

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY POLICY (ISP)

International Security Policy Curriculum

The International Security Policy concentration is designed for students interested in international conflict and conflict management, defense policy, military strategy, arms control, intelligence, peacekeeping, coercion, negotiation, and alternatives to the use of force as an instrument of policy. It provides a conceptual foundation for understanding conflict and the political, economic, and military components of policies and capabilities for coping with the possibility of war, as well as expertise for analyzing specific functional and regional security issues.

Contact Us

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Concentration Director
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Beginning with students entering the International Security Policy (ISP) concentration in Fall 2022, ISP students are expected to fulfill the following requirements for a total of 15 credits.

Students who entered the ISP concentration before Fall 2022 may continue fulfilling the former set of ISP requirements (General Problems, Use of Force, etc.) or elect to fulfill the new requirements, so long as they can do so in full prior to graduation. More information about the former requirements can be found below, under **Requirements for students who entered ISP before Fall 2022**. Additional questions should be directed to Brit Felsen-Parsons, Coordinator of the ISP concentration, at bhf2111@columbia.edu.

- **The required gateway course**, INAF U6874 Foundations of International Security Policy
- **Two courses (or 6 credits) in ONE of five career focus areas -- their "primary area"**
 - Intelligence analysis, counterterrorism, and risk assessment
 - Defense policy and analysis
 - Foreign policy and diplomacy
 - Cybersecurity
 - Legislative affairs
- **Two courses (or 6 credits) in electives -- can be taken from any focus area**

Students who entered the International Security Policy concentration before Fall 2022 may continue with their original program of study.

ISP Focus Areas and Eligible Courses:

The five ISP career-oriented focus areas are listed below, with each having a corresponding list of eligible courses. You will notice that many courses count for more than one focus area; this is by design, and reflects the overlap in the professional requirements for success in different career fields within ISP. You may take more than two courses in a single focus area if you wish, enabling greater depth of preparation in a particular field; you may also experiment in other focus areas via your electives if you are less certain which type of career you would like to pursue after graduation, or if you seek breadth of knowledge over depth.

Intelligence analysis, counterterrorism, and risk assessment

		Points
IAIA U8215	Applied Geopolitics: Risk Analysis	1.50
INAF U6334	Conduct of War	3.00
INAF U6344	Military Technology Assessment	3.00
INAF U6348	Engaging Non-State Armed Groups: Lessons from the UN and Beyond	1.50
INAF U6383	Foundations of Cyber Conflict	3.00
INAF U6387	Terrorism # Counterterrorism	3.00
INAF U6388	Modern Urban Terrorism	3.00
INAF U6430	East Asian Security	3.00
INAF U6455	Counterterrorism and Policing	3.00
INAF U6474	Economic Espionage	3.00
INAF U6509	Basics of Cybersecurity	1.50
INAF U6523	Cyber Risks # Vulnerabilities	1.50
INAF U6524	Cybersecurity # Business Risk	3.00
INAF U6658	Politics and Policies in South Asia	3.00
INAF U6671	China's Foreign Relations	3.00
INAF U6832	International Intelligence Systems	3.00
INAF U6848	Threat Financing # Anti-Money Laundering	1.50
INAF U6908	Information Operations on Social Media	1.50
INAF U8142	Intelligence # US Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF U8488	Contemporary Russian Security Policy	3.00
INAF U8565	European Security	3.00
INAF U8876	Nuclear Proliferation Concepts for Non-Scientists	1.50
REGN U6719	Middle East Conflicts # Global Security	3.00
REGN U6855	Chinese Foreign Policy	3.00
REGN U8588	Modern Iran: From Monarchy to Islamic Republic	3.00
REGN U8757	Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Russia, Europe and the US	3.00
Non-SIPA Courses		
POLS GU4471	CHINESE POLITICS	3.00
POLS GU4472	JAPANESE POLITICS	4.00
POLS GU4845	NAT SECURITY STRAT OF MID EAST	4.00
POLS GU4848	ISRAELI NATL SEC STRAT POL DEC	4.00
POLS GR8471	CHINESE POLIT ECON-COMP PERSP	4.00
POLS GU4434	ETH POL ACROS POST-SOV EURASIA	4.00
POLS GU4453	POLITICS IN RUSSIA	4.00
POLS GU4496	CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN POLITICS	3.00

