Military forces are called upon to defend against armed aggression, both foreign and domestic. Yet militaries can also disobey civilian leaders, allow governments to fall, and even overthrow the political order themselves. The loyalty and effectiveness of security forces are thus vital to government security and stability. This module introduces students to the study of civil-military relations, beginning from the perspective of the armed forces and when they directly intervene in politics, examining the techniques, causes, and means for preventing coups d’état as well as the consequences of coup-proofing for other dimensions of military effectiveness. We then analyze how armed forces impact states’ domestic politics, including their behaviour during uprisings and their affect on democratic governance. Finally, we examine different theories of how civilian leaders should manage armed forces and assess the acute challenges that leaders face as they respond to international crises.

**Required Texts and Materials**

**Essential Texts**

Strongly recommended for purchase (most of book assigned):


Recommended for purchase (2-3 chapters assigned):

During most weeks we will focus on one or two important books and it is therefore crucial that you ensure you have access to these texts and have sufficient time to read them carefully. We strongly recommend that you purchase them. We also recommend ordering your books through Amazon (students have previously complained of long delays in receiving books or receiving the wrong editions from Blackwell’s). All readings, including the books, are available either electronically or on reserve through the St. Andrews Library. You can access the module reading list through MMS, Moodle, or via the library home page. Please have all readings available to you in class—either by bringing a laptop or by printing hard copies.

**Final Marks**

Final Mark Breakdown:
- 10% Simulation Memo
- 10% Policy Workshop Memo
- 30% Country Journal
- 50% Research Essay

**Assignments**

**Simulation Memo (~800 words):** Prior to seminar, each team must read over the provided simulation packet and meet to develop a general strategy and discuss potential contingency plans. As a team, write a brief strategy document outlining your goals and general plan of action.
**Policy Workshop Memo (~800 words):** You will be assigned to represent different bureaucratic actors within a state facing a severe international crisis. Prior to seminar, each team should meet to develop and write up their own policy plan for addressing the crisis, from their position, according to the provided guidelines.

**Country Journal (500+ words per entry):** To improve both your empirical and theoretical knowledge, and to bring greater contextual depth to discussions, we are asking you to choose a country to become an expert on over the course of the semester. Every week, it is expected that you will do some independent research into your country and its civil-military relations and to think about how the theoretical material in the readings apply (or not) to your country. We ask that you record these reflections in a weekly journal, with proper referencing, to be turned in at the end of the semester. And, of course, we encourage you to bring your insights into our discussions!

**Research Essay (5000 words):** Write an original research paper that contributes to your knowledge of civil-military relations. Develop a compelling research question and then a clear argument (thesis) that answers that question. The best papers will engage with the existing scholarly literature on their topic (why hasn’t it answered your question fully?), pay careful attention to evidence, and identify potential counter-arguments to their claims and provide additional evidence against them. You should incorporate at least 15-20 sources into your paper, the vast majority of which should be peer-reviewed books (academic presses) and articles. A preliminary topic and research question are due in week 3 which we will then meet to discuss.

### Important Due Dates

**FRI FEB 16 (NOON):** Preliminary essay topic and research question due (week 3)

**FRI MAR 9 (BEGINNING OF SEMINAR):** Simulation memo due (week 6)

**MON APR 2 (NOON)**  Research essay due (week 8)

**FRI APR 20 (BEGINNING OF SEMINAR):** Policy workshop memo due (week 10)

**MON APR 23 (NOON)**  Country journal due (week 11)

### Module Policies

In all respects, students are responsible for and must adhere to the contents of the School Handbook which is available on the School website under Students/Postgraduates/Course handbooks.

**Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to comply with the integrity standards of the University of St. Andrews. You must cite your sources properly and fully acknowledge the
origins of all data, facts, ideas, arguments, or interpretations you rely on in your own work. Suspected cases of plagiarism, cheating, or other acts of academic dishonesty will be punished to the fullest extent possible.

