



# Course program and reading list

Semester 1 Year 2024

**School:** Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy M.A

## Advanced Issues in Strategy and Deterren

**Lecturer:**

Prof. Dmitry Adamsky [dadamsky@runi.ac.il](mailto:dadamsky@runi.ac.il)

**Teaching Assistant:**

Ms. Noam Braier [noam.braier@post.runi.ac.il](mailto:noam.braier@post.runi.ac.il)

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<b>Course No.:</b>	<b>Course Type :</b>	<b>Weekly Hours :</b>	<b>Credit:</b>
24308	Lecture	4	4

<b>Course Requirements :</b>	<b>Group Code :</b>	<b>Language:</b>
Final Paper	241243080	English

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### Course Description

The seminar overviews evolution of contemporary strategic thought, as an academic theory (i.e. strategic studies discipline), and as a tool of practice (i.e. national security policy). The course introduces participants to analytical techniques for peacetime and wartime interactions in international relations, with specific focus on conventional, sub-conventional and non-conventional aspects of modern military strategy.

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### Course Goals

The course achieves its aim by taking the participants through three meta-themes: (i) evolution of modern warfare and contemporary strategic thought; (ii) tools and methods of national security analysis; and (iii) selected issues in contemporary international

security policy.

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 Grading


Final paper - 100%.

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 Lecturer Office Hours

By appointment

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 Tutor Office Hours

By appointment

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 Teaching Assistant

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 Reading List

**Legend**

- Required Reading
- Recommended Reading

Part One: Evolution of Modern Warfare and Contemporary Strategic Thought

Theme 1: **War in IR, Strategic Studies Discipline and Evolution of Modern Warfare**

- John Baylis and James Wirtz, "Introduction," in John Baylis, James Wirtz, Colin Gray, and Eliot Cohen, *Strategy in the Contemporary World* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007), pp.1-17.
- John Garnett, "The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace," in *Strategy* (2007),

pp 19–42.

- Thomas G. Mahnken, "Strategic Theory," in *Strategy* (2007), pp.66–82.

#### Theme 2: **Conventional War, Asymmetry and Military Innovations**

- Michael Sheehan, "The Evolution of Modern Warfare," in *Strategy* (2007), pp. 42–66.
  - Itai Brun, "The Other Revolution in Military Affairs," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, Aug. 2010, pp. 535–567
  - Dima Adamsky, *The Culture of Military Innovation* (Stanford UP, 2010), pp. 1–4, 131–137.
  - John Ferris, "Conventional Power and Contemporary Warfare," in *Strategy* (2007), pp. 260–263 (required); pp. 253–274.
  - Alex Wilner, "Deterring the Undeterrable," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, vol.34. no.1, 2011.
- o Steven Biddle, "Land Warfare: Theory and Practice," in John Baylis, James Wirtz, Eliot Cohen, Colin Gray, *Strategy in the Contemporary World* (Oxford UP, 2004), pp.91–113

#### Theme 3: **Strategy and Deterrence in the First and the Second Nuclear Ages**

- V.Paul, "Complex Deterrence: An Introduction," in T.V.Paul, Patrick M. Morgan, and James, J. Wirtz, *Complex Deterrence: Strategy in the Global Age* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2009), pp.1–31.
- Lawrence Freedman, *Deterrence* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2004), pp.6–25.
- Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky, "The 1983 Nuclear Crisis – Lessons for Deterrence Theory and Practice," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, vol. 36, issue 1, 2013, pp.4–41.
- Patrick M. Morgan, *Deterrence Now* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2003).
- Dale Walton and Colin S. Gray, "The Second Nuclear Age: Nuclear Weapons in the Twenty-first Century," in *Strategy* (2007), pp.209–228.
- Keith Payne, "Deterrence in the Post-Cold War World," *Strategy* (2004), pp.161–183.
- Recommended Movies: *Strangelove*, *13 Days*, and *On the Brink of Apocalypses*.

### Part Two: Tools and Methods of National Security Policy

#### Theme 4: **Intelligence and National Security**

- "The intelligence cycle and the search for information: planning, collecting and processing," in Loch Johnson, *Handbook of Intelligence Studies* (Routledge, 2009), pp. 105–148.
- Lowenthal, "Collection and Collection Disciplines," pp. 69–108 and "Analysis," pp.

111-151.

- Michael Handel, "Deception, Surprise and Intelligence," in *Masters of War: Classical Strategic Thought* (London: Frank Cass, 2000) pp. 215-255.
- Uri Bar-Joseph and Jack S. Levy, "Conscious Action and the Study of Intelligence Failure," *Political Science Quarterly*, summer 2009, Vol. 124, No.3, 461-88.

#### Theme 5: **Strategic Culture Theory**

- Jeffrey S. Lantis and Darryl Howlett, "Strategic Culture," in *Strategy* (2007), 82-99.
- Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky, "Russian Campaign in Syria – change and continuity in Strategic Culture," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 2019.
- Michael Eisenstadt, *The Strategic Culture of the Islamic Republic of Iran* (Washington Institute, 2015).

#### Theme 6: **Net-Assessment and Competitive Strategies**

- Thomas Mahnken, "Thinking about Competitive Strategies," in Thomas Mahnken, *Competitive Strategies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Theory, History and Practice* (Stanford UP, 2012) pp. and 3-8.
- Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky, "The Art of Net Assessment and Uncovering Foreign Military Innovations," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 2020, "Introduction" and Conclusion.
- Thomas Mahnken, *Net Assessment and Military Strategy* (Cambria Press, 2020).
- Paul Bracken, "Net Assessment: A Practical Guide," *Parameters* (Spring 2006), pp. 90-100.
- Stephen Peter Rosen, "Competitive Strategies: Theoretical Foundations, Limits and Extensions," in *Competitive Strategies*, pp.12-28.
- Bradford Lee, "Strategic Interaction: Theory and History of Practitioners," in *Competitive Strategies*, pp. 28-47.
- Thomas Skypek, "[Evaluating Military Balances Through the Lens of Net Assessment: History and Application](#)," *Journal of Military and Strategic Studies*, Vol. 12, No 2 (2010).

### Part Three: **Selected Issues in Contemporary International Security**

#### Theme 7: **Emerging Russia, Great Powers' Competition and Contemporary Strategy**

- Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky, "From Moscow with Coercion," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, vol. 41, no. 1-2, 33-60, 2018.
- TBA

#### Theme 8: **Emerging China, Great Powers' Competition and Contemporary Strategy**

(Guest Lecture)

- TBA

Theme 9: **Emerging Technologies and Contemporary Strategy** (Guest Lecture)

- TBA

Theme 10: **Emerging Strategic Futures**