



WASHINGTON SECURITY AND DEFENSE SEMINAR

COURSE SYLLABUS AND SUGGESTED READING

November 4-8, 2019

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Course Objective

One of the mandates for the William J. Perry Center from the Office of the Secretary of Defense is to educate partner nation personnel on security and defense policies in the United States of America. With that task in mind, the Perry Center offers the Washington Security and Defense Seminar (WSDS), an annual course that is specifically designed with the Latin American and Caribbean diplomatic community in mind.

During one week course, participants examine the issues and perspectives of key national goals, preferences in terms of strategies, policy guidance, and the dynamics of decision making in a democratic society. In an academic environment of non-attribution, participants have the unique experience of listening to and exchanging ideas with key US civilian and military officials who work in subjects related to the Western Hemisphere. Representatives of the US Executive Branch, US Congress, the Department of Defense (J-5 and the Office of Secretary of Defense), the State Department, the National Security Council, the Department of Homeland Security, and other academic experts provides a variety of perspectives on the responsibilities, bureaucratic processes, and policy challenges faced by the United States as it develops its national security policy and strategy. The curriculum combines academic conferences and meetings with official representatives with dialogue and discussions moderated by Perry Center professors. U.S. personnel who work in Latin America and the Caribbean region may also benefit from hearing strategy and policy presentations from U.S. stakeholders. Additionally, U.S. participants may garner information on the perspectives of our partner nations as they ask questions and presentation their opinions on course topics.

Specific course goals include:

- To understand the national and international structures and processes that affect the development of US security and defense policy.
- To identify key factors defining the environment for the security and defense of the United States.
- To understand the roles of the various agencies with responsibility for security and defense of the United States.
- To learn how security and defense policy is formulated and implemented particularly in regard to the US policy toward other nations in the Western Hemisphere.



Reference Material - National Strategic Documents

National Security Strategy (December 2017)

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<https://dod.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/2018-National-Defense-Strategy-Summary.pdf>

National Military Strategy, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (2018)

https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Publications/UNCLASS_2018_National_Military_Strategy_Description.pdf

Department of State and USAID, Joint Strategic Plan FY 2018-2022

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Department of State and USAID Strategic Plan, 2014-2017

<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/State%20USAID%20Joint%20Strategic%20Plan%202014-04-02.pdf>

Department of State, Integrated Country Plans

<https://www.state.gov/integrated-country-strategies/>

Joint Regional Strategy, Western Hemisphere (03 January 2019)

https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/JRS_WHA-LAC_UNCLASS-508.pdf

Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights

<https://www.state.gov/reports-bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor/country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/>

Foreign Military Training Reports (FMTR),

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<https://2009-2017.state.gov/t/pm/rls/rpt/index.htm>

The Department of Defense Cyber Strategy, April 2015

https://archive.defense.gov/home/features/2015/0415_cyber-strategy/final_2015_dod_cyber_strategy_for_web.pdf

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<https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/nat-strat-hls-2002.pdf>

National Drug Control Strategy, Office of National Drug Control Strategy (ONDCP), 2019

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/NDCS-Final.pdf>

Quadrennial Defense Review, 2014

http://www.defense.gov/pubs/2014_Quadrennial_Defense_Review.pdf



National Drug Control Strategy, 2014

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/policy-and-research/ndcs_2014.pdf

DoD Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap, 2014

<http://www.acq.osd.mil/ie/download/CCARprint.pdf>

National Strategy for Homeland Defense and Defense Support of Civil Authorities, February 2013.

<http://www.defense.gov/news/homelanddefensestrategy.pdf>

Western Hemisphere Defense Policy Statement, October 2012

<http://www.defense.gov/news/WHDPS-English.pdf>

National Defense Strategy of the United States, January 2012

http://www.defense.gov/news/defense_strategic_guidance.pdf

National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy, 2011

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/policy-and-research/swb_counternarcotics_strategy11.pdf

Department of Defense Strategy for Operating in Cyberspace, July 2011

<http://www.defense.gov/news/d20110714cyber.pdf>

Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime, July 2011

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/Strategy_to_Combat_Transnational_Organized_Crime_July_2011.pdf

