

# Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”

Spring AY2010-11

## **MS&E 93Q: Nuclear Issues Today**

Prof. Siegfried Hecker

Preference to sophomores. What are nuclear weapons; what do they do? How are they different from other weapons? What drives proliferation of nuclear weapons? Why do countries want them? Can they be eliminated? What about Iran and North Korea? What role does nuclear energy play? Can it help combat global climate change? What are the risks of nuclear terrorism? Recommended: a course in international relations, engineering, or physical science.

Terms: Spr | Units: 3 | UG Reqs: GER:DBEngrAppSci | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

Notes: Preference to sophomores; freshmen admitted if space available. Application required; due 5:00pm Monday, Feb 28; apply at <http://introsems.stanford.edu>.

**MS&E 93Q Student Comments:** Freshman/Sophomore Seminar, with preference given to sophomores. Nuclear weapons, energy, and terrorism explained. Much more in-depth information than can be given in the larger lecture class. Exciting and fun field trip to Livermore National Laboratory's nuclear facility. Interesting, engaging, and extremely informative.

## **HISTORY 62N: The Atomic Bomb in Policy and History**

Prof. Barton Bernstein

Preference to freshmen. Emphasis is on declassified files from WW II and recent interpretations. Why did the U.S. drop A-bombs on Japan? Were there viable alternatives, and, if so, why were they not pursued? What did the use of the A-bombs mean then and later? How have postwar interpreters explained, and justified or criticized, the A-bombings? Approaches from history, international relations, American studies, political science, and ethics address the underlying conceptions, the roles of evidence, the logic and models of explanation, ethical values, and cultural/social influences.

Terms: Spr | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

## **Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”**

### **SOC 109: Sociology of Terrorism**

Prof. Eva Meyersson-Milgrom

SOC 109: Sociology of Terrorism (PUBLPOL 119, SOC 209)

Multidisciplinary, including psychology, sociology, political science, and economics. Comparison of terrorist organizations and movements across institutions, places, and times; their motives, tactics, financing, and organization. Guest lecturers. Sources include movies, novels, and research literature.

Terms: Spr | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

**SOC 109 Student Comments:** Deals with terrorism more generally, although some content on the risk of nuclear terrorism. Great background for international security interests.

### **EDUC 193A: Listen Up! Core Peer Counseling Skills**

Dr. Alejandro Martinez

Topics: verbal and non-verbal skills, open and closed questions, paraphrasing, working with feelings, summarization, and integration. Individual training, group exercises, role play practice with optional video feedback. Sections on relevance to crisis counseling and student life. Guest speakers from University and community agencies. Students develop and apply skills in University settings.

Terms: Aut, Win, Spr | Units: 2 | Repeatable for credit | Grading: Satisfactory/No Credit

**EDUC 193A Student Comments:** No Prereqs. Very indirectly related, but even international conflicts arise, in large part, because people don't listen to each other. This course really helps with listening to others and listening to yourself.

## **Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”**

**Autumn AY2010-11**

**NOTE: THIS QUARTER IS PAST, BUT MANY OF THESE COURSES WILL BE OFFERED AGAIN NEXT YEAR. CHECK BACK ON THIS PAGE AFTER NEXT YEAR’S COURSES HAVE BEEN FINALIZED.**

### **STS 152: Nuclear Weapons, Risk and Hope**

Prof. Martin Hellman

Recent research indicates that depending on nuclear weapons for our security is thousands of times riskier than society will tolerate with respect to nuclear power plants. This seminar explores methods for estimating the risk, why society ignores the danger, and what can be done to correct that imbalance. No prerequisites, and at a level understandable to non-majors, including in the humanities.

Terms: Aut | Units: 1 | Grading: Satisfactory/No Credit

### **MS&E 193: Technology & National Security**

Profs. Siegfried Hecker and William Perry

The interaction of technology and national security policy from the perspective of history to implications for the new security imperative, homeland defense. Key technologies in nuclear and biological weapons, military platforms, and intelligence gathering. Policy issues from the point of view of U.S. and other nations. The impact of terrorist threat. Guest lecturers include key participants in the development of technology and/or policy. Students seeking to fulfill the WIM requirement should register for 193W.

