

U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

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The Minor in U.S. National Security Studies (21 Credits)

As the United States enters the second decade of the 21st Century, it faces a multitude of new and unprecedented threats to its national security interests. From the proven and suspected weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs in North Korea, Iran, and Syria, to the ongoing War on Terrorism, the collective threats to U.S. national security are serious and enduring.

Given this dangerous international environment, there is a pressing need both to improve our understanding of the threats facing the United States and to prepare the next generation of governmental leaders to meet the challenges facing the nation. This interdisciplinary minor brings together the courses across the curriculum that would help prepare the future diplomats, intelligence analysts, and academic scholars in the field of U.S. National Security.

The minor will accomplish these goals by exploring the rich, and often controversial, legacy of U.S. diplomatic and national security policies from its founding to the present, beginning with the principles of U.S. foreign policy rooted in the Constitution and tracing the evolution of U.S. national security through the Cold War and Post-Cold War eras. The minor will also examine the specific internal mechanisms by which national security policies are formulated, as well as the theoretical debates in international relations scholarship on the nature of the international system, the role of power, calculations of national interest, and the affect of institutions such as international law in governing state behavior. Finally, the minor will study the political and historical contexts for current regional conflict areas, and the “new dimensions” of U.S. national security including WMD proliferation, ethnic conflict and conflict resolution, the “War on Terrorism,” and human, environmental, and energy security.

Program Objectives:

1. Investigate the history and evolution of America’s national security interests and policies from the founding to the present, the contemporary international threats and challenges facing the United States, and the diplomatic and military mechanisms necessary for addressing these threats.
2. Examine the specific internal mechanisms by which U.S. national security policies are formulated.
3. Serve as a minor for those students who wish to extend their work in a major to include the study of U.S. national security.

Program Requirements:

1. A minimum of 21 credits, chosen from the courses listed below, is needed to complete the minor.
2. Core requirements: AMST 100 and GOVT 215.
3. Select four additional classes (12 credits) from the elective courses listed below. Of these 12 credits, at least three must be from AMST, GEOG, or HIST.
4. A 202-level foreign language course (three credits).
5. Certain internships, independent studies, study abroad courses, and special topics courses may also count toward the minor as determined by the Director.

THE CURRICULUM IN U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES

The following course descriptions appear in appropriate sections throughout the catalog.

Core

- AMST 100 Founding the American Experiment
GOVT 215 Comparative and International Politics

Electives

- AMST 300 The American Experiment: Global Influence
GEOG 202 Introduction to Geography II
GOVT 323 American Foreign Policy
GOVT 327 International Law
GOVT 338 Politics of Weapons Proliferation
GOVT 340 Might and Right Among Nations
GOVT 380 Terrorism
GOVT 402 International Relations Theory and World Issues
HIST 325 Cold War Politics and Culture
HIST 336 Modern American Diplomatic History
HIST 340 America and the Second World War
HIST 351 American Military History
HIST 480 The United States as a World Power

UNIVERSITY LIBERAL LEARNING CURRICULUM

Principles of Liberal Learning: Christopher Newport University involves students in a rich, multifaceted tradition of intellectual exploration grounded in the common principles of liberal learning. The program of study develops students' capacities of empowerment, knowledge and responsibility, whose key intellectual and personal attributes are enumerated below. All coursework at CNU—whether in the liberal learning core, in the major, or in elective courses or courses in a minor—seeks to introduce, reinforce, and advance student aptitude in these primary capacities.

The Essential Learning Outcomes

Beginning in school and continuing at successively higher levels across their college studies, students prepare for twenty-first century challenges by gaining:

- Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts. **Focused** by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring.
- Intellectual and Practical Skills, including: inquiry and analysis; critical and creative thinking; written and oral communication; quantitative literacy; information literacy; teamwork and problem solving. **Practiced extensively**, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance.
- Personal and Social Responsibility, including: civic knowledge and engagement – local and global; intercultural knowledge and competence; ethical reasoning and action; foundations and skills for lifelong learning. **Anchored** through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges.
- Integrative Learning, including synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies. **Demonstrated** through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new setting and complex problems.

UNIVERSITY LIBERAL LEARNING CURRICULUM**ULLC 100. First Year Seminar (3-3-0)**

Through unique courses tied to a common theme, the First Year Seminar focuses on the intellectual expectations and values of the academic community, and encourages participation in the broader culture of the University. The seminar emphasizes the foundational disciplines at the core of liberal learning: critical thinking; analytical

reading; effective writing and speaking; informed curiosity; problem solving; locating and evaluating information through research; and student participation in artistic, intellectual, service, and cultural events on campus. The specific seminar topics are listed at: <http://liberallearning.cnu.edu/documents/FYSMBookletFinal.pdf>.

ULLC 223. Second Year Writing Seminar (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: ENGL 123 and sophomore standing.

Fall, Spring, Summer.

The Second-Year Writing Seminar enhances the critical reading and writing foundations introduced in English 123, and fuses them with oral communications skills. Seminars center on topics of intellectual and academic interest selected by the course instructor. Seminar topics will be discipline-specific, but accessible to students in any major. Each topic will require students to evaluate, synthesize, and present primary and secondary sources in two formats: a) a polished 10- to 15- page research paper and b) a formal oral presentation. ULLC courses are taught by faculty in COMM, ENGL, FNAR, GOVT, HIST, HONR, LAMS MCLL, MGMK, MUSC, PHIL, PSYC, RSTD, SOCL and THEA. *Students must earn a C- or higher to satisfy University degree requirements.*

COLL 150. The Intentional Learner (2-2-0)

Prerequisite: academic probation status.

Spring.

The student will understand the significance of a liberal arts education, examine his/her role in and responsibility for learning, understand and apply college study skills, comprehend university policies and procedures, develop long- and short-term goals for college success, and explore career goals through preparation for academic advising, major exploration and clarification of the decision-making process. The course will also give attention to college reading and its centrality to academic achievement.