

**PSC 321 – Searching for Peace in a Nuclear World
Lessons from Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

**University of Alabama
Department of Political Science
Study Abroad
Summer 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Derrick Frazier

Email: dfrazier@ua.edu

Course Description

The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan in August 1945 helped to usher in a new age of nuclear weapons—an age that subsequently has placed all of humanity at risk of global annihilation. While many scholars and policymakers point to the utility of nuclear weapons in maintaining peace and security, the lessons of individual survivors in these two cities point to different conclusions. In short, the use of nuclear weapons represents one of the most heinous acts humanity can bestow upon itself.

In this course, we will discuss and analyze the use of nuclear weapons, particularly focusing upon the context of war that led to the decisions to use the atom bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of WWII. From this vantage point, we will evaluate the role of nuclear weapons in global security and peace throughout history and into the present, taking into account the effects of nuclear weapons on individuals and the environment. We do so utilizing the unique opportunity of being in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to explore the effects of nuclear weapons on one of the only two populations exposed to nuclear weapons during war. Finally, we bring our course to a close with a consideration of peace in a nuclear free world and the international efforts being led to achieve this goal.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- explain the context for the US decision to use nuclear weapons in WWII;
- identify the consequences of nuclear weapons use;
- understand the impact of nuclear weapons use on individuals and communities;
- analyze the role of nuclear weapons in global security;
- identify factors inhibiting abolition of nuclear weapons;
- evaluate ways in which peace can be secured without nuclear weapons;

Course Requirements and Grading

Non-proliferation/International Security report (20%)

Each student is responsible for writing a five-page report on some aspect of nuclear non-proliferation efforts in the international system and how they affect

international security.. In order to receive a grade on the assignment, the report must be handed in by the last day of the course. Failure to do so will result in an F for the assignment. You should email a copy of your report by the end of the day. You should also make certain you receive a confirmation within 24 hours. If you do not and fail to follow up on whether or not I have received your report, you run the risk of receiving no credit. The electronic copy should be in a Word, PDF or text file. Any changes to these rules or clarification regarding the assignment will be provided by the instructor as needed.

Each report should include in text citations where necessary (e.g. Ivanov (2000) argues that...) and a full bibliography with a minimum of 5 sources. Your report should include a discussion of the following aspects:

1. The identification of and background on the issue = 20 points
2. The role of international or domestic politics on the issue = 25 points
3. How states or organizations have addressed the issue = 25 points
4. Prognosis regarding success in dealing with the issue = 20 points

Additionally, grammar and clarity of writing = 10 points

Seminar discussion (30%)

While you are expected to come to our class meetings, participation will be critical for the overall success of the course. Thus, I will evaluate your participation on a daily basis. Full credit requires active and meaningful participation to class discussions on a regular basis. Meaningful implies a willingness to engage the readings and participate in dialogue with the other students and the instructor.

Electronic Journal (35%)

The class will have an online discussion board to which each student will be responsible for posting. The postings should reflect thoughts about the student's experience throughout the course and should be recorded every two days. Students are also expected to respond to the posts of other students to engage in a continuous dialogue. Each entry is expected to be 2 to 3 paragraphs at length, at minimum.

Attendance (15%)

It is expected that you will show up to our scheduled meetings on time and ready to discuss the material for the day. There will be no opportunity to make up a missed meeting and only emergencies will be considered for absences. If you miss more than two meetings for any reason, your grade will be affected.

Obviously, even if you miss a meeting I do expect that you will get in touch with me for the sake of accountability.

Summary of Final Grade Composition

Report = 20%
Seminar = 30%
Journal = 35%
Attendance = 15%

Rules Governing Assignments and Behavior

Take home questions should be emailed (paragraphs within the email is fine) to me after completion and prior to the beginning of the following class. Reports must be typed and double-spaced, 1 inch margins, using 12 point font (Times New Roman). Reports will be emailed to the instructor on the assigned due date. However, you are responsible for making sure I have received the report on time. This means receiving a confirmation email from me. Since the report is due on the last day of class, there is no excuse or expectation of last second emergencies. If you are prone to these sorts of incidents, plan accordingly and work ahead.

University policy regarding plagiarism and academic integrity will be enforced for all assignments. Please see the *Code of Student Conduct* for more information.

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any necessary accommodations. If you need to register and have not, please contact the office at 205-348-4285 (Voice) or 205-348-3081(TTY) or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East.

Required Books:

Hersey, John. 1946/2010. *Hiroshima*. New York: Ishi Press.

Class Schedule and Readings

1. June 3 – Arrival in Tokyo; Orientation; Group Dinner

Hiroshima, Parts I and II

2. June 4 – Discussion of Hiroshima Bombing; Tokyo Day

Hiroshima, Parts III and IV

Visit to Imperial Palace

3. June 5 – WWII overview and Context for the Development and Use of Atomic Bomb

Hamby, A. 1995. Truman and the Bomb. Background of the Decision to Use Nuclear Weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. *History Today* 45(8): 18-25.

Greenwell, John. 2013. The atom bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: were they war crimes? *ISAA Review* 12(2):

Departure for Hiroshima on Shinkansen

4. June 6 – Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear Strategy

Wilson, Ward. 2013. “Military Wisdom and Nuclear Weapons.” *Joint Forces Quarterly* 68: 18-24.