Terms: Aut | Units: 3 | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

**MS&E 193 Student Comments:** Excellent portion of the class in which Professor Hecker explains the basics of nuclear weapons. One of my favorite classes. Anyone with any interest in international security or history will like it. Technical background not required.

### **POLISCI 10SC: American Foreign Policy and the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century**

Prof. Stephen Stedman

Investigation of foreign policy challenges and choices facing the Obama administration. Topics include: examination of domestic constraints such as public opinion; Congress and bureaucracy on foreign policy and international challenges of climate change and energy, nuclear policy, biological security; failing states and regional conflict; terrorism; global economic crisis; and the ongoing crises in the broader Middle East. Course includes a 48-hour simulation.

Terms: Aut | Units: 2 | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

## **Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”**

### **ENGLISH 152A: “Mutually Assured Destruction”: American Culture and the Cold War**

(Also listed as AMSTUD 152A)

Prof. Vaughn Rasberry

The temperature of the early Cold War years via readings of Soviet and U.S. propaganda; documentary film and film noir; fiction by Bellow, Ellison, O’Connor, and Mailer; social theory by Arendt, the New York Intellectuals, and the Frankfurt School; and political texts such as Kennan’s *Sources of Soviet Conduct*, the “Truman Doctrine” speech, and the National Security Council Report 68. Major themes include the discourse of totalitarianism, MacCarthyism, strategies of containment, the nuclear threat, the figure of the “outsider” and the counterculture, and the cultural shift from sociological to psychological idioms.

Terms: Aut | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBHum | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

### **POLI SCI 114D: Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law**

(Also listed as INTNLREL 114D, IPS 230, POLISCI 314D)

Prof. Larry Diamond and Dr. Kathryn Stoner-Weiss

Links among the establishment of democracy, economic growth, and the rule of law. How democratic, economically developed states arise. How the rule of law can be established where it has been historically absent. Variations in how such systems function and the consequences of institutional forms and choices. How democratic systems have arisen in different parts of the world. Available policy instruments used in international democracy, rule of law, and development promotion efforts.

Terms: Aut | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

**POLI SCI 114D Student Comments:** This class is relevant in the sense that it gives really good background on international relations and the factors that influence interactions between nations.

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### Winter AY2010-11

#### **EE 190: Nuclear Weapons, Risk and Hope**

Prof. Martin Hellman

Recent research indicates that depending on nuclear weapons for our security is thousands of times riskier than society will tolerate with respect to nuclear power plants. This seminar explores methods for estimating the risk, why society ignores the danger, and what can be done to correct that imbalance. No prerequisites, and at a level understandable to non-majors, including in the humanities.

Terms: Win | Units: 1 | Grading: Satisfactory/No Credit

NOTE: This seminar is not listed under this title on Axess. To register, please follow the instructions [on my web site](#). It will meet in FloMo’s Main Lounge on Mondays from 4:15 to 5:15 PM.

#### **POLISCI 114S: International Security in a Changing World**

(Also listed as IPS 241)

Profs. Scott Sagan and Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar

The major international and regional security problems in the modern world. Interdisciplinary faculty lecture on the political and technical issues involved in nuclear proliferation, terrorism and homeland security, civil wars and insurgencies, and future great power rivalries.

Terms: Win | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

**POLISCI 114S Student Comments:** My favorite class at Stanford. About half the class deals specifically with nuclear issues, but all of the content is relevant. Great simulation of an NPT conference.

#### **MS&E 250A: Engineering Risk Analysis**

Prof. Elisabeth Paté-Cornell

The techniques of analysis of engineering systems for risk management decisions involving trade-offs (technical, human, environmental aspects). Elements of decision analysis; probabilistic risk analysis (fault trees, event trees, systems dynamics); economic analysis of failure consequences (human safety and long-term economic discounting); and case studies such as space systems, nuclear power plants, and medical systems.

## **Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”**

Public and private sectors. Prerequisites: ENGR 60 or equivalent, probability, and decision analysis.

Terms: Win | Units: 3 | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

### **POLISCI 214R: Challenges and Dilemmas in American Foreign Policy**

(Also listed as POLISCI 314R)

Prof. Condoleezza Rice

This seminar will examine the complexities and trade offs involved in foreign policy decision-making at the end of the twentieth century and the dawn of the post-9/11 era. Students will analyze dilemmas confronting policymakers through case studies including post-conflict reconstruction and state-building, nuclear proliferation, democratization and peace negotiation. The seminar will conclude with a 48-hour crisis simulation. For advanced undergraduates and graduate students. Application for enrollment required.