Defense policy and analysis

		Points
INAF U6285	Methods for Defense Analysis # Assessment	3.00
INAF U6334	Conduct of War	3.00
INAF U6344	Military Technology Assessment	3.00
INAF U6348	Engaging Non-State Armed Groups: Lessons from the UN and Beyond	1.50
INAF U6387	Terrorism # Counterterrorism	3.00
INAF U6394	Writing About War: Seeking Narratives in Conflict	3.00
INAF U6430	East Asian Security	3.00
INAF U8488	Contemporary Russian Security Policy	3.00
INAF U8565	European Security	3.00

INAF U8812	Seminar on International Strategy	3.00
INAF U8876	Nuclear Proliferation Concepts for Non-Scientists	1.50
REGN U6719	Middle East Conflicts # Global Security	3.00
REGN U8757	Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Russia, Europe and the US	3.00
Non-SIPA Courses		
POLS GU4845	NAT SECURITY STRAT OF MID EAST	4.00
POLS GU4848	ISRAELI NATL SEC STRAT POL DEC	4.00
IEOR E4150	INTRO-PROBABILITY # STATISTICS	3.00
IEOR E4004	Optimization Models and Methods	3.00

Foreign policy and diplomacy

		Points
INAF U6267	Climate-security: Examining the links between climate change, peace and security	1.50
INAF U6334	Conduct of War	3.00
INAF U6346	US Role in World Affairs I	3.00
INAF U6347	US Role In World Affairs II	3.00
INAF U6348	Engaging Non-State Armed Groups: Lessons from the UN and Beyond	1.50
INAF U6349	US Policymaking on Peace Operations, Conflict, Prevention, # Protection of Civilians	3.00
INAF U6361	Gender, Conflict, and Peacebuilding	1.50
INAF U6387	Terrorism # Counterterrorism	3.00
INAF U6394	Writing About War: Seeking Narratives in Conflict	3.00
INAF U6430	East Asian Security	3.00
INAF U6442	Failures and Successes of Three Decades of Peacemaking	3.00
INAF U6658	Politics and Policies in South Asia	3.00
INAF U6564	Applied Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution: Fieldwork Competencies	3.00
INAF U6671	China's Foreign Relations	3.00
INAF U6724	Insurgency and Counterinsurgency	3.00
INAF U6742	Gender and International Security	3.00
INAF U6762	Risk Management for UN Crisis # Post-crisis Responses	3.00
INAF U6784	The Practice of Economic Sanctions	1.50
INAF U6785	Economic and Financial Statecraft	1.50
INAF U6792	Foreign Policy Crisis Decision-Making	3.00
INAF U6796	War and Captivity	3.00
INAF U6798	Central Issues in American Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF U6802	International Law	3.00
INAF U8488	Contemporary Russian Security Policy	3.00
INAF U8565	European Security	3.00
INAF U8812	Seminar on International Strategy	3.00
INAF U8876	Nuclear Proliferation Concepts for Non-Scientists	1.50
PUAF U6226	History for Future Policymakers	3.00
REGN U6719	Middle East Conflicts # Global Security	3.00
REGN U6855	Chinese Foreign Policy	3.00
REGN U8588	Modern Iran: From Monarchy to Islamic Republic	3
REGN U8757	Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Russia, Europe and the US	3.00

Non-SIPA Courses

POLS GU4434	ETH POL ACROS POST-SOV EURASIA	4.00
POLS GU4471	CHINESE POLITICS	3.00
POLS GU4472	JAPANESE POLITICS	4.00
POLS GU4845	NAT SECURITY STRAT OF MID EAST	4.00
POLS GU4848	ISRAELI NATL SEC STRAT POL DEC	4.00
POLS GR6411	COMPARATIVE POLITICS SURVEY I	4.00
POLS GR6412	COMPARATV POLITICS SURVEY II	4.00
POLS G6801	Theories of International Relations	4.00
POLS GR8471	CHINESE POLIT ECON-COMP PERSP	4.00
POLS GR8880	DECISION MAKING AND DIPLOMACY	4.00
POLS GU4453	POLITICS IN RUSSIA	4.00
POLS GU4454	POLITICL SYSTEMS OF SOUTH ASIA	4.00
POLS GU4496	CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN POLITICS	3.00
POLS GU4814	GLOBAL ENERGY: SECURITY/GEOPOL	3.00

