Political Science 147B is an overview of contemporary Russian-American relations. This course assumes no previous study of either international relations or the central Eurasian region. The purpose of the course is to help you develop skills as a foreign policy analyst. Thus, throughout the course, you should ask: What are Russia’s goals concerning this issue? How does this affect America’s interests? What options to respond are available to the United States government? How should we expect Russia and others to respond to each option? And which option would you recommend we choose? The course is organized as follows:

I. FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS: A TEMPLATE

II. WHAT ARE RUSSIA’S STRATEGIC GOALS TODAY?
   A. Premises from Formal Statements of National Security Doctrine
   B. Premises Discerned from the Historical Record
   C. The Harsh Realities of Russian Power Today
   D. Competing Premises about Russian Goals

III. KEY ISSUES ON THE CURRENT AGENDA
   A. Post-Soviet Boundaries and Failed States in Central Eurasia
   B. Competing Alliances in Central Eurasia and Beyond
   C. Regime Change in Central Eurasia and Beyond
   D. Central Eurasian Energy and Power
   E. Arms Races, Arms Control, and Proliferation
   F. The War on Terrorism

Instructor: Philip G. Roeder proeder@ucsd.edu
Social Sciences Building 382 534-6000
Office Hours: W 1300-1400 and by appointment

Teaching Assistants:
John Porten By appointment SSB 326 john.porten@gmail.com
Shane Xuan TuTh 1230-1300 or by appt SSB 332 xxuan@ucsd.edu

Readings and Lectures. All assigned readings are available through Geisel Library course reserves.

The readings focus on very recent developments. Lectures provide the background and larger context within which these developments fit. You should attend all lectures, listen to the podcasts, or arrange for someone whom you trust to take good notes for you. Copies of the PowerPoints should also be available through the Podcast system.

Grades. Your course grade will be based on the following:

Quiz #1 (on the lecture and reading materials) 20% Tue May 9
Quiz #2 (on the lecture and reading materials) 20% Thu Jun 8
Research project topic 0% Fri Apr 14
Policy briefing 10% Fri Apr 28
Oral briefing 10% Fri May 5
Policy analysis 40% Mon Jun 12

The quizzes will be short with multiple-choice or fill-in-the-blank answers. The Research project topic, Policy briefing, Oral briefing, and Policy analysis are all parts of one research project on a topic that you choose in
consultation with the instructors of this course. The research assignment is described in a separate document.

**Plagiarism.** You may discuss your research project with others, but your written work must be your own. Please do not jeopardize your academic career and your professional reputation by academic dishonesty. The payoff to dishonesty is very small, the costs—both immediate and long term—can be very high.  

**Note:** By enrolling in this course you agree to submit your final paper for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms-of-use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com website.

**Podcasts.** All lectures will be available through the UCSD Podcast web-site. The PowerPoint projections should also be available on this site. You must sign-in to access these.

**TritonEd Course Web-site.** On the TritonEd web-site are copies of the course syllabus and the research assignment.

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**SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS**

**I. FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS: A TEMPLATE**

Tu Apr 4. Introduction to the Course
Th Apr 6. America’s Strategic Goals
   An Example of Strategic Analysis: Russian Interference in the 2016 US Presidential Elections

**Read for Thursday:**


**II. WHAT DO WE THINK ARE RUSSIA’S STRATEGIC GOALS TODAY?**

Tu Apr 11. Premises from Formal Statements of National Security Doctrine
Th Apr 13. Premises Discerned from the Historical Record, I

**Read for this week:**


Tu Apr 18. Premises Discerned from the Historical Record, II
Th Apr 20. The Harsh Realities of Russian Power Today
   An Example of Strategic Analysis: The Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962

**Read for this week:**


Tu  Apr 25. Competing Premises about Russian Strategic Goals, I  
Th  Apr 27. Competing Premises about Russian Strategic Goals, II

Read for this week:


III. KEY ISSUES ON THE CURRENT AGENDA

Tu  May 2. Issue #1. Post-Soviet Boundaries and Failed States, I  
Th  May 4. Issue #1. Post-Soviet Boundaries and Failed States, II  
Case Study: How to Respond to the Crimea Crisis Today?

Read for this week:


Tu  May 9. Quiz #1

Th  May 11. Issue #2. Competing Alliances in Central Eurasia and Beyond, I

Read for this week:


Tu  May 16. Issue #2. Competing Alliances in Central Eurasia and Beyond, II  
Case Study: Should Georgia Be Admitted to NATO?

Th  May 18. Issue #3. Regime Change in Central Eurasia and Beyond, I

Read for this week:


Tu May 23. Issue #3. Regime Change in Central Eurasia and Beyond, II
Case Study: Should the United States Press for Regime Change in Russia?


Read for this week:


Case Study: Should the United States Oppose the Turkish Stream and Tesla Pipeline?

Th Jun 1. Issue #5. Arms Races, Arms Control, and Proliferation

Read for this week:


Tu Jun 6. Issue #6. The War on Terrorism

Th Jun 8. Quiz #2

Read for this week: