

UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON -- NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Electronically submit this completed form with attachments in one file to the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.

COLLEGE (check one):	Arts and Sciences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Business <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>
Proposal Submitted By: Jason Davidson	Date Prepared: 30 August 2017		
Course Title: Alliance Politics			
Department/discipline and course number*: PSCI 315			
Prerequisites: PSCI 101, PSCI 102			

**This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.*

Number of credits: 3	Will this course meet for at least 700 contact minutes for each credit hour proposed? <i>If no, provide a credit hour justification.</i>	YES	X	NO
Will this be a new, repeatable "special topics" course? (Do you want students to be able to take this new course more than once if the topic changes?)		NO	X	YES

Date of first offering of this new course: FALL SEMESTER, year	Fall 2018
Proposed frequency of offering of the course:	Every year
List the faculty who will likely teach the course:	Jason Davidson
Are ANY new resources required?	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Document in attached impact statement</i>

This new course will be (check all that apply):			
Required in the major	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required in the minor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elective in the major	X	Elective in the minor	X
		General Elective	<input type="checkbox"/>
		General Education**	<input type="checkbox"/>

***AFTER the new course is approved, a separate proposal must be sent to the General Education Committee.*

Catalog Description (suggested length – less than 50 words):	
The study of the origins, management, and consequences of alliances.	

COURSE HISTORY:	Was this course taught previously as a topics or experimental course?	YES	X	NO
Course Number and Title of Previous Course		Semester Offered	Enrollment	
PSCI 471S1		Fall 2013	10	
PSCI 471S1		Spring 2010	11	
PSCI 471S1		Spring 2008	10	
X	CHECK HERE if the proposed course is to be equated with the earlier topics or experimental offerings. If equated, students who took the earlier "topics" course will only be able to take the new course as a repeat (C- grade or lower).			
NOTE: If the proposed course has not been previously offered as a topics or experimental course, explain in the attached rationale statement why the course should be adopted even though it has not been tried out.				

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

1. **Rationale Statement** – Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?
2. **Credit Hour Justification** (if required) – explain how this course will comply with the **UMW Credit Hours Policy (D.5.3)**
3. **Impact Statement** – Provide details about the Library, space, staffing, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course. Include supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc.
Any change that impacts another Department must have a written statement (such as a copy of an email) from the Chair(s) agreeing to the change.
4. **Sample Syllabus**

Department Chair Approval: John M. Kramer

Date: 8/30/17

CCC Chair Approval: 

Date: 09/07/2017

UCC Chair Approval: 

Date: 9/20/17

1. Rationale Statement

A course on Alliance Politics is needed because it fills a gap in the political science and international affairs curriculum. A few of our existing classes touch briefly on alliance politics but none provide sustained focus on the subject. Alliance politics is an important topic in contemporary international relations scholarship. Leading journals in the field, such as *International Security* routinely feature articles on alliance politics and the annual conference of the International Studies Association features scores of panels on various aspects of alliance politics. Alliance politics is also an distinct feature of contemporary international relations and American foreign policy. One need look no further than the North Korea crisis and US interaction with its allies South Korea and Japan or the current debate on the defense spending of North Atlantic Treaty Organization members to see the contemporary relevance of alliance politics.

A new course on Alliance Politics will serve the purpose of offering a new elective in political science, international affairs, and a new elective for the minor in security and conflict studies. An Alliance Politics course will also provide a new "cross-regional" course. Many of our students take interest in and specialize in a geographic region. Courses like Alliance Politics allow students with different regional interests to interact and to learn analytic concepts and frameworks that provide a different perspective on regional politics and allow for a comparative perspective on regions.

3. Impact Statement

In the three times I taught the special topics version of Alliance Politics I came across no distinct or special needs that Alliance Politics has that make it different from other upper-level courses in the international relations subfield of political science. There are no special library, space, staffing, budget, or technological needs associated with this course.

