COURSE DETAIL

STRATEGIC STUDIES

Country
France

Host Institution
Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)
Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Political Science International Studies

UCEAP Course Number
166

UCEAP Course Suffix
C

UCEAP Official Title
STRATEGIC STUDIES

UCEAP Transcript Title
STRATEGIC STUDIES

UCEAP Quarter Units
4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

The course introduces some of the theories and concepts that form the basics of strategic studies as a distinct subfield of international relations. The course is an introduction to the key ideas and themes of strategic studies, which deal with the preparation and use of military power to serve the ends of politics but also what are the means to avoid the use of force. The course is not directly interested in ethical and normative problems linked to the use of force. To adopt Robert Cox's terminology, the lecture is much more problem-solving than critical. That is why it does not really address notions like just wars, democratic peace, or gender and feminism. The course guides students through a wide-ranging survey of theoretical and practical aspects of strategic studies. It includes sections on the uses of strategic theory, instruments of war - land, sea, and air power, cyber - and their evolution, nuclear strategy, small wars and counter-insurgency, peace operations, victory, or defense planning. The course tries to strike a balance between theoretical works and empirical material to link the study of strategy with the realities of modern politics, and ultimately practice the skills that are critical to success in public service as well as the private sector—deep intellectual knowledge of the core issues of our time; analytical thinking and effective writing skills. Students are also expected to engage the readings fully and actively participate in seminar discussions and debates.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
DAFF 25A28

Host Institution Course Title
STRATEGIC STUDIES

Host Institution Course Details
https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/fr/?202420/269302

Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree Seminar
Host Institution Department International Relations
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

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