states:

> *"As a Hokie, I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do."*

Students enrolled in this course are responsible for abiding by the Honor Code. A student who has doubts about how the Honor Code applies to any assignment is responsible for obtaining specific guidance from the course instructor before submitting the assignment for evaluation.

Students are strongly discouraged from misusing sites such as Chegg and CourseHero, as well as misusing ChatGPT and other Generative Artificial Intelligence. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their faculty members regarding the use of such outside materials as the misuse of these sources may constitute a violation of the Honor Code. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the University community from the requirements and expectations of the Honor Code.

All university policies and procedures apply in any Virginia Tech academic environment, and all students are expected to follow them. For additional information about the Honor Code, please visit: https://www.honorsystem.vt.edu/

Honor Code Pledge for Assignments: The Virginia Tech honor code pledge for assignments is as follows:

> *"I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment."*

The pledge is to be written out on all graded assignments at the university and signed by the student. The honor pledge represents both an expression of the student's support of the honor code and a commitment to uphold the academic standards at Virginia Tech.

If you have questions or are unclear about what constitutes academic misconduct on an assignment, please speak with me. I take the honor code very seriously in the course. The normal sanction I will recommend for a violation of the Honor Code is an 'F*' sanction as your final

course grade. The 'F' represents failure in the course. The "*" is intended to identify a student who has failed to uphold the values of academic integrity at Virginia Tech. A student who receives a sanction of F* as their final course grade shall have it documented on their transcript with the notation "FAILURE DUE TO ACADEMIC HONOR CODE VIOLATION." You would be required to complete an education program administered by the Honor System in order to have the "*" and notation "FAILURE DUE TO ACADEMIC HONOR CODE VIOLATION" removed from your transcript. The "F" however would be permanently on your transcript.

Your written assignments may be reviewed through the University's plagiarism prevention and detection software called Turnitin- Feedback Studio, which is a resource designed to detect and prevent plagiarism. This software is a tool that works by cross-referencing submitted materials with journals, essays, newspaper articles, papers, books, the internet, and other literary works. Turintin-Feedback Studio does not identify all forms of plagiarism. The software also does not replace my judgement regarding what constitutes plagiarism.

Students enrolled in this course are responsible for abiding by the Honor Code. A student who has doubts about how the Honor Code applies to any assignment is responsible for obtaining specific guidance from the course instructor before submitting the assignment for evaluation. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the University community from the requirements and expectations of the Honor Code.

For additional information about the Honor Code, please visit: https://www.honorsystem.vt.edu/

All assignments submitted shall be considered "graded work" and all aspects of your coursework are covered by the Honor Code. All projects and homework assignments are to be completed individually unless otherwise specified.

Commission of any of the following acts shall constitute academic misconduct. This listing is not, however, exclusive of other acts that may reasonably be said to constitute academic misconduct. Clarification is provided for each definition with some examples of prohibited behaviors in the Undergraduate Honor Code Manual located at https://www.honorsystem.vt.edu/

A. CHEATING

Cheating includes the intentional use of unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise, or attempts thereof.

B. PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism includes the copying of the language, structure, programming, computer code, ideas, and/or thoughts of another and passing off the same as one's own original work, or attempts thereof.

C. FALSIFICATION

Falsification includes the statement of any untruth, either verbally or in writing, with respect to any element of one's academic work, or attempts thereof.

D. FABRICATION

Fabrication includes making up data and results, and recording or reporting them, or submitting fabricated documents, or attempts thereof.

E. MULTIPLE SUBMISSION

Multiple submission involves the submission for credit—without authorization of the instructor receiving the work—of substantial portions of any work (including oral reports) previously submitted for credit at any academic institution, or attempts thereof.

F. COMPLICITY

Complicity includes intentionally helping another to engage in an act of academic misconduct, or attempts thereof.

G. VIOLATION OF UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, DEPARTMENTAL, PROGRAM, COURSE, OR FACULTY RULES

The violation of any University, College, Departmental, Program, Course, or Faculty Rules relating to academic matters that may lead to an unfair academic advantage by the student violating the rule(s).

Instructor's Bio

Yannis A. Stivachtis is Professor of Political Science, holder of the Jean Monnet Chair, and Director of the Center for European & Transatlantic Studies (CEUTS), which is recognized by the European Commission as a *Jean Monnet Center of Excellence*.

He was awarded (2019) the *Jean Monnet Chair* in recognition of his excellence in European Studies by the Education, Audiovisual and Cultural Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Commission. He has also been recognized as *National Security Scholar* by the U.S. Department of Defense (2014).

He is also the editor of the *Critical European Studies* book series (Routledge) and co-editor of the *Athens Journal of Mediterranean Studies*. He currently serves as Senior Advisor of the Center for European and Mediterranean Affairs (CEMA) of the Athens Institute for Education & Research (ATINER) (Greece); External Expert for the Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission; External Expert of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE), Greek Ministry of Education; Advisory Board member of the Center for Intelligence and Security Studies, Bellevue University; and Senior Advisor of the Research Institute for European & American Studies (RIEAS, Greece).

