



INTS 431-01, The U.S. Intelligence Community, Fall 2009

Item Type	Other
Authors	Copper, John F.
Publisher	Memphis, Tenn. : Rhodes College
Download date	2024-11-12 09:15:34
Link to Item	http://hdl.handle.net/10267/4989

International Studies 431

The U.S. Intelligence Community

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Course Description:

In this course students will study the functions, organization and activities of the major intelligence (and also counterintelligence) agencies--CIA, NSA, DIA, etc. Also assessed will be how they work with each other (or don't cooperate), their ties to foreign intelligence agencies, and how their work is used in the making of United States foreign and security policy. Special attention will be given to America's attitude about intelligence work, America's tradition in intelligence gathering, its importance during wars (especially the Cold War), how it now operates to stop terrorism, and current issues and problems.

Texts:

Mark M. Lowenthal, *Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy* (fourth edition)

Jeffery Richelson, *The U.S. Intelligence Community* (fifth edition)

Grading:

Grades will be based on quizzes, examinations, class discussions and presentations, a book review, and a term paper.

The weight of each will be announced in class.

Week 1

Topics: This week we define intelligence and intelligence work in relationship to foreign policy making, war, etc.

Assignments: Read Lowenthal, chapter 1
Richelson, chapter 1

Turn in two or three possible topics for a term paper, with an explanation of your interest in this particular subject and a hypothesis.

Week 2

Topics: This week we will look at the history of U.S. intelligence work and the make-up of the intelligence community currently. We will also examine the National Security Act of 1947.

Assignments: Lowenthal, chapters 2,3 and 4

Turn in your term paper topic(s) with a more refined hypothesis and an outline.
Give me the title of a book you propose to review and report on.

Week 3

Topics: This week will look at U.S. national intelligence organizations, the "core" ones, or the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency. This will be somewhat a cursory examination and we will get back to these organizations later. Now we need to know the important ones and how they work and interact.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 2

Week 4

Topics: This week we will examine the U.S. defense intelligence branches. We will also look at how they help make strategic policy.

Assignments: Richelson, chapters 2,4,5

Week 5

Topics: This week the topic is "civilian" intelligence organizations, or those organs of government that are attached to an agency that has other more important functions.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 6

Week 6

Topics: This week we will examine the agencies that deal with national reconnaissance, imagery and mapping and how they fit into the picture of gathering intelligence to protect the national interest.

Assignments: Richelson, chapters 7,8,9 and 10

Week 7

Topics: This week we examine human intelligence, including both covert and open data gathering.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 11 and 12
Lowenthal, chapter 8

Week 8

Topics: This week we will look at intelligence analysis, how that is done, limitations, etc.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 14
Lowenthal, chapter 5 and 6

Week 9

Topics: This week we look at counterintelligence—the stopping of other countries gathering intelligence in the U.S.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 15
Lowenthal, chapter 7

Week 10

Topics: Policy making that is based on intelligence is the topic this week. How is data translated into actions? What are the difficulties in this process?

Assignments: Richelson, chapters 17, 18, 19
Lowenthal, chapters 9 and 10

Week 11

Topics: This week we look at foreign intelligence agencies. We need to know how they differ from ours, where and how they operate, and cooperation we get from them.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 13
Lowenthal, chapters 11 and 15

Week 12

Topics: This week we will look at the major issues and controversies that relate to intelligence gathering and the U.S. intelligence organizations.

Assignments: Richelson, chapter 13 and 20

Week 13

Topics: This week will look at intelligence reform or the hope of reform.

Assignments: Lowenthal, chapter 14

Week 14

Topics: This week we will look at the future of intelligence gathering, special events and problems in the intelligence community.

Assignments: Review. Present papers