

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



Programme	Diplomacy and Strategic Studies	Course Code		Credit Hours	3
Course Title	Understanding Strategic Culture: Dimensions and Construction				
Course Introduction					
<p>Strategy and culture are equally complex concepts, and much debate centers around how to define them. Strategy often refers to planning for how to utilize the means of national power (most often focusing on military power) in order to achieve political ends. Culture, succinctly put, studies common ideas, attitudes, and characteristics across large populations. Bridging the two into strategic culture focuses on applying trends for how groups operate strategically. In the various fields that analyze international affairs, discussion of strategic culture tends to coalesce around the study of common ideas across large populations like nations and civilizations, and the term way of war has become the buzzword in the field. Though strategic culture has been studied since at least the 1970s, renewed debate arose among historians in the 1990s over how peoples fight wars, and that debate continues to the present day. This course explores the concept of strategic culture, examining its dimensions, construction, and impact on national security policy and international relations.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p>On the completion of the course, the students will:</p> <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	<p>Introduction to Strategic Culture</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Defining strategic culture</p>			<p>Lantis, J. S., & Howlett, D. (2007). Strategic culture. <i>Strategy in the</i></p>	

	- Historical context and evolution	<i>contemporary world</i> , 89-92.
Week 3-4	Dimensions of Strategic Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Military and security culture - Political and ideological culture - Economic and technological culture 	Johnston, A. I. (1995). Thinking about strategic culture. <i>International security</i> , 19(4), 32-64.
Week 5-6	Construction of Strategic Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Role of history and memory - Influence of geography and environment - Impact of societal and institutional factors 	Lantis, J. S. (2009). Strategic culture: From Clausewitz to constructivism. In <i>Strategic culture and weapons of mass destruction: Culturally based insights into comparative national security policymaking</i> (pp. 33-52). New York: Palgrave Macmillan US.
Week 7-8	Strategic Culture and National Security Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy-making and decision-making processes - Military doctrine and strategy - Intelligence and threat assessment 	Lantis, J. S. (2002). Strategic culture and national security policy. <i>International studies review</i> , 4(3), 87-113.
Week 9-10	Strategic Culture and International Relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diplomacy and cooperation - Conflict and competition - Global governance and international institutions 	Johnston, A. I. (1995). Thinking about strategic culture. <i>International security</i> , 19(4), 32-64.
Week 11-12	Case Studies in Strategic Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - United States - China - Russia - European Union 	Lantis, J. S., & Howlett, D. (2007). Strategic culture. <i>Strategy in the contemporary world</i> , 89-92.

<p>Week 13-14</p>	<p>Case Studies in Strategic Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - United States - China - Russia - European Union 	<p>Snyder, J. L. (1990). The Concept of Strategic Culture. In <i>Strategic Culture (s) in Latin America</i> (pp. 19-28). Routledge.</p>
<p>Week 15-16</p>	<p>Recap of key concepts and approaches</p> <p>Future directions of strategic culture</p>	<p>Lantis, J. S. (2009). Strategic culture and tailored deterrence: Bridging the gap between theory and practice. <i>Contemporary Security Policy</i>, 30(3), 467-485.</p>
<p>Textbooks and Reading Material</p>		
<p>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.</p> <p>Recommended Books (material can be provided as lectures proceed)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Strategic Culture and Weapons of Mass Destruction" by Jeannie L. Johnson, Kerry M. Kartchner, and Jeffrey A. Larsen (2009) 2. "The Strategic Culture of the Soviet Union" by Jack L. Snyder (1977) 3. "Strategic Cultures in the Asia-Pacific Region" edited by Ken Booth and Russell Trood (1999) 4. "Understanding Strategic Culture" by Thomas G. Mahnken (2008) 5. "Strategic Culture and the Armed Forces of Russia" by Elisabeth Sieca-Kozlowski (2017) 6. "The Construction of Strategic Culture" by Christopher F. Gelpi (2018) 7. "Dimensions of Strategic Culture" edited by Christopher F. Gelpi and Jeffrey W. Meiser (2019) 8. "Strategic Culture and the US Foreign Policy" by Paul Kowert (2019) 9. "Strategic Culture and the Military" by Kenneth F. McKenzie Jr. (2020) 10. "Strategic Culture and International Relations" by Stuart Croft (2019) 		
<p>Teaching Learning Strategies</p>		

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.