Cybersecurity

		Points
INAF U6383	Foundations of Cyber Conflict	3.00
INAF U6386	Policy Dilemmas in Cybersecurity	3.00
INAF U6509	Basics of Cybersecurity	1.50
INAF U6518	Cybersecurity: Technology, Policy, # Law	3.00
INAF U6523	Cyber Risks # Vulnerabilities	1.50
INAF U6524	Cybersecurity # Business Risk	3.00
INAF U6529	Cyberspace in Strategy and Grand Strategy	3.00
INAF U6531	Cyber Conflict and Cybersecurity in the Indo-Pacific	3.00
INAF U6908	Information Operations on Social Media	1.50
Non-SIPA Courses		
POLS GU4808	CYBER STRATEGY # INT'L POLS	4.00

Legislative affairs

		Points
INAF U6284	The Politics of Defense in the United States	3.00
INAF U6285	Methods for Defense Analysis # Assessment	3.00
INAF U6334	Conduct of War	3.00
INAF U6344	Military Technology Assessment	3.00
INAF U6383	Foundations of Cyber Conflict	3.00
INAF U6430	East Asian Security	3.00
INAF U6509	Basics of Cybersecurity	1.50
INAF U6523	Cyber Risks # Vulnerabilities	1.50
INAF U6784	The Practice of Economic Sanctions	1.50
INAF U6798	Central Issues in American Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF U6908	Information Operations on Social Media	1.50
INAF U8488	Contemporary Russian Security Policy	3.00
INAF U8876	Nuclear Proliferation Concepts for Non-Scientists	1.50
REGN U6719	Middle East Conflicts # Global Security	3.00
Non-SIPA Courses		
POLS GU4845	NAT SECURITY STRAT OF MID EAST	4.00
POLS GU4848	ISRAELI NATL SEC STRAT POL DEC	4.00
POLS G6210	Issues and Debates In American Politics I	4.00
POLS GR8210	COLLOQ ON POLITICAL BEHAVIOR	4.00

Requirements for students who entered ISP before Fall 2022:

Students who entered the International Security Policy concentration before Fall 2022 may continue fulfilling the former set of ISP requirements described below *or* elect to fulfill the new requirements, so long as they can do so in full prior to graduation. The former ISP requirements stipulate that students must complete a total of 15 points, consisting of 5 three-point courses: 1 core course; 1 from General Problems in International Security and Conflict Management; 1 Use of Force; and 2 electives (preferably including a course on security issues in a particular country or region).

1. Foundations of International Security Policy

		Points
INAF U6874	Foundations of International Security Policy	3.00

2. General Problems in International Security and Conflict Management

Select at least one of the following:

		Points
INAF U4545	Contemporary Diplomacy	3.00
INAF U6084	Energy and National Security	3.00
INAF U6282	Defense Budgeting and Economics	3.00
INAF U6284	The Politics of Defense in the United States	3.00
INAF U6285	Methods for Defense Analysis # Assessment	3.00
INAF U6334	Conduct of War	3.00
INAF U6335	Intelligence and War	3.00
INAF U6346	US Role in World Affairs I	3.00
INAF U6347	US Role In World Affairs II	3.00
INAF U6349	US Policymaking on Peace Operations, Conflict, Prevention, # Protection of Civilians	3.00
INAF U6383	Foundations of Cyber Conflict	3.00
INAF U6386	Policy Dilemmas in Cybersecurity	3.00
INAF U6389	State Formation, Violence, and Intervention in the Modern World	3.00
INAF U6394	Writing About War: Seeking Narratives in Conflict	3.00
INAF U6452	Justice for Black Veterans	1.50
INAF U6529	Cyberspace in Strategy and Grand Strategy	3.00
INAF U6680	Geopolitics of Oil and Natural Gas	3.00
INAF U6788	Issues in Post-Cold War US Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF U6792	Foreign Policy Crisis Decision-Making	3.00
INAF U6798	Central Issues in American Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF U6908	Information Operations on Social Media	1.50
INAF U8142	Intelligence # US Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF U8812	Seminar on International Strategy	3.00
INAF U8818	Topics in International Ethics	3.00
INAF U8909	Environment, Conflict & Resolution Strategies	3.00
POLS G6801	Theories of International Relations	4.00
POLS GR8832	THEORIES OF WAR AND PEACE	4.00

