

Course Code: SS-834

Course Title: - International Security

Credit Hours: 3

### **Course Description**

This course provides an in-depth exploration of international security in both its traditional and evolving dimensions. It examines the political, economic, cultural, military, technological, demographic, and environmental forces that shape the security environment across the globe. By adopting a historical and comparative approach, students will trace the evolution of security concepts from conventional state-centric threats to non-traditional challenges such as terrorism, transnational crime, climate change, pandemics, and human security concerns. Regional case studies from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America will be integrated to contextualise theoretical debates with empirical realities. The course ultimately seeks to equip students with the analytical skills necessary to assess current security dynamics and evaluate prospects for future peace and stability in the international system.

### **Course Objectives**

In contemporary times, there is a growth of traditional as well as non-traditional security threats. This course analyzes the forces—political, economic, cultural, military, technological, demographic, and environmental—that shape security problems, and provides a historical overview of the changing security landscape. In addition, the course examines security problems—past, present, and emerging—on a region-by-region basis, looking at Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America. Finally, the course assesses current trends and the prospects for stability and security in the international system.

### **Learning Outcomes**

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

- Comprehend contemporary security terminologies.

- Understand and analyze traditional and non-traditional security threats faced by countries in different regions of the world.
- Develop an understanding of prospects for peace, security, and stability at international levels.

### **Course Contents**

- **Week 1:** Introduction to International Security Studies – Key concepts and debates
- **Week 2:** Theoretical approaches to security – Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, Critical perspectives
- **Week 3:** Traditional security – Power, sovereignty, balance of power, deterrence
- **Week 4:** Historical analysis – Major wars and the evolution of international security (World Wars, Cold War)
- **Week 5:** Post-Cold War security landscape – Unipolarity, multipolarity, and new challenges
- **Week 6:** Inter-state conflicts – Causes, case studies, and management
- **Week 7:** Intra-state conflicts – Civil wars, ethnic conflicts, and failed states
- **Week 8:** Terrorism and asymmetric warfare – Evolution, strategies, and global responses
- **Week 9:** Transnational organised crime – Trafficking, cybercrime, piracy
- **Week 10:** Non-traditional security – Environment, health, migration, and pandemics
- **Week 11:** Human security – Concept, critiques, and applications in different regions
- **Week 12:** Regional security dynamics – Europe and the Middle East
- **Week 13:** Regional security dynamics – Asia, Africa, and Latin America
- **Week 14:** Emerging technologies – Cybersecurity, AI, drones, and hybrid warfare
- **Week 15:** Future of international security – Risks, resilience, and cooperative security frameworks
- **Week 16:** Course review – Linking theory to practice, presentations of the students, and final assessment

## Reference Material

- Caballero-Anthony, Mely. 2009. *Nontraditional Security and Multilateralism in Asia: Reshaping the Contours of Regional Security Architecture*. In *Asia's New Multilateralism: Cooperation, Competition, and the Search for Community*, eds. Michael J Green and Bates Gill. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Dannreuther, Roland. 2007. *International Security: The Contemporary Agenda*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Elliott, Lorraine. 2001. "Regional environmental security: pursuing a non-traditional approach." In *Non-traditional Security Issues in Southeast Asia*, eds. Andrew T. H. Tan and J. D. Kenneth Boutin. Singapore: Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies.
- Gordon, Sandy. 2009. "Regionalism and cross-border cooperation against crime and terrorism in the Asia-Pacific." *Security Challenges* 5(4): 75–102.
- Langenhove, Luk Van. 2004. "Regionalising human security in Africa." In *UNU-TICAD III Follow-up Workshop*. Tokyo: Comparative Regional Integration Studies, United Nations University.
- Manzur, Rumana. 2008. *Beyond the Security Impasse: State, Development and People*. Colombo: Regional Centre for Strategic Studies.
- Naidu, G V C. 2000. "Multilateralism and regional security: Can the ASEAN Regional Forum really make a difference?" Washington: East-West Center.