4. Sample Syllabus

Alliance Politics: Theory and Practice PSCI 471S1

Jason Davidson
Fall 2013
Monroe 212
TR 2:00-3:15

Office: Monroe 353
Office Phone: (540) 654-1509
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9:15-11:15; Thursdays, 9:15-11:15, 3:15-4:15
Email: jdavidso@umw.edu

Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to allow students to explore the theory and practice of alliance politics. We will begin the course by discussing what an alliance is and some common misconceptions about the term. We then turn to the origins of alliances: under what circumstances do alliances form? Having explored that question we will turn to the effects of alliances: Can alliances make states less secure? Can alliances drag states into wars? The next topic we will address is alliance management. Why do states sometimes "free-ride" off of their allies? Can states use alliances to turn enemies into friends? Finally, we will turn to the future of alliances. Will alliances form in response to American hegemony? Why are China's neighbors not allying against it? Are alliances obsolete? Throughout the

semester the goal will be to provide students with timeless analytical tools and contemporary knowledge about alliance politics in addition to honing students' analytical and oral and written communication skills.

Requirements

Class Participation (25%): Informed, thoughtful discussion is the backbone of a good seminar. *Students will post two brief questions/comments on Canvas about the reading by no later than noon on the day of each class meeting.* Students will also engage in informed, thoughtful discussion of the material. On the days students present their research papers all other students must email each presenter (and cc the professor) two constructive, critical comments on the presenter's paper draft and will engage in active discussion of each paper. The professor will grade students on the quality and quantity of their participation and will provide feedback on class participation during the semester.

Blog (10%): Students will choose a contemporary alliance or alliance-like relationship (the Professor will provide a list of likely candidates) and blog about it during the semester. Students are required to make one post to the class blog and one comment on another student's post per week. Posts should include a link to a relevant news item, etc. but the author should also offer her/his *analysis*.

Research Paper (35%): Students will apply what they have learned about alliance politics to a specific case study. Students must attain approval of their research question within two weeks of their presentation date. Students will present a polished draft of their research paper (ten to twelve pages) to the class and all members of the class will provide comments on the paper. Students will receive a tentative grade on the draft they present. Students will be encouraged to revise their papers based on the comments they receive and turn in the revised paper to be graded in place of the draft.

Final Exam (30%): Students will take a final exam that will assess their knowledge of the course material.

All assignments and exams for this course entail both knowledge of and compliance with the University of Mary Washington's **Honor Code**. Students should carefully consult and follow the citation guide attached to the syllabus.

Required Reading

The following books are required for the course. Students are responsible for acquiring the books in advance of the date we discuss them.

Thomas J. Christensen, *Worse than a Monolith: Alliance Politics and Problems of Coercive Diplomacy in Asia* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011).

Kent E. Calder, *Embattled Garrisons: Comparative Base Politics and American Globalism* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007).

Articles are available (unless noted by the instructor) through one of the databases available through Simpson library's webpage.

Course Schedule

I. Introduction

8/27-Tues. The Syllabus

How to Blog

8/29-Thurs. What is an Alliance?

New Course Proposal Cover Sheet (December 2015)

“Alliance” in Joel Krieger ed., *The Oxford Companion to Politics of the World*, 2nd ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001).

“The North Atlantic Treaty,” Washington, D.C., 4 April 1949,

<http://www.nato.int/docu/basicxt/treaty.htm>

Sign up for paper presentation dates

How to Write

II. The Origins of Alliances

9/3-Tues. Balance of Power Theory

Daniel H. Nexon, "The Balance of Power in the Balance," *World Politics* 61, no. 2 (April 2009): 330-59.

9/5-Thurs. Balance of Threat Theory and Alliances in the Middle East

Stephen M. Walt, *The Origins of Alliances* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1987), 17-49, 50-103 [you may skim chapter 3].

9/10-Tues. The Offense/Defense Balance

Thomas J. Christensen and Jack Snyder, “Chain gangs and passed bucks: predicting alliance patterns in multipolarity,” *International Organization* 44, no. 2 (Spring 1990): 137-68.

9/12-Thurs. Revisionist States

Randall Schweller, “Bandwagoning for Profit: Bringing the Revisionist State Back In,” *International Security* 19 (Summer 1994): 72-107.

9/17-Tues. Domestic Politics

Michael N. Barnett and Jack S. Levy, “Domestic sources of alliances and alignments: the case of Egypt, 1962-73,” *International Organization* 45, 3 (Summer 1991): 369-95.

9/19-Thurs. Learning

Dan Reiter, “Learning, Realism, and Alliances: The Weight of the Shadow of the Past,” *World Politics* 46 (July 1994): 490-526.

9/24-Tues. Collective Identity

Chrisopher Hemmer and Peter J. Katzenstein, “Why is There No NATO in Asia? Collective Identity, Regionalism, and the Origins of Multilateralism,” *International Organization* 56, 3 (Summer 2002): 575-607.

III. Alliance Effects

9/26-Thurs. The Security Dilemma and Alliances

Glenn H. Snyder, “The Security Dilemma in Alliance Politics,” *World Politics* 36 (July 1984): 461-495.

10/1-Tues. Alliance Restraint: the US, the UK, and Israel

Jeremy Pressman, *Warring Friends: Alliance Restraint in International Politics* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2008), 1-17, 42-119.

10/3-Thurs. Alliances: Causes of Peace or War?

Choong-Nam Kang, "Alliances: Path to Peace or Path to War?" in John A. Vasquez, ed., *What Do We Know about War?*, 2nd ed. (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012), 27-43.

10/8-Tues. Alliances and Coercive Diplomacy

Thomas J. Christensen, *Worse than a Monolith: Alliance Politics and Problems of Coercive Diplomacy in Asia* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011), 1-108.

10/10-Thurs. Alliances and Coercive Diplomacy

Christensen, *Worse than a Monolith*, 109-220.

10/15-Tues. FALL BREAK

IV. Alliance Management

10/17-Thurs. Tethering in Peace and War

Patricia A. Weitsman, *Dangerous Alliances: Proponents of Peace, Weapons of War* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004), 11-37, 99-164 [you may skim chp. 6].

10/22-Tues. Wedge Strategy

Timothy W. Crawford, "Preventing Enemy Coalitions: How Wedge Strategies Shape Power Politics," *International Security* 35, no. 4 (Spring 2011): 89-155.

10/24-Thurs. **Student Presentations 1**

10/29-Tues. Coalition Warfare

Sarah Kreps, "When Does the Mission Determine the Coalition? The Logic of Multilateral Intervention and the Case of Afghanistan," *Security Studies*, 17, no. 3, (July 2008): 531-567.

10/31-Thurs. Alliance Burden Sharing

Todd Sandler and Hirofumi Shimizu, "NATO Burden Sharing 1999-2010: An Altered Alliance," *Foreign Policy Analysis* (2012): 1-18.

11/5-Tues. **Student Presentations 2**

11/7-Thurs. Alliances and Intervention

Jason W. Davidson, "Heading for the Exits: America's Allies and Withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan."

V. The Future of Alliances

11/12-Tues. China's Rise and Alliance Politics

Steve Chan, *Looking for Balance: China, The United States, and Power Balancing in East Asia* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012), 1-13, 58-124.

11/14-Thurs. **Student Presentations 3**

11/19-Tues. Alliances and American Hegemony

Stephen Walt, "Alliances in a Unipolar World," *World Politics* 61, no. 1 (January 2009): 86-120.

11/21-Thurs. Deep Engagement v. Retrenchment

Stephen G. Brooks, G. John Ikenberry, and William C. Wohlforth, "Don't come Home, America: The Case Against Retrenchment," *International Security* 37, no. 3 (Winter 2012/13): 7-51.

11/26-Tues. **Student Presentations 4**

11/28-Thurs. THANKSGIVING BREAK

12/3-Tues. The End of Bases?

Kent E. Calder, *Embattled Garrisons: Comparative Base Politics and American Globalism* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007), 1-125.

12/5-Thurs. The End of Bases?

Calder, *Embattled Garrisons*, 126-208.

Citation: Do well and stay out of trouble

I. Why do we cite?

- It distinguishes between our work and others' work.
- It shows that we have done the research.
- It provides support for what we have said.
- It is useful for those interested in the topic.

II. When should we cite?

- Students should cite all ideas and information that are not their own, original creation (the only exception is for widely known facts—e.g., Moscow is the capital of Russia).
- **Always** err on the side of citing too much rather than too little.

III. Mistakes you should never make

- Using another's words without quotation marks or attribution (changing one word in a paragraph is *not* paraphrasing).
- Using facts or ideas without citation.
- Thinking that including a source in a bibliography is equivalent to citation for a specific idea or piece of information.

IV. Forms of citation and why you should use one.

- Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1996), 123.
- A citation provides the information to track down the source.
- Using a common form makes you less likely to forget key details.