

**Department of Political Science
University of the Punjab, Lahore
Course Outline**



Programme	Diplomacy and Strategic Studies	Course Code		Credit Hours	3
Course Title	National Security Challenges and Threat Matrix				
Course Introduction					
This course examines the complex and evolving national security challenges facing nations, including traditional and non-traditional threats, and develops a threat matrix to analyze and prioritize these challenges.					
Learning Outcomes					
On the completion of the course, the students will:					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be acquainted with the basic concepts and major debates in international relations 2. Be equipped with sufficient knowledge of prevalent issues 3. Have a thorough overview of international relations that will help them in further, more advanced courses 4. Design a significant roadmap for future discussions and debates to enhance their intellectual caliber 5. Receive an impressive collection of reading and reference material to help them in future research projects and similar research based activities 					
Course Content				Assignments/Readings	
Week 1-2	Introduction to National Security Challenges - Overview of national security - Key concepts and definitions			Heath, J. B. (2019). The new national security challenge to the economic order. <i>Yale LJ</i> , 129, 1020.	
Week 3-4	Traditional Security Threats - Interstate conflict and war - Weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) - Ballistic missiles and nuclear threats			Fusiek, D. A. (2020). Rethinking Security: The Limits of the Traditional Concept of Security in a World of Non-Traditional Threats. <i>HAPSc Policy Briefs Series</i> , 1(2), 265-272.	

<p>Week 5-6</p>	<p>Non-Traditional Security Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terrorism and counterterrorism - Cybersecurity and cyber threats - Pandemics and biological threats 	<p>Srikanth, D. (2014). Non-traditional security threats in the 21st century: A review. <i>International Journal of Development and Conflict</i>, 4(1), 60-68.</p>
<p>Week 7-8</p>	<p>Non-Traditional Security Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terrorism and counterterrorism - Cybersecurity and cyber threats - Pandemics and biological threats 	<p>Parker, R. (2012). Non-Traditional Threats and Security policy Response. <i>The Journal of Defence and Security</i>, 3(1), 1.</p>
<p>Week 9-10</p>	<p>Emerging Security Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artificial intelligence and autonomous systems - Space and counterspace threats - Climate change and environmental security 	<p>Swain, A. (2012). <i>Understanding emerging security challenges: threats and opportunities</i>. Routledge.</p>
<p>Week 11-12</p>	<p>Threat Matrix Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying and prioritizing threats - Assessing threat likelihood and impact - Developing a threat matrix framework 	<p>Jones, E., Harkins, L., & Beech, A. R. (2015). The development of a new risk model: The Threat Matrix. <i>Legal and criminological psychology</i>, 20(1), 165-175.</p>
<p>Week 13-14</p>	<p>Case Studies in National Security Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional security challenges (e.g. Middle East, Asia-Pacific) - Global security challenges (e.g. pandemics, cybersecurity) 	<p>Alam, M. M., Fawzi, A. M., Islam, M. M., & Said, J. (2022). Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on national security issues: Indonesia as a case study. <i>Security Journal</i>, 35(4), 1067.</p>
<p>Week 15-16</p>	<p>Recap of key concepts and threats</p> <p>Future directions in national security</p>	<p>Richards, J. (2012). <i>A guide to national security: Threats, responses and strategies</i>. Oxford University Press.</p>

Textbooks and Reading Material

The lectures will supplement discussions through books and online academic material. The objective would be to engage students in reading and listening to expert opinions to develop their own understanding of various concepts that are essential in the subject. The curriculum will not depend on a fixed set of readings and online lectures but will diversify to accommodate research articles and opinions as well as interviews to provide a broad spectrum analysis and discourse.

Recommended Books (material can be provided as lectures proceed)

1. "National Security Challenges: Emerging Trends and Threats" by Rajesh Basrur (2020)
2. "Threat Matrix: The Future of National Security" by Thomas P.M. Barnett (2019)
3. "National Security in the 21st Century: Threats, Challenges, and Opportunities" by Charles W. Kegley Jr. (2020)
4. "The Oxford Handbook of National Security" edited by Derek S. Reveron (2019)
5. "National Security Challenges: Cybersecurity, Counterterrorism, and Beyond" by James A. Lewis (2020)
6. "The Future of National Security: Threats, Challenges, and Solutions" by Michael A. McFaul (2019)
7. "National Security in a Changing World" by Robert J. Art (2020)
8. "The Threat Matrix: A Guide to Understanding and Managing National Security Risks" by Christopher J. Lamb (2019)
9. "National Security Challenges and Opportunities" by James M. Smith (2020)
10. "The National Security Enterprise: Navigating the Labyrinth" by Roger Z. George (2019)

Teaching Learning Strategies

1. Relevant material will be provided beforehand to the class both in printed and electronic form to match with the course contents designed
2. Reciprocal teaching method can be implemented to allow students a chance to speak their mind and discuss their problems
3. Brainstorming sessions will be encouraged with instructional scaffolding to allow students to develop their intellectual capabilities before being introduced to technical subjects
4. Didactic questioning by the instructor will be a viable teaching tool to initiate small group discussions in a think-pair-share collaborative teaching environment.
5. Individual presentations may also be assigned to exclusively focus on students with learning difficulties or exceptional students with a potential to offer more to the class environment.

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

1. Week Four: Student report submission for previous lectures taught
2. Week Six-Eight: Surprise Quiz or Show-and-Tell Presentation on topics covered
3. Week Eleven: Research Report post-Midterms
4. Week Fifteen: Grouped presentations of Poster Competition on topics assigned

Assessment

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment	25%	Continuous assessment includes: Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.
3.	Final Assessment	40%	Written Examination at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.