Attendance: Seminar attendance is required. You may miss one seminar no questions asked. A second absence will result in an Academic Alert: ABSENCE and must be made up with written work (~800 word response essay to the readings). You may be absent from a maximum of two seminars, regardless of whether a self-certification is made. Missing more than two seminars will result in the issuance of an Academic Alert: FINAL and failure to complete the module, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Extensions and Late Assignments: All deadlines are firm except in cases of medical or family emergency, religious observance, documented disability, or other exceptional circumstances. If, due to such circumstances you cannot meet a deadline, please contact me as soon as possible so that we may work out an acceptable alternative due date. Avoid computer disaster by regularly saving your work to a cloud-based program (I recommend Dropbox) OR periodically printing out drafts and/or emailing them to yourself while you write. Late assignments will receive a 1 point deduction per day in accordance with the policies of the School of International Relations.

Office Hours: Normal, drop-in office hours are on Wednesdays from 10:00-12:00 (Dr. Harkness) and Thursdays from 10:00-12:00 (Dr. DeVore)—no appointment necessary. But bring something to read in case you have to wait. If this time does not work with your schedule, we are also happy to arrange an alternative appointment.

Essay Formatting and Other Rules: Writing assignments must be word-processed. Proofread your writing for typographical, grammatical, and punctuation errors. If you consistently make these kinds of errors, your mark will drop. For any essays, the word count is inclusive of endnotes/footnotes, but exclusive of the bibliography. A margin of 5 (five) percent either way is permissible before a penalty is applied. The details of that penalty can be found in the School Handbook which is available on the School website. One hard copy and one electronic copy of all essays are required. There is provision for electronic submission in MMS. The electronic copy and the hard copy must be identical, and both copies MUST be submitted by the stated deadline. Also make sure to use:
  • Times 12 or its close equivalent (usually the default setting)
  • 1” margins all around
  • Double-spacing
  • Page numbers—if your first page is the cover page, set this page number to 0 (in Word, select “Page Numbers” from the “Insert” menu, and click on “Format”)
  • A standard citation style (Chicago, APA, MLA, etc.)
  • A standard cover page, including the word count, available online or in the school office
Failure to properly format your essay will result in a small deduction to your mark.

We each require a minimum of two weeks notice and ask that you compile a packet of relevant information.

Weekly Overview with Readings

Week 1: Three Classic Problems of Civil-Military Relations—Loyalty, Effectiveness, and Integration (71p)

**FRI FEB 2:** Seminar
- Independent research on the civil-military relations and history of 2-3 countries that you might want to select for your country journal.
- Begin reading the Luttwak for Week 2.

Recommended Readings

Week 2: Making a Coup (321p)

**FRI FEB 9:** Seminar
Recommended Readings


Week 3: Why Do Armed Forces Intervene in Politics? (121p)

**FRI FEB 16 (NOON):** Preliminary topic and research question due by email

**FRI FEB 16:** Seminar


Recommended Readings


Week 4: Ethnicity and the Military (171p)

**FRI FEB 23:** Seminar

**Recommended Readings**


**Week 5: Structural Coup Proofing and Its Consequences (162p)**

**FRI MAR 2: Seminar**


**Recommended Readings**


**Week 6: The Military in Revolutions (205p)**

**FRI MAR 9:** Seminar = Simulation (strategy memo due)


Recommended Readings


**Week 7: Democratization and Civil-Military Relations (234p)**

**FRI MAR 16:** Seminar
• Aurel Croissant et al., 2010, “Beyond the Fallacy of Coupism: Conceptualizing Civilian Control of the Military in Emerging Democracies,” Democratization 17(5): 950-975.

Recommended Readings

*** Spring Vacation***

Week 8: Professionalism and Objective Control (p.283) [***note change to Monday***]

MON APR 2 (NOON): Research essay due

MON APR 2 [SEMINAR RM 4]: Seminar
Recommended Readings


Week 9: Alternative Visions of Civilian Control in Advanced Industrial States (148p)

FRI APR 13: Seminar


Recommended Readings


Week 10: Civil-Military Relations and International Crises (158p)

FRI APR 20: Seminar = Policy Workshop (memo due)


Recommended Readings

• John Gooch. 2007. Mussolini and His Generals: The Armed Forces and Fascist Foreign Policy, 1922-1940. Cambridge UP.

