SECURITY IN A NUCLEAR-ARMED WORLD

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Language of instruction
English

Spring Semester

Course description
This course will introduce the main debates about nuclear weapons and their effects on international security. Every session will be devoted to a crucial problem of the ‘nuclear age’ which is still relevant to contemporary security policymaking. How do we know that something “is nuclear” or not? Is there a “nuclear revolution” and if so, what does it mean? How do nuclear weapons affect military strategy? How to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons? How can we explain the nuclear arms race? What is at stake in the debate about nuclear disarmament? Why have nuclear weapons not been used in anger since 1945? What are the political implications of referring to “Weapons of Mass Destruction” (WMD)? What is the ongoing initiative on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons? These questions will be introduced through the study of concepts as well as historical events and their political operationalization.

Course requirements (grading & assessment)

The students will be assessed in three ways.

1. A five minute oral summary of the previous session (15% of the grade). This could be done in groups of two depending on the size of the class
2. An analytical and critical book review of 1500 words (25% of the grade)
   Under the readings for each session below, I suggest books you might choose for your review.
3. A final paper on the topic of the class (60% of the grade)

The book review should participate in the process of writing the final essay and does not need to be disconnected from it.

Pedagogical format
The sessions will be divided into two parts: 1 hour lecture by the instructor on the topic of the day, including 15 to 20 minutes of questions and answers; 1 hour of groupwork, debate in class or policy simulation. Every seminar session will start with a five minute oral presentation of the previous session by one student.

Background reading

Version papier : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001232644
Objective of the course:
This course intends to develop awareness and critical thinking about contemporary nuclear weapons related issues. As the outline makes clear, the course will be problem based rather than theory-based but theory will be used in order to understand the sources and effects of the knowledge about nuclear weapons related issues. It will provide tools to analyze and understand contemporary debates about nuclear weapons and will offer a detailed understanding of nuclear security policymaking based on historical examples.

COURSE OUTLINE

Situating security in a nuclear-armed world

Session 1. Defining Nuclear Weapons.

Required readings:
  - Version papier: [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001232644](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001232644)
  - Version électronique: [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294536](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294536)
  - [http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=International+Review+of+the+Red+Cross](http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=International+Review+of+the+Red+Cross)
  - [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001129690](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001129690)
  - [http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Contemporary+Security+Policy+](http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Contemporary+Security+Policy+)

Recommended readings:
Session 2. Defining nuclearities: weapons, energy and technopolitics

Keep in mind from last week


Required readings:


Recommended readings:


Session 3. An Epochal Change: the Nuclear Revolution?

Required readings:


Recommended readings:

  Version papier : [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001089565](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001089565)
  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALSL&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=I_M&C=0020-8183
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000132809
  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALSL&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=American+Political+Science+Review
Video

*The Day after Trinity*, a documentary directed by John Else (1981)

**Session 4. Situating present security or bounding future possibilities**

**Required readings:**

**Recommended readings:**

*Security Problems and Puzzles in a Nuclear-armed World*

**Session 5. Deterrence and Nuclear Deterrence as Practices of (In)security.**

**Required readings:**

**Recommended readings:**
http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001274390

http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=0047-1178

http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Conflict%2C%20Security%2C%20and%2C%20Development

http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001234198

http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001175453

http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Political%2C%20Science%2C%20and%2C%20Quarterly

http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001223043

http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Political%2C%20Science%2C%20and%2C%20Quarterly

http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001234198

**Debate in class**

The students will form two groups and present a 10 minute argument about the role of nuclear deterrence today as a factor increasing or decreasing security. Beyond the readings for this session, they should look at

http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Nonproliferation%2C%20Review

Version papier : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001189772
Session 6. The non-use of nuclear weapons in anger since 1945.

Required readings (these texts should be read in the following order):

   http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Review+of+International+Studies+

   http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=American+Political+Science+Review

   http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001265325

Recommended readings:

  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Review+of+International+Studies+


  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294517

  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001166117

  Version papier: http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000525196
  Version ebook: http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294663

Suggested review of a book from the recommended readings.

Multimedia art work
Session 7: The problem of the spread 1: horizontal (nuclear proliferation to states and non-state actors) and nuclear desire

Required readings:

Recommended readings:
  http://www.afri-ct.org/afri/tous-les-volumes/ 
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000319578

  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Nonproliferation+Review+

  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Critique+Internationale

  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294459

  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001207109

  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Nonproliferation+Review+

**Debate in class:**
The students will use the readings above to form two teams discussing the consequences of nuclear proliferation. Each team will make a ten minute presentation and should be ready to defend its case in front of the class. Each team is expected to give policy recommendations.

**Suggested Review of**

Version papier : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000268524

**Session 8: The problem of the spread 2: vertical (the arms race)**

**Required readings:**


Recommended readings:


Suggested review of any of the books in the recommended readings.

**Session 9: Security as controllability and sustainability**

**Required readings:**

London: Chatham House.

  
  [http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=I_M&C=0011-1600](http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=I_M&C=0011-1600)

  
  [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000109837](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000109837)

Recommended readings:

  
  [http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=I_M&C=0011-1600](http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=I_M&C=0011-1600)

  
  [http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Bulletin+of+Atomic+Scientists](http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Bulletin+of+Atomic+Scientists)

- Benoit Pelopidas (2014). “Remembering the Cuban Missile Crisis, with Humility”, *European Leadership Network*, November 11.


  
  [http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Annual+Review+of+Sociology+](http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Annual+Review+of+Sociology+)


  3 éditions :
  
  [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001249122](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001249122)
  
  [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001256103](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001256103)
  
  [http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294856](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294856)

Videos:

- [Drell Lecture 2012](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001249122), Stanford University

- [Cold War International History Project](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001256103); Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars

- [Doctor Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294856), directed by Stanley Kubrick (1962)

Suggested review of


London: Continuum, 2007

[http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001137227](http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001137227)

or

Session 10: (In)security and the limits of nuclear accountability

Required readings:
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000763828
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001151821
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001211477

Recommended readings:
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000184539
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000042361
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000566932
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000042361
  http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001223667

Suggested review of

Session 11: Security and morality

Required readings:
  Version papier : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000736262
  Version ebook : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294662
  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Security+Studies+

Recommended reading:
  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=AC_T_M&C=Ethics+and+International+Affairs+
  Version papier : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0000736262
  Version ebook : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001294662
  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=Nonproliferation+Review+

Session 12: Security through change? (Non)-Nuclear Futures and recent initiatives

Required readings:
  http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=T_W_A&C=International+Review+of+the+Red+Cross


And have a second look at

Version papier : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001278595
Version ebook : http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001295772

Recommended readings:


http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001216581

http://gl5sm8uv5q.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&tab=JOURNALS&L=GL5SM8UV5Q&S=L_M&C=0020-8833


Debate in class on the desirability and feasibility of a world without nuclear weapons: the students will use the readings above to form two teams. Each team will make a ten minute presentation and should be ready to defend its case in front of the class. The two camps have to come up with a practical proposition to advance their goal today.

Review of
http://catalogue.sciencespo.fr/ark:/46513/sc0001175439

Video:
Interview with Lawrence Wittner, April 3, 2010