



EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE of PROFESSIONAL
and CONTINUING STUDIES

IAS 5940-505: Topics in International Studies: Small Wars/Low Intensity Conflict

Course Description:

Low Intensity Conflict (LIC) is just one of the many – and mostly bad – names for the kind of warfare that characterizes most conflict around the world today, as well as in the past, and, most likely, into the foreseeable future. Some of LIC's other names are: Small Wars, Little Wars, Imperial Policing, Insurgency and Counterinsurgency, Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Peacekeeping, Operations other than War (OOTW), Gray Area Phenomena (GAP), and Military Operations other than War (MOOTW). This course will consider both the evolution of LIC and the evolution of thinking about LIC. It will address the issue of what victory is in LIC and how one achieves it. And it will consider why the U.S. seems to find it necessary to relearn the lessons of LIC every time we encounter such a war. Finally, the course will conclude with a role playing insurgency/counterinsurgency exercise.

Course Dates:

September 1 – October 27, 2019

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 3, 2019

Site Director:

This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or email our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: John T. Fishel, Ph.D.

Mailing Address: 13388 300th St.
Blanchard, OK 73010

Telephone Number: 405-485-8129

Email Address: j.t.fishel@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students at any time. He will usually get back to you within 24 hours. In an emergency use the telephone.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at <https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php>. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact apsyllabi@ou.edu. Text prices are available online

1. Callwell, C. E., (1996) *Small Wars*, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press. ISBN 9780803263666
2. Fishel, J. T., & Manwaring, M. G. (2006), *Uncomfortable wars revisited*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. ISBN 9780806139883.

3. Nagl, J. A. (2002) *Learning to eat soup with a knife*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN 9780226567709
4. Robinson, L.(2013) *100 victories* New York: Public Affairs. ISBN 9781610391498
5. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Access Canvas at <https://canvas.ou.edu>, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.

OU Email:

All official correspondence from instructors will be sent only to students' ou.edu address.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Discuss the evolution of thinking about LIC/Small Wars.
- Discuss the development of LIC/Small Wars military doctrine to include interagency procedures.
- Analyze Small Wars/LIC cases using the most effective existing model for that purpose.
- Evaluate the utility of the SWORD Model against other, competing theories.
- Synthesize all previous material in the development of either an insurgent or COIN strategy in a free play simulation.

Course Outline:

Week 1 A: (Sep 1-3) We will discuss the nature of Small Wars. Read Callwell especially Chapter 1, the USMC Small Wars Manual especially chapter 1, and US Army FM 100-20 (1990), and FM 3-24 (2006) . Focus on Chapter 1. Read Fishel, "Little Wars..." article posted to Canvas.

Discussion question will be posted by 31 Aug. Rules of Engagement (ROE): First student to enter the discussion responds to the question in a relatively brief paragraph or two. (Don't exceed about 300 words. You don't have to tell us everything you know.) All other students respond in a similar way to (1) either the question - a different aspect, (2) the first post, (3) another post, or to (4) to a posted comment by the professor (me). You **must** make at least three posts for each discussion question by the end of each session. Note that just because you have made your three required posts, you are not done. You need to read the rest of the discussion and if I direct a question to you by name, you **must respond** to it.

Citations for discussions : If you use a direct quote or draw heavily from a source mention it with enough information that I can check it out. This is relatively informal in the discussions.

Week 1 B: Discussion question will be posted Wednesday evening. Same ROE. Focus will be on the SWORD Model. Read *Uncomfortable Wars Revisited*. (You don't have to read the whole book at this time but you will read it all during the class. Individual cases will be discussed throughout the course. Read "The SWORD Model of Counterinsurgency" in *Small Wars Journal* online, Dec 2008.

Week 2A: Case 1 Malaya. Read Nagl chapters on Malaya.

Week 2 B: Case 2 Algeria. Watch the film, "The Battle of Algiers" on YouTube. Recommended reading: *A Savage War of Peace*, by Alistair Horne.

Week 3A: Case 3 Vietnam. Read Nagl on Vietnam. Recommended reading: *Why Vietnam Matters*, by Rufus Phillips.

Week 3B: Case 4 El Salvador. Read *Uncomfortable Wars Revisited (UWR)*, Chapter 7 on El Salvador.

Week 4A: Case 5 Peru. Read *UWR* Chapter 7 on Peru.

Week 4B: Cases 4 and 5 compared. Midterm will be posted at beginning of Week 4A and is due at the end of 4B. See Assignments below.

Week 5A: Case 6 The Drug War *UWR* Chapter 11.

Week 5B: Case 7 Somalia *UWR* Chapter 6

Week 6A: Case 8 Italian Terrorism *UWR* Chapter 9; Also read the US Counter Terrorism strategy posted to Canvas.

