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## SYLLABUS--ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES IN MILITARY POLICY

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This course will cover several types of analytical frameworks for evaluating military issues. It is an updated and modified version of a curriculum taught by the professor from 1996-2004 at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Methodologies range from simple quantitative methods for understanding combat to structured use of military history to defense budget calculations to simple assessments of military technology. The course will address four main subjects, spending roughly three weeks on each:

- the defense budget and decisions on defense resource allocations;
- modeling and simulating combat;
- understanding issues in military technology such as missile defense and the hypothesis that a revolution in military affairs is underway;
- military transport, supply, and logistics including airlift, sealift, and ground transport as well as amphibious and aerial assault;

In the interest of keeping the amount of material manageable and digestible, and avoiding overlap with other courses while maintaining this course's primary focus on military organizations, weapons, and operations, the course will not devote extensive time to counterterrorism or to the scientific fundamentals of weapons of mass destruction. Nor will it focus primarily on the current policy debate; the focus, rather, will be on methodologies of more general application. That said, case studies where possible will examine contemporary issues, primarily but not exclusively those involving the United States.

Grading will be based on a mid-term and a take-home final exam that will require synthesizing and analytically applying a substantial fraction of the course readings, as well as on class participation. (Given the nature of the subject matter, however, there is typically less extensive discussion/debate in this course than in most seminars.) Each three-hour period will typically be divided into roughly equal halves, the first being devoted to a presentation by the professor and the second to Q&A/discussion.

### BOOK LIST

Stephen Biddle, *Military Power* (Princeton, 2004)

Trevor N. Dupuy, *Attrition: Forecasting Battle Casualties and Equipment Losses in Modern War* (Fairfax, Va.: HERO Books, 1990)

William W. Kaufmann, *Assessing the Base Force* (Brookings, 1992)

Andrew F. Krepinevich, *The Army and Vietnam* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986)

Alan Kuperman, *The Limits of Humanitarian Intervention* (Brookings, 2001)

David Ochmanek, et.al., *To Find and Not to Yield* (RAND, 1998)

Michael O'Hanlon, *Defense Strategy for the Post-Saddam Era* (Brookings, 2005)

Bob Preston et.al., *Space Weapons Earth Wars* (RAND, 2002)

Thomas Ricks, *Fiasco* (Penguin, 2006)

Scott Sagan, *The Limits of Safety* (Princeton, 1993)

#### Article List

Michael O'Hanlon "Estimating Casualties in a War to Overthrow Saddam Hussein," *Orbis* (Winter 2003), available at [www.brookings.edu](http://www.brookings.edu);

Stephen Biddle, *Afghanistan and the Future of Warfare*, at [www.carlisle.army.mil/usassi/welcome.htm](http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usassi/welcome.htm)

CBO, *Options for Strategic Military Transportation Systems* (2005), [www.cbo.gov](http://www.cbo.gov).

CBO, *Options for Changing the Army's Overseas Basing* (2004)

CBO, *Increasing the Mission Capability of the Attack Submarine Force* (2002)

CBO, *Transforming the Navy's Surface Combatant Fleet* (2003)

CBO, *Options for Restructuring the Army* (2005)

CBO, *The Long-Term Implications of Current Defense Plans* (2003, and 2006 update)

DoD, National Defense Budget Estimates for 2005 (available at [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil))

Andrew Krepinevich, "From Cavalry to Computer," *National Interest* (Fall 1994)

Christopher J. Bowie, *The Anti-Access Threat and Theater Air Bases* (D.C.: Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, 2002)

#### Schedule

Tuesday Sept. 18, Budget: Kaufmann

Tuesday Sept. 25, Budget II: CBO, *Long Term Implications, National Defense Budget Estimates*

Tuesday Oct. 2, Budget III: O'Hanlon, *Defense Strategy*

Tuesday, Oct. 9: Budget IV: CBO studies on Navy, Army

Tuesday Oct. 16, Combat Modeling: Biddle (book)

Tuesday Oct. 23, Combat Modeling II: Krepinevich (book), Ricks

Tuesday Nov. 6, Combat Modeling III: Dupuy plus Biddle and O'Hanlon (articles)

Tuesday Nov. 13, Science and Tech: Midterm Due, Presentation on Missile Defense (no reading)

Tuesday Nov. 20, Science and Tech II (RMA debate): Krepinevich (article), Ochmanek

Tuesday Nov. 27, Science and Tech III (space, nukes): Sagan, Preston (parts of each)

Tuesday Dec. 4, Logistics: CBO studies on bases, transportation

Tuesday Dec. 11, Logistics: Bowie