National Strategy for Combating Terrorism, June 2011.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/counterterrorism_strategy.pdf

National Security Strategy of the United States. May 2010

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/national_security_strategy.pdf



Recommended Reading (by thematic topic)

Day 1 – Presentations, Geographic Combatant Commands and Office of Secretary of Defense

Department of State and USAID, Joint Strategic Plan FY 2018-2022
<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Joint-Strategic-Plan-FY-2018-2022.pdf>

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General Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy, USAF, Commander, United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command, Testimony to U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, 26 Feb 2019. Link: https://www.armed-services.senate.gov/download/oshughnessy_02-26-19

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Andrew Feickert, The Unified Command Plan and Combatant Commands: Background and Issues for Congress, *Congressional Research Service*, January 3, 2013

Day 2 - U.S. Foreign Policy

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<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Joint-Strategic-Plan-FY-2018-2022.pdf>

Joint Regional Strategy, Western Hemisphere (03 January 2019)
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Department of State Organization Chart – July 2019
<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/DOS-Org-Chart-July-2019508.pdf>

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"U.S. Role in the World: Background and Issues for Congress," *Congressional Research Service*, October 18, 2019.

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Hal Brands, [Waging Political Warfare](#), *The National Interest*, January-February 2019.

Hal Brands, [Democracy vs. Authoritarianism: How Ideology Shapes Great-Power Conflict](#), *Survival*, October-November 2018



Kenneth R. Thomas, “Federalism, State Sovereignty, and the Constitution: Basis and Limits of Congressional Power,” *Congressional Research Service*, September 23, 2013

Patrick Paterson, *Orígenes de la Política Exterior de EE.UU.: 241 Años de la Política Exterior de los Estados Unidos*, Editorial Académica Española, 2018.

James Hohmann, “10 stories illuminate the Trump doctrine on foreign policy,” *Washington Post*, July 5, 2018

Marc A. Thiessen, “Chaos or not, Trump is racking up a record of foreign policy success,” *Washington Post*, September 18 2018.

Ishaan Tharoor, “The White House’s new attack on the international system,” *Washington Post*, September, September 11 2018

Day 2 - U.S. Regional Strategy in Latin America and Caribbean

U.S. Strategy for Engagement in Central America: Policy Issues for Congress, *Congressional Research Service*, July 24, 2019.

Central America Regional Security Initiative: Background and Policy Issues for Congress,” *Congressional Research Service*, May 6, 2014.

“Human Smuggling from Central America to the U.S.” *Rand Corporation*, May 2019.

William A. Kandel, “Unaccompanied Alien Children: An Overview,” *Congressional Research Service*, January 18, 2017

Recent Migration to the United States from Central America: Frequently Asked Questions, *Congressional Research Service*, January 29, 2019

Opinion and News reports

Jason Marczak and Peter Engelke, “Latin America and the Caribbean 2030: Future Scenarios,” *Atlantic Council*, Nov 2016.

Franco Ordoñez. [Latin American diplomats: Is there anyone we can talk to?](#), McClatchy. September 20, 2018

Adam Isacson, “Ten Points About the Current Chaos at the Border,” *Washington Office on Latin America*, July 2019.

Julia G. Young, How Americans became addicted to undocumented immigration,” *Washington Post*, January 9 2019,

Day 2 - U.S. Security Cooperation

Vision 2020, Defense Security Cooperation Agency’s (DSCA) (updated 2016)
https://www.dsca.mil/sites/default/files/dsca_vision_2020_update_2.pdf



“DOD Security Cooperation: An Overview of Authorities and Issues,” *Congressional Research Service*, Aug 23, 2016

“What Is “Building Partner Capacity?” Issues for Congress,” *Congressional Research Service (CRS)*, December 18, 2015

“Foreign Aid: An Introduction to U.S. Programs and Policy,” *Congressional Research Service*, April 16, 2019

Christopher Paul, Colin P. Clarke, Beth Grill, Stephanie Young, Jennifer D. P. Moroney, Joe Hogler, Christine Leah, “What Works Best When Building Partner Capacity? *Rand Corporation*, 2013.

U.S. Agency for International Development, Aid Tracker (1945-2019)
<https://explorer.usaid.gov/aid-trends.html>

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“Generals urge Trump not to ‘retreat’ on foreign aid, *The Hill*, 19 Sept 2018.