His research and teaching interests include international relations theory (with particular emphasis on the English School of International Relations including the study of the evolution of international society and the study of regional international system/society in Europe, Eurasia, and the Middle East), Security/Strategic Studies (with emphasis on national and international security, strategic theory, and arms control and disarmament), and European Studies (including EU strategy, EU's foreign, security, and defense policy, EU's external relations and interior policies, and European organizations).

His previous appointments include Professor of International Relations, Geneva School of Diplomacy (Switzerland); Professor of International Relations, The American College of Switzerland; Visiting Professor, The American University of Paris; Visiting Lecturer, European Institute-University of Geneva; Research Fellow, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR); Research Fellow, Institute for Strategic Studies-Austrian Ministry of Defense (Austria); Research Fellow, Austrian Institute of European & Security Policy; and Research Fellow at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

He has authored and edited several books and has published numerous journal articles and book chapters.

Instructor's Zoom Room

Join Zoom Meeting
https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/8826427416

Meeting ID: 882 642 7416
One tap mobile
+13017158592,,8826427416# US (Washington D.C)
+13126266799,,8826427416# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 882 642 7416
Find your local number: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/u/kcJPbpafzg

Join by SIP
8826427416@zoomcrc.com

Join by H.323
162.255.37.11 (US West)
162.255.36.11 (US East)
115.114.131.7 (India Mumbai)
115.114.115.7 (India Hyderabad)
213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Netherlands)
213.244.140.110 (Germany)
103.122.166.55 (Australia)
149.137.40.110 (Singapore)
64.211.144.160 (Brazil)
69.174.57.160 (Canada)
207.226.132.110 (Japan)
Meeting ID: 882 642 7416

Join by Skype for Business
https://virginiatech.zoom.us/skype/8826427416

Class Schedule

Adjustments to the assignment schedule are inevitable. The instructor will make every effort to keep students abreast of changes.

Week One

Tuesday	8/27	Introduction to the seminar topic (instructor's PPt)

PART I: The Security Problematique

Thursday	8/29	International anarchy and military power (Stivachtis, chapter 6)

Week Two

Tuesday	9/3	State dilemmas in international anarchy (Stivachtis, chapter 8)
Thursday	9/5	State dilemmas in international anarchy (Stivachtis, chapter 8)

Week Three

Tuesday	9/10	The arms dynamic (Stivachtis, chapter 9)
Thursday	9/12	The arms dynamic (Stivachtis, chapter 9)

Week Four

Tuesday	9/17	Alternative approaches to the power-security dilemma (Stivachtis, chapter 12)
Thursday	9/19	Cooperative security (Stivachtis, chapter 13)

Week Five

Tuesday	9/24	Non-offensive defense (Stivachtis, chapter 14)

PART II: Evaluation and Effectiveness of Arms Control Agreements

Thursday	9/26	The security function of arms control (Schelling & Halperin, chapters 1-3)

Week Six

Tuesday	10/1	The evaluation of arms control proposals (Schelling & Halperin, chapters 4 & 5)
Thursday	10/3	The evaluation of arms control proposals (Schelling & Halperin, chapters 6 & 7)

Week Seven

Tuesday	10/8	Making arms control work (Schelling & Halperin, chapters 8 & 9)

Thursday	10/10	Making arms control work (Schelling & Halperin, chapters 10 & 11)

PART III: US and Arms Control

Student presentations based on the following book: Michael Krepon, *Winning and Losing the Nuclear Peace: The Rise, Demise, and Revival of Arms Control* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2021).

Week Eight

Tuesday	10/15	Presentation: chapter 1 Presentation: chapter 2 Presentation: chapter 3
Thursday	10/17	Presentation: chapter 4 Presentation: chapter 5 Presentation: chapter 6

Week Nine

Tuesday	10/22	Presentation: chapter 7 Presentation: chapter 8 Presentation: chapter 9
Thursday	10/24	Presentation: chapter 10 Presentation: chapter 11 Presentation: chapter 12

Week Ten

Tuesday	10/29	Presentation: chapter 13 Presentation: chapter 14 Presentation: chapter 15
Thursday	10/31	Presentation: chapter 16 Presentation: chapter 17

PART IV: US-Soviet/Russian Arms Control Agreements and European Security

Students will present the following arms control agreements:

Week Eleven

Tuesday	11/5	Limited Test Ban Treaty (LTBT) (1963) Outer Space Treaty (1967)

Thursday	11/7	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) (1968) The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM) (1972)

Week Twelve

Tuesday	11/12	Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I) (1972) Biological Weapons Treaty (1972) Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) (1974)
Thursday	11/14	Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty (PNET) (1976) SALT II (1979)

Week Thirteen

Tuesday	11/19	Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) (1987) Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) (1990)
Thursday	11/21	Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START I) (1991) Open Skies Treaty (1992) START II (1993)

Week Fourteen **Thanksgiving Break – No classes**

Week Fifteen

Tuesday	12/3	
Thursday	12/5	Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) (1996) Chemical Weapons Treaty (1997)

Week Sixteenth

Tuesday	12/10	Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT) (2002) New START Treaty (2010)
Thursday	**12/12**	**Reading Day – No Class**