Pick up application in Political Science Department (Encina West 100).

Terms: Win | Units: 5 | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

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## **Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”**

### **Courses Not Given 2010-2011**

#### **HISTORY 103E: History of Nuclear Weapons**

(Also listed as POLISCI 116)

The development of nuclear weapons and policies. How existing nuclear powers have managed their relations with each other. How nuclear war has been avoided so far and whether it can be avoided in the future.

Terms: not given this year | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

#### **HISTORY 158: The United States Since 1945**

Focus is on foreign policy and politics with less attention to social and intellectual history. Topics include nuclear weapons in WW II, the Cold War, the Korean and Vietnam wars, Eisenhower revisionism, the Bay of Pigs and Cuban missile crisis, civil rights and the black freedom struggle, the women's movement, the Great Society and backlash, welfare policy, conservatism and liberalism, the 60s anti-war movement, Watergate and the growth of executive power, Iran-Contra and Reagan revisionism, Silicon Valley, the Gulf War, the Clinton impeachment controversy, 2004 election, and 9/11 and Iraq war.

Terms: not given this year | Units: 4-5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci, GER:ECAmerCul | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

#### **HISTORY 202: International History and International Relations Theory**

(Also listed as HISTORY 306E, POLISCI 216E, POLISCI 316)

The relationship between history and political science as disciplines. Sources include studies by historians and political scientists on topics such as the origins of WW I, the role of nuclear weapons in international politics, the end of the Cold War, nongovernmental organizations in international relations, and change and continuity in the international system.

Terms: not given this year | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

#### **HISTORY 268E: American Foreign Policy and International History, 1941-2009**

(Also listed as HISTORY 368E)

Major events and interpretations from WW II to the war in Iraq. Issues of race, expansionism and power; nuclear weapons; and war.

Terms: not given this year | Units: 4-5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)

## **Courses Relevant to “Defusing the Nuclear Threat”**

### **MED 228: Physicians and Social Responsibility**

Social and political context of the roles of physicians and health professionals in social change; policy, advocacy, and shaping public attitudes. How physicians have influenced governmental policy on nuclear arms proliferation; environmental health concerns; physicians in government; activism through research; the effects of poverty on health; homelessness; and gun violence. Guest speakers from national and international NGOs.  
Terms: Aut | Units: 1 | Grading: Medical Satisfactory/No Credit  
Instructors: Laws, A. (PI); Ali, S. (TA)

### **POLISCI 110B: Strategy, War, and Politics**

Traditional and modern theories on the causes of war and sources of peace. Contrasting explanations for the origins of WW I and II; alternative theories of deterrence in the nuclear age; the causes of war in the Persian Gulf, ethnic conflicts, and terrorism in the post-Cold War era.  
Terms: not given this year | Units: 5 | UG Reqs: GER:DBSocSci | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

### **POLISCI 314: The Politics of Nuclear Proliferation**

(Graduate students register for 314.) The origins and effects of the spread of nuclear weapons at international and domestic levels. The role of faulty intelligence, clandestine proliferation networks, and nuclear assistance from third parties on proliferators' programs. Case studies of relevant programs, including Iran and North Korea.  
Terms: not given this year | Units: 5 | Grading: Letter or Credit/No Credit

### **POLISCI 338E: The Problem of Evil in Literature, Film, and Philosophy**

Conceptions of evil and its nature and source, distinctions between natural and moral evil, and what belongs to God versus to the human race have undergone transformations reflected in literature and film. Sources include Rousseau's response to the 1755 Lisbon earthquake; Hannah Arendt's interpretation of Auschwitz; Günther Anders' reading of Hiroshima; and current reflections on looming climatic and nuclear disasters. Readings from Rousseau, Kant, Dostoevsky, Arendt, Anders, Jonas, Camus, Ricoeur, Houellebecq, Girard. Films by Lang, Bergman, Losey, Hitchcock.  
Terms: not given this year | Units: 3-5 | Grading: Letter (ABCD/NP)