

COURSE DETAIL

ARMED FORCE AND SOCIETY

Country

United Kingdom - Scotland

Host Institution

University of Edinburgh

Program(s)

University of Edinburgh

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology

UCEAP Course Number

100

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ARMED FORCE AND SOCIETY

UCEAP Transcript Title

ARMED FORCE & SOCTY

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

This course explores the relationship between armed force and society. A main focus will be on the role of technology in the politics and social dynamics of armed conflict. Technology, whether it be machetes or nuclear weapons, lies at the heart of conflict, and this course uses a range of perspectives, to investigate the nature and impact of armed force. These theoretical perspectives will be exemplified through the extensive use of case studies, and no prior theoretical or specialist technical knowledge is required. The course has a particular emphasis on nuclear weapons and the Cold War, but also covers issues such as terrorism, the arms trade, and the Revolution in Military Affairs. The main focus of the course is sociological and political perspectives on the relationship between human societies and military technologies, which we explore via discussion of a wide range of historical case studies and contemporary security issues including discussion and analyses of the distinctive nature of military technologies and the way they are shaped by social and political factors. An analysis of the role played by military technology in shaping the nature and outcome of conflicts, as well as the nature of peacetime society will be included alongside an investigation of the ways that knowledge about military technology is derived, and of the effects that high levels of military R&D have had on economic activity, and scientific agendas.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

STIS10005

Host Institution Course Title

ARMED FORCE AND SOCIETY

Host Institution Campus

University of Edinburgh

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

School of Social and Political Science

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