POLS GR8866	INTL SIGNALING # COMMUNICATION	4.00
PUAF U6226	History for Future Policymakers	3.00
PUAF U6801	Negotiation # Conflict Resolution	3.00
INAF S6559Q	The United Nations and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security	3.00
INAF S6572Q	Comparative Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF S6795Q	US Foreign Policy	3.00
INAF S6800D	International Relations: Theory & Concepts	3.00
INAF S6801Q	East Asian Security: Power, Institutions, and Ideas	3.00

3. Use of Force

Select at least one of the following:

		Points
INAF U6282	Defense Budgeting and Economics	3.00
INAF U6285	Methods for Defense Analysis # Assessment	3.00
INAF U6334	Conduct of War	3.00
INAF U6344	Military Technology Assessment	3.00
INAF U6383	Foundations of Cyber Conflict	3.00
INAF U6387	Terrorism # Counterterrorism	3.00
INAF U6388	Modern Urban Terrorism	3.00
INAF U6393	Evolving Military Strategy Post-9/11	3.00
INAF U6399	Weapons of Mass Destruction	3.00
INAF U6455	Counterterrorism and Policing	3.00
INAF U6529	Cyberspace in Strategy and Grand Strategy	3.00
INAF U6789	Special Operations, Counterterrorism, and Counterinsurgency	3.00
INAF U6880	Planning U.S. Military Forces	3.00
INAF U8812	Seminar on International Strategy	3.00
POLS GU4835	FRML&INFRML TERRORIST ACTRS	3.00
POLS G8807	Armed Groups and Political Violence	4.00
POLS G8839	The Causes and Consequences of Terrorism	3.00

4 and 5. Electives

Select two courses from those below or any of those above in General Problems or Use of Force:

		Points
IAIA U8215	Applied Geopolitics: Risk Analysis	1.50
INAF U6097	Financial Warfare	1.50
INAF U6209	Tech # Tactics for Innovative Policymaking	3.00
INAF U6348	Engaging Non-State Armed Groups: Lessons from the UN and Beyond	1.50
INAF U6361	Gender, Conflict, and Peacebuilding	1.50
INAF U6381	Gender & Armed Conflict: Contemporary Theory and Practice for Advocates	3.00
INAF U6382	Technology, National Security # the Citizen	3.00
INAF U6391	Conflict Resolution	3.00
INAF U6394	Writing About War: Seeking Narratives in Conflict	3.00
INAF U6430	East Asian Security	3.00