O’Neil, Andrew. 2011. “Extended nuclear deterrence in East Asia: redundant or resurgent?” *International Affairs* 87(6): 1439-1457.

Meet in Seminar A (0900)

Guided Tour of Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall 10-1040

A-bomb Recitations 1100-1200 (Seminar Rooms 1 and 2)

Lecture and Visit to Radiation Effects Research Foundation 1400-1600

5. June 7 – Effects of Nuclear Weapons on People and Society

Malloy, Sean L. 2012. ‘A Very Pleasant Way to Die’: Radiation Effects and the Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb. *Diplomatic History* 36(3): 515-545.

Meet in Seminar A (0900)

**Hiroshima Peace Park: A bomb Survivor’s Testimony by Ms. Keiko Ogura
1600-1700 – Meeting room 1, B1 floor East Bldg. Hiroshima Peace Memorial
Museum**

Cultural Exchange w/Aster Plaza 1900-2030

6. June 8 – Effects of Nuclear Weapons on People and Society

Imanaka, Tetsuji, Endo Satoru, Noriyuki Kawano and Kenichi Tanaka. 2012. Radiation exposure and disease questionnaires of early entrants after the Hiroshima bombing. *Radiation Protection Dosimetry* 149(1): 91-96.

Perrow, Charles. 2013. "Nuclear denial: From Hiroshima to Fukushima." *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 69(5): 56-67.

**Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Tour 1030-1200
Group photo**

Meet in Seminar A (1230)

7. June 9 – Why do states need nuclear weapons?

Sagan, Scott D. 1996. "Why Do States Build Nuclear Weapons?: Three Models in Search of a Bomb." *International Security* 21(3): 54-86.

Betts, Richard K. 2013. "The Lost Logic of Deterrence." *Foreign Affairs* 92(2): 87-99.

Hiroshima Peace Institute (Hiroshima City University) Lectures (Meeting Room 409)

Lecture 1: 1040 – 1210 on SE Asian security cooperation (success and challenges) by Professor Narayanan Ganesan

1210-1300: Lunch (cafeteria w/students)

Lecture 2: 1300-1430 on Experience of atomic bombing in Hiroshima and the danger of nuclear weapons by Professor Kazumi Mizumoto

Lecture 3: 1440-1610 on Security trends and problems of IR in East Asia by Associate Professor Yasuhito Fukui

1610-1700: Exchange with HCU students

8. June 10 – Nonproliferation

UN Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
<http://www.fas.org/nuke/control/npt/text/npt2.htm>

Freedman, Lawrence. 2013. "Disarmament and Other Nuclear Norms." *Washington Quarterly* 36(2): 93-108.

Meet in Seminar A (0900)

Lecture - Mr. Komizo, Chair Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation 1500-1700

Seminar room 3 – Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall

9. June 11 – Free day

Tentatively scheduled: Day trip to Osaka

10. June 12 – Free day

11. June 13 - Nonproliferation continued

Sagan, Scott D. 2006. “How to Keep the Bomb From Iran.” *Foreign Affairs* 85(5): 45-59.

Rosen, Stephen. 2006. “After Proliferation.” *Foreign Affairs* 85(5): 9-14.

Meet in Seminar A (0900)

Visit to Miyajima Island

12. June 14 – The Politics of Proliferation

Colby, Elbridge. 2015. “Asia Goes Nuclear.” *National Interest* 135: 28-37.

Akiyama, Nobumasa and Kenta Horio. 2013. “Can Japan Remain Committed to Nonproliferation?” *Washington Quarterly* 36(2): 151-165.

Meet in Seminar A (0900)

UNITAR Hiroshima Office Visit 1400-1600 – Lecture by Mr. Berin McKenzie

13. June 15 – Peaceful Nuclear Power without Proliferation?

Yim, Man-Sung and Jun Li. 2013. “Examining relationship between nuclear proliferation and civilian nuclear power development.” *Progress in Nuclear Energy* 66: 108-114.

Fuhrmann, Matthew. 2009. “Spreading Temptation: Proliferation and Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation Agreements.” *International Security* 34(1): 7-41.

Kyoto Day trip

14. June 16 – Research Day

No readings; Individual Meetings for Research on Report

Meet in Seminar A at appointment schedule

15. June 17 – Getting to zero nuclear weapons

Schell, Jonathan. 2010. “Reaching Zero.” *Nation* 290(15): 11-18.

Joffe, Josef and James W. Davis. 2011. “Less Than Zero.” *Foreign Affairs* 90(1): 7-13.

Quester, George. 2011. “The Last Time we were at Global Zero.” *Naval War College Review* 64(3): 131-139.

Meet in Seminar A (0900)

16. June 18 – Free Day

Tentatively scheduled: Tokyo

17. June 19 – Free Day

Tentatively scheduled: Mt. Fuji

18. June 20 - Lessons learned from Hiroshima and Nagasaki

No readings; Journal discussion

Finish reports

Everyone back in Tokyo; Group Dinner; Wrap Up

19. June 21 – Depart for US

20. June 24 - Report deadline via email