POLI 348
International Security

Instructor:
Dr. Chris Ankersen (Summer 2021)

Course delivery:
In the Summer 2021 term, this course will be delivered online in a synchronous format.

Course description:
This course introduces students to some of the main themes of contemporary security studies. It especially encourages students to think about the politics of security; that is, about how and why certain problems are defined as matters of international security (thereby requiring military responses) as well as who is authorized to determine what counts as a problem of security. The course also draws upon historical analyses to provide various perspectives on the degree to which forms and practices of security and insecurity are changing as a consequence of new threats, innovative technologies and other challenges to the state and interstate system.

About the instructor: Dr. Chris Ankersen is a clinical associate professor of global affairs at New York University’s Center for Global Affairs.

Prerequisites: POLI 240 or permission of the department

Course outcomes/objectives:
- Develop written and verbal communication through essay writing and discussion
- Explore the difference between security and insecurity
- Examine the primary threats to international security
- Understand the relationship between individual and state security and the legitimate providers of security.

Topics may include:
Violent conflict
Intra-state conflict versus great power conflict
International system
Legitimacy of war

This online summary is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.