Rosa Brooks, “The Hard Lessons of Kunduz and Syria,” *Foreign Policy*, 03 Oct 2015

Day 3 - U.S. Military Strategy

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Dan Coats, “Worldwide Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community,” January 29, 2019.

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U.S. Sanctions on Russia, *Congressional Research Service*, 11 Jan 2019

China Naval Modernization: Implications for U.S. Navy Capabilities—Background and Issues for Congress, *Congressional Research Service*, 02 Oct 2019.

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[Patrick M. Cronin](#) and [Kristine Lee](#), “Negotiating With North Korea: How Will This End?,” Center for a New American Security (CNAS), Feb 12, 2019.



U.S. General: “Corruption Is Top Threat in Afghanistan,” *New York Times*, 30 Apr 2014.

Day 3 - U.S. Security/Defense Perspectives in Latin America

Celina Realuyo, The Intent and Impact of US Sanctions on Cuba and Venezuela, *William J. Perry Center Regional Insight*, October 2019.

Celina Realuyo, The Evolving Role of the Security Forces to Counter Transnational Organized Crime in the Americas, *William J. Perry Center Regional Insight*, March 2018.

Immigration Policy Chart Book of Key Trends, *Congressional Research Service*, Mar 2013.

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Parker Asmann, “[US Corruption List Highlights Northern Triangle Presidents’ Criminal Ties](#) InSight Crime. May 21, 2019

Climate Change top threat in Latin America (Pew Research Center, 01 Aug 2017)

Day 4 - The US Budget Process

Debt Limit History, *Congressional Research Service*, Feb 2013.

Overview of the Federal Budget, Congressional Budget Office, Dec 2013.

Overview of the Federal Debt, *Congressional Research Service*, Dec 2013.

Reducing the Budget Deficit Policy Issues, *Congressional Research Service*, 7 Aug 2014.

The Debt Limit History, *Congressional Research Service*, Dec 2012.

“The Federal Government Debt It’s Size and Economic Significance,” *Congressional Research Service*, 12 Mar 2010.

The National Debt Who Bears Its Burden? *Congressional Research Service*, 12 Mar 2010.

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Mark Cancian, “U.S. Military Forces in FY 2020: The Struggle to Align Forces with Strategy,” Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), October 23, 2019.

Mark Cancian, [U.S. Military Forces in FY 2020: The Strategic and Budget Context](#), ,” Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), September 30, 2019

Mark Cancian, [DOD and Border Security—At What Price?](#), Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), March 13, 2019.

Renaë Merle, “A guide to the financial crisis - 10 years later,” *Washington Post*, 10 Sept 2018.

The Lost Decade of the Middle Class, Pew Research Center, Sept 2012.



Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on his mission to the United States of America, United Nations, May 2018.

Day 4 – Violent Extremism in Latin America

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Douglas Farah and Caitlyn Yates, “Maduro's Last Stand: Venezuela's Survival Through the Bolivarian Joint Criminal Enterprise,” IBI Consultants, May 2019.

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Brian J. Phillips, “Terrorist Tactics in Criminal Organizations: The Mexico Case, *William J. Perry Center Occasional Paper*, July 2019.

Thomas Bruneau, The United States and Central America: From Stopping Communism to Stopping Kids, *William J. Perry Center Occasional Paper*, July 2016.

Day 5 - Security Assistance to Latin America

U.S. Foreign Assistance to Latin America and the Caribbean: FY2019 Appropriations, *Congressional Research Service*, March 1, 2019.

Marian Leonardo Lawson, “Does Foreign Aid Work? Efforts to Evaluate U.S. Foreign Assistance,” *Congressional Research Service*, February 13, 2013.

U.S. Foreign Assistance to Latin America and the Caribbean: Recent Trends and FY2016 Appropriations,” *Congressional Research Service*, January 7, 2016.

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Day 5 - Interagency Coordination and Whole of Government Efforts

Evan Munsing and Christopher J. Lamb, “Joint Interagency Task Force–South: The Best Known, Least Understood Interagency Success,” *Institute for National Strategic Studies*, National Defense University, June 2011



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