Course Description:
This course will give students key insights into the basic elements of grand strategy and how these tie into Security Studies. The course gives students a unique baseline of knowledge that will be important as students move into the other aspects of the Security Studies program. Key issues that will be addressed in detail include: 1. The national security decision making process – particularly as it relates to issues of international and homeland security; 2. Civil-military relations as applicable in the development of strategy and statecraft; 3. An analysis of how nation-states develop military operational capabilities and readiness; and 4. The differing strategies for international conflict, to include both conventional and unconventional warfare.

Course Objectives:
As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to:

• Analyze the impact of national interests, policy, and strategy, on international relations, military planning, and policy of the United States and key allies.

• Comprehend the types of arguments in the assigned readings about US interests and consider how these recur in public discussion and in the making of US strategy.

• Analyze why the strategy-making process is complex and difficult.

• Analyze the utility of the instruments of national power for gaining national security objectives.

Graduate Institutional Learning Goals:
Graduate Institutional Learning Goals reflect the mission of the University through a focus on specific areas of student learning. Individual departments, programs, and services will provide opportunities and support, where appropriate, for students to attain the skills and dispositions identified by the University as essential to education.

1. Master Knowledge and Skills (Students will):
   ○ Demonstrate advanced knowledge, skills, and values appropriate to the discipline.
   ○ Demonstrate the ability to work as individual researchers/scholars as well as in collaboration with others.
   ○ Demonstrate the ability to be creative, critical thinkers with the ability to apply new technologies as appropriate to the discipline

2. Master Communication and Dissemination (Students will):
   ○ Be required to demonstrate advanced oral and written communication skills, as appropriate, to the discipline.
   ○ Demonstrate global perspectives appropriate to the discipline
3. Master Leadership and Social Responsibility (Students will):
   o Comprehend and practice the ethical principles appropriate to the discipline.
   o Understand and value individual differences and have the skills for working effectively in a diverse, changing world

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PLO/SLO)

1. Communication
   o Students will demonstrate a mastery of communication skills with the professor and with fellow classmates, through graded, guided discussions, and written skills through a mastery of written assignments, as applied to global and regional knowledge necessary to attain skills in the field of security studies.

2. Cultural Appreciation
   o Students will demonstrate, comprehend, and practice, in the context of the global and regional geopolitical environment, cultural appreciation regarding how individuals and diverse societies/nation States interact with one another, and gain a thorough, demonstrated knowledge of the skills necessary to work effectively in a diverse international environment, and show this ability through the successful completion of active, graded discussions, and written assignments.

3. Advanced Knowledge and Critical Thinking
   o Students will demonstrate an ability to apply advanced knowledge and critical thinking to national and international security as it applies to both issues and world regions, and show this ability through the successful completion of active, graded discussions, and written assignments.

Course Requirements:

Requirement Percentage of Grade Due First Essay 20% 6-8 pages essay. Due Sunday at the end of week 2 before 2100 hrs. Eastern Time.

Midterm PowerPoint Presentation 20% 10-15 slide PowerPoint presentation. Due Sunday at the end of week 5 before 2100 hrs. Eastern Time.

Discussion Thread participation 20% (occurs in weeks with no written assignment)

Final Essay 40% 12-15-page essay. Due Sunday at the end of week 8 before 2100 hrs. Eastern Time. Course Organization:

Lesson One: Grand Strategy and National Security: As one watches the news or reads newspapers and web sites, the term "strategy" often pops up. But what exactly is meant by this term? How is Grand Strategy formulated at the policy level? And what comprises the national security strategy of the United States?
Lesson Two: National Interests and the instruments of national power: National interests are almost always driven by key policy issues relating to a nation's national security. Among the most important policy issues that can affect a nation's national security are, weak and failing states, terrorism, WMD, human rights, and great power competition. In the 21st century, all of these issues are often closely tied into cultural concerns. The challenge for policy makers who address strategy is determining which of these policy issues are among our survival interests, vital national interests, major interests, or peripheral interests. Accurately assessing the importance of these regional issues, and how they relate to one's national security, is important in determining strategy.

Lesson Three: The Diplomatic Instrument of Power: In our current "Post-Cold War" period, the diplomatic instrument of power had faced many challenges as the United States looks to continue to advance its national interests in the face of changing and dangerous paradigms that have existed since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the 9-11 attacks, and the changing face of the geographical map. In this lesson, we will address various aspects of the diplomatic instrument of power.

Lesson Four: The Informational Instrument of Power: This lesson will evaluate the definitions of the informational instrument of power, how it has been used in the past, and how our government is evolving in its vision and focus of information as it adjusts to new competitors, enemies, and allies.

Lesson Five: The Military Instrument of Power: The military instrument of power is always the most costly for a nation state to use in terms of both blood and treasure. Armed forces can be employed in a variety of ways to influence events. The Drew and Snow book that the students have been issued defined this as, "Some employments are relatively mild and are more symbolic than substantial, as in the movement of naval forces into waters adjacent to a local conflict to indicate support for a particular regime. Depending on the objectives and the perceived level of threat, more active strategies include providing arms to combatants, assigning technical or combat advisors, and intervening in hostilities." The ultimate application, of course, is direct involvement in combat in support of (by definition) vital interests." Troxell's chapter in "US Army War College Guide to National Security Policy and Strategy" describes the many complexities involved in the use of military force. He wisely opines, "The political objectives for the use of forces must be reassessed continually in light of the changing nature of warfare and the proliferation of nontraditional threats."

Lesson Six: The Economic Instrument of Power: The Economic IOP is comprised of both the economic foundations of national power and the many mechanisms used to achieve specific policy goals. The economic IOP is the basis for the resources of the other IOPs, especially the military IOP. Key economic trends and the general economic health of a nation state have important security ramifications. It is also important for a nation state to
maintain the capability of its Economic IOP to manipulate the economic health of another state or actor and to protect itself from manipulation.

**Lesson Seven:** Assessment: This week is set aside for the student to complete a 12-15-page essay assignment. The purpose of this assignment is to measure student mastery of the course objectives.

**Course Bibliography and Required Readings:**


**Office Hours/Contacting the Instructor**

See the Instructor Information section for contact information.
Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code and the ASU Student Handbook.

Accommodations for Disability

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing studentservices@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Office of Student Affairs
University Center, Suite 112
325-942-2047 Office
325-942-2211 FAX

Student absence for religious holidays

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Title IX at Angelo State University:

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room
Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Course Syllabus Statement on Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory *Facial Covering Policy* to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.