Week 11: Revision and Feedback

MON APR 23 (NOON): Country journal due

Note: A further teaching week will take the form of exam feedback in the first week of the following semester. Details of these provisions are given in the online School Handbook.

Grading Standards for Essays

When grading, we evaluate the words on the page and do not factor in “improvement” or “effort” or other mushy criteria. Standards are standards.
A paper in the **First range (16.5+)** displays exceptional grace and demonstrates a high degree of mastery over both the substantive content of the paper as well as the fundamentals of academic writing: it advances an interesting, arguable thesis; establishes a clear motive to suggest why the thesis is original or worthwhile; employs a logical and progressive structure; analyzes evidence insightfully and in depth; draws from well-chosen sources; and is written in a clear, sophisticated style.

A **2-1 range (13.5-16.4)** paper resembles a First range paper in some ways, but may exhibit a vague, uninteresting, or inconsistently argued thesis; establish a functional but unsubstantial motive; employ a generally logical but somewhat disorganized or undeveloped structure; include well-chosen but sometimes unanalyzed and undigested evidence; use sources in a correct but limited fashion; or be written in an unsophisticated or grammatically problematic style.

A **2-2 range (10.5-13.4)** paper resembles a 2-1 range paper in some ways, but may also feature a confusing, simple, or descriptive thesis; provide a simplistic motive or none at all; lack a coherent structure; fail to present enough evidence, or present evidence that is insufficiently analyzed; drop in sources without properly contextualizing or citing them; and be written in a generally unclear, simplistic, or technically flawed style.

A **Third range (7.5-10.4)** paper resembles a 2 range paper but may include a purely descriptive or obvious thesis; lack a motive; display an unfocused, confusing, or rambling structure; and draw on under-analyzed evidence and few sources. A 7-8 paper has trouble engaging with the assignment and may not show awareness of the conventions of academic discourse and style. It does, however, show signs of attempting to engage with the issues, topics, and sources of the assignment.

A **Failing (below 7.5)** paper is similar to a 7-8 range paper but is significantly shorter than the assigned length and addresses the assignment superficially.

A **0** paper is less than half the assigned length and does not fulfill the basic expectations of the assignment (for example, in a research paper, there is evidence of little or no research). Unlike a Failing paper, a 0 does not count as successful completion of the assignment and may result in an incomplete.

**Writing Resources**

**On MMS:** There is a folder on MMS, “Writing Resources” within the “Content” area, which contains handouts and other guides for a wide variety of writing skills—including constructing a good thesis statement, structuring an academic essay, using evidence effectively, and creating compelling introductions and conclusions. While no amount of writing prowess can substitute for skilled analysis and clever insights, problems with the techniques and mechanics of writing often obscure the creativity, persuasiveness, and originality of a paper’s substantive ideas—thereby often doubly-harming the resulting mark.

**Online Help with Citations:**
University of St. Andrews Library Help for Citing Sources:
Resources for Research on Current Events

**News Outlets:** such as the BBC, the Guardian, Al Jezeera (English), the New York Times, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, the Economist, Huffington Post, and pretty much any other reputable newspaper, magazine, or policy journal.

**Think Tanks:** often have extensive papers, commentary, and links to other resources on their websites. Important international relations think tanks include the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Chatham House, Council on Foreign Relations, Hoover Institution, and RAND, etc.

**Reputable Academic Blogs:** including Dart-Throwing Chimp, Duck of Minerva, Fivethirtyeight, Lawfare, Mideast Matrix, The Monkey Cage, War on the Rocks, etc. We stress reputable. Look at both who hosts the blog and the bios of the bloggers. Most good blogs are hosted by academic institutions, think tanks, or newspapers and their contributors either hold PhDs from good universities or have extensive public policy experience. There are a lot of nut jobs writing rants from their basements, try to ignore them.