

Defense & Strategic Studies Courses

Courses

DSS 5300. U.S. National Security.

This course offers a comprehensive theoretical and organizational examination of the development of contemporary U.S. national security policy and strategy. The course examines the U.S. national security apparatus, the security environment, diplomacy, homeland security, and key defense issues. A particular emphasis will be placed on the instruments of power to achieve strategic objectives. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5301. Strategic Theory & Modern War.

The course offers an advanced theoretical survey of classical strategy from Clausewitz to Mao and the application of strategy to warfare in the modern age. Strategic thinking on conventional warfare, irregular warfare, nuclear warfare, and cyber warfare will be introduced. The course finishes with a discussion on the contemporary constraints on modern warfare and the increasing importance of peace operations and humanitarian intervention. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5302. Global Security.

This course approaches security from a global perspective and discusses security issues that transcend borders and which can only be adequately addressed through global security cooperation. Most of these global security issues are non-traditional in the sense that they are not directly related to power competition and interstate war. The course will introduce the concept of "global security" and will discuss the key issues that fall under it, such as health security, environmental security, migration and population, poverty and food security. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5303. Low Intensity Conflict.

The course is a detailed examination of the classical theory and practice of conflict in circumstances less than general conventional war. Key concepts and strategic principles pertaining to asymmetric warfare, terrorism, insurgency and counterinsurgency, irregular warfare, unconventional warfare, and military operations less than war (peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance) will be examined. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5304. Information Operations.

The course is a comprehensive survey on the theory and fundamental principles of non-kinetic tools used to execute national military strategy in times of conflict and peace. Influence strategies employing strategic communication, public diplomacy, military diplomacy, military public affairs, civil affairs, and psychological operations will be examined. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5305. Cyber Warfare.

This advanced seminar will critically examine the ubiquitous nature of the cyber domain in modern warfare. Fundamental principles and case studies in cyber warfare will be covered in order to explain the importance of cyber power in national military strategy and in joint/combined operations, including defensive and offensive operations in cyberspace. There will be a particular emphasis on Russian and Chinese cyber warfare capabilities and operations. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5310. Strategic Survey - Americas.

This course is a detailed and systematic examination of the key military strategic and security issues affecting the Western Hemisphere. A heavy focus will be placed on the role of this region in national security policy and military strategy in a historical context, especially with respect to inter-state conflicts in the region, internal conflicts, and the threat posed by transnational criminal organizations. The course will also cover U.S. security cooperation with states in the Western Hemisphere. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5311. Strategic Survey of Africa.

This course is a detailed and systematic examination of the key military strategic issues affecting Africa in a historical and cultural context. A heavy focus will be placed on the role of this region in national security policy and military strategy, especially with aspect to securing access to strategic resources. The course will also consider the causes and implications of weak and failing states in sub-Saharan Africa and the measures that are taken to prevent or reverse state failure. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5312. Strategic Survey of Europe.

This course is a detailed and systematic examination of the key military strategic issues affecting the Europe, NATO, and the transatlantic military alliance in a historical context from the end of the Second World War to the present day. A heavy focus will be placed on the role of this region in U.S. national security policy and military strategy, especially with respect to relations with Russia. This includes a critical discussion of NATO's expansion and changing role in Europe and Europe's periphery. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5313. Strategic Survey-Middle East.

This course is a detailed and systematic examination of the key military strategic issues affecting the Arab World from North Africa to the Persian Gulf. The course will also examine the key military-strategic issues facing Israel. A heavy focus will be placed on the role of this region in national security policy and military strategy. The course also broadly outlines the most pressing current security issues in the Middle East such as political instability, terrorism, and radicalization through pan-islamic and fundamentalist ideologies. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5314. Strategic Survey of Asia.

This is a detailed and systematic examination of the key military strategic issues affecting the major powers of Asia. The students will gain an understanding of the modern history of Asia and the security dynamics that are shaping the region. A heavy focus will be placed on the role of China and India in national security policy and military strategy. The course also covers the strategic competition in Central Asia with particular emphasis on the Afghanistan conflict. Prerequisite: Departmental approval required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

DSS 5320. Future Warfare.

The concluding course in the DSS program develops several visions of future warfare based on an analysis of current trends in warfare, of emerging technologies, and of new concepts and theoretical approaches to warfare by renowned strategists. The students will be exposed to new concepts, such as precision engagement, network-centric warfare, and non-lethality. Potentially revolutionary technologies like robotics, nanotechnology, and biotechnology will be discussed, as well as their possible applications and usage in future wars. Prerequisite: DSS 5300, DSS 5301, DSS 5302, DSS 5303, DSS 5304, and DSS 5305 with a grade of C or better; Departmental approval also required. Restricted to Level of GR.

Department: Defense & Strategic Studies

3 Credit Hours

3 Total Contact Hours

0 Lab Hours

3 Lecture Hours

0 Other Hours

Prerequisite(s): (DSS 5300 w/C or better AND DSS 5301 w/C or better AND DSS 5302 w/C or better AND DSS 5303 w/C or better AND DSS 5304 w/C or better AND DSS 5305 w/C or better)