INAF U6442	Failures and Successes of Three Decades of Peacemaking	3.00	LAW L6410	Constitution and Foreign Affairs	3.00
INAF U6445	Talking with the Enemy	3.00	LAW L8079	Jurisprudence of War	2.00
INAF U6450	Conflict in the 21st Century: Rethinking Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution	3.00	LAW L8813	Geopolitics of Law and Conflict on the Korean Peninsula	3.00
INAF U6455	Counterterrorism and Policing	3.00	LAW L8883	Judicial Settlement of International Disputes	2.00
INAF U6474	Economic Espionage	3.00	LAW L8997	Civil Liberties & the Response to Terrorism	2.00
INAF U6509	Basics of Cybersecurity	1.50	LAW L9001	United Nations Peacekeeping	2.00
INAF U6518	Cybersecurity: Technology, Policy, # Law	3.00	COMS W4995	TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE ^{Hacking} 4 Defense	3.00
INAF U6521	Cyber Threat Intelligence	3.00	POLS GR8205	History of East-West Relations in Post World War II Europe, 1945-1991	4.00
INAF U6523	Cyber Risks # Vulnerabilities	1.50	HSPS GR8445	LEGACIES OF EMPIRE # SOV UNION	4.00
INAF U6524	Cybersecurity # Business Risk	3.00	POLS GR8870	US Relations with East Asia	4.00
INAF U6529	Cyberspace in Strategy and Grand Strategy	3.00	POLS GR8880	DECISION MAKING AND DIPLOMACY	4.00
INAF U6531	Cyber Conflict and Cybersecurity in the Indo-Pacific	3.00	POLS GU4434	ETH POL ACROSS POST-SOV EURASIA	4.00
INAF U6551	Why We Fail: Lessons in Conflict Resolution # Atrocity Prevention	3.00	POLS GU4845	NAT SECURITY STRAT OF MID EAST	4.00
INAF U6553	Advancing Human Protection	3.00	POLS GU4875	Russia and the West	4.00
INAF U6559	Peacekeeping as a Tool for Sustaining Peace	1.50	POLS S4832	Strategic Intelligence and Political Decision-Making	4.00
INAF U6564	Applied Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution: Fieldwork Competencies	3.00	REGN U4690	Palestinian and Israeli Security Dilemmas	3.00
INAF U6651	International Relations of South Asia	3.00	REGN U6532	Chinese, Russian and Western Values – Worlds Apart?	1.50
INAF U6671	China's Foreign Relations	3.00	REGN U6647	International Relations of Northeast Asia	3.00
INAF U6762	Risk Management for UN Crisis # Post-crisis Responses	3.00	REGN U6652	Central Asian Politics and Security	3.00
INAF U6784	The Practice of Economic Sanctions	1.50	REGN U6660	Security and International Politics of the Persian Gulf	3.00
INAF U6785	Economic and Financial Statecraft	1.50	REGN U6719	Middle East Conflicts # Global Security	3.00
INAF U6796	War and Captivity	3.00	REGN U8588	Modern Iran: From Monarchy to Islamic Republic	3.00
INAF U6798	Central Issues in American Foreign Policy	3.00	REGN U8757	Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Russia, Europe and the US	3.00
PUAF U6801	Negotiation # Conflict Resolution	3.00	ORLJ 6040	Fundamentals of Cooperation, Conflict Resolution, Mediation ^(Teacher's College)	3.00
INAF U6802	International Law	3.00			
INAF U6832	International Intelligence Systems	3.00			
INAF U6848	Threat Financing # Anti-Money Laundering	1.50			
INAF U6873	America & Asia: War, Peace, Trade, & Diplomacy in the 20th and 21st Centuries	3.00			
INAF U8136	US Foreign Policy-Persian Gulf	3.00			
INAF U8258	State Formation, Deformation, and Citizenship	3.00			
INAF U8415	US-Latin American Relations: WWII to Present	3.00			
INAF U8488	Contemporary Russian Security Policy	3.00			
INAF U8507	Security Council and Peacekeeping in Africa in the 21st Century	3.00			
INAF U8508	Inside the Security Council: Inequality at Work	3.00			
INAF U8559	Building Peace After Conflict	1.50			
INAF U8565	European Security	3.00			
INAF U8867	International Enforcement and the UN Security Council	3.00			
INAF U8869	Civil Wars and Peace Settlements	3.00			
INAF U8876	Nuclear Proliferation Concepts for Non-Scientists	1.50			
INAF U8886	Conflict Assessment	1.00			
INAF U8909	Environment, Conflict & Resolution Strategies	3.00			

Degree Audit Report

Matriculated students in this program can view their degree audit report on [Stellic](#).

Stephen D. Biddle, Professor of International and Public Affairs; Director of the International Security Policy Concentration

Colin Ahern, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

Severine Autesserre, Professor of Political Science

Richard Betts, Leo A. Shifrin Professor of War and Peace Studies

Thomas Christensen, James T. Shotwell Professor of International Relations

Peter Clement, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Matthew Devost, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Camille Francois, Lecturer in International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Stuart Gottlieb, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Scott Harold, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

Jason Healey, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Sarah Kovner, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Annemarie McAvoy, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Richard Nephew, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

Michael O'Hanlon, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Celestino Perez, Visiting Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Neal Pollard, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Adam Segal, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Stephen Sestanovich, Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Professor for the Practice of International Diplomacy

Mitchell Silber, Lecturer in International and Public Affairs (part-time)

Daniel Smith, Gerald L. Curtis Visiting Associate Professor of Modern Japanese Politics and Foreign Policy

Natalie Vanatta, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs

Naomi Weinberger, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Evan Wolff, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

Keren Yarhi-Milo, Professor of International and Public Affairs