Week 6B: Case 9 Panama Operations Nimrod Dancer and Blade Jewel *UWR* Chapter 10. Recommended: Larry Yates 2 volume history of US military operations in Panama from the Army Center for Military History. Volume I focuses on events prior to Operation Just Cause including Nimrod Dance and Blade Jewel.

Week 7A : Case 10 Panama and Desert Storm - contingency operations *UWR* Chapter

Week 7B: Case 11 Afghanistan Phase I *100 Victories*. Final Exam posted on Sat evening.

Week 8A: Case 11 continued. Be sure to have read ALL of *UWR* since the Final Exam may call for elements not discussed in class.

Week 8B: Insurgency - COIN Simulation. Final exam due Sat night. Research paper due at the same time.

Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:

Midterm Exam.

Note that although there are three (3) separate questions, the exam is a single document. It is typed, double space, in Times New Roman, 12-point font, with your name on the paper. Each question is to be answered in approximately 600 words (2 pages). Do not exceed 700 words per answer. If you have less than 500 words, you really don't know what you are talking about. Exam will be posted at the beginning of Week 4A. It will be due at the end of Week 4B.

Note: Weeks and sessions within weeks begin at 0001 and end at midnight Central Time. I don't stay up that late nor get up that early. Requirements will be posted in the early evening of the day before the scheduled start and will not be considered as late if they are posted by 0600 on the day after the due date.

Final Exam

The Final will be similar to the midterm. It will cover material from mainly Week 5A on, although you should bring in material from the first four weeks if appropriate. There will also be a fourth question relating to the simulation. All other requirements are the same as for the midterm. Final Exam will be posted on the last day of Week 7B. It will be due at midnight on the last day of Week 8B. (But see Note above.)

Research Paper

Each student will submit a topic for a research paper to me by COB Wed of Week 1A. The proposed topic will not be stated in more than one short paragraph - 150 words more or less. I will either approve, reject - send you back to the drawing board - or approve with required changes by the end of Week 1B. I want your paper to be something you are interested in writing about so I will try to find a way to approve your topic unless it is completely outside the scope of the course. Once it is approved I don't need to see your paper until the end of the course. I will not review any drafts. I will, however, review a brief one page outline if you want more input. Of course, if you have specific questions relating to the paper I will respond to them as quickly as I can. Finally, the paper should be about 15 pages long - that is 15 pages of text. About 4500 words. Title page up to you. No Bibliography, Works Cited or Reference page because your citations are footnotes (see below).

Citations for written work (Exams and Paper): If what you are saying is a direct quote, an indirect quote, a paraphrase, or simply heavily drawn from a source, it must be cited. Citations will be **footnotes** (at the bottom of each page). You will use Chicago Manual Style footnote format. That means each footnote will be numbered consecutively and numbers will not be repeated. You are numbering the footnotes, not the sources so a single footnote may contain more than one source. First citation will be a complete cite (See Chicago manual online for the correct format); subsequent cites of the same source should be short format which is author's last name, year of publication, and page number. If you know how to use *Ibid.* correctly you may do so.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. However, each assignment on Canvas is worth 25 points. Graded assignments are Midterm, Final, Research paper, and Participation. Meet the posting requirement each week in terms of both quantity (objective) and quality (subjective - not difficult as I am looking for thoughtful and provocative responses, not for any particular answer). Grade scale is 90 + is A; 80-89 B, 70-79 C. Below 70 is failing in grad school. I round up from 0.5. I reserve the right to base the final letter grade on trajectory so, if your midterm was weak but all your other work strong and getting stronger as you go I may well give you a higher letter grade than shows up on Canvas. Finally, if you disagree with the grade I give you, you are free to ask for a regrade. For a regrade you will submit a clean copy of the original work without any changes. I will consider it de novo - as a new piece of work. The grade may go up but it also may go down, or most likely, it will stay the same. You will get the new grade in any case.

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

Policy for Late Work:

Please contact the professor regarding his/her policy for late work

Attendance Policy:

In addition to interaction via Canvas and email contact, students are required to contact the instructor via email or telephone **before** the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.

Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Canvas, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, email, or fax as needed

Incomplete Grade Policy:

A grade of "I" is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a "Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade" form. An "I" can never be used in lieu of an "F" nor can an "I" be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

Technical Support Information:

If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: <http://webapps.ou.edu/it/> or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Note: Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

INSTRUCTOR VITA

John T. Fishel, Ph.D.

Education

- 1982 Advanced study, American Graduate School of International Management, International Business
- 1973 Advanced study, University of Minnesota, Public Policy Analysis
- 1971 Ph.D. Indiana University, Political Science (Political and Administrative Development)
- 1967 MA Indiana University, Political Science
- 1964 AB Dartmouth College, International Relations

Current Positions

- Lecturer, School of International & Area Studies, University of Oklahoma
- Adjunct professor College of Liberal Studies, University of Oklahoma
- Professor Emeritus of National Security Policy, National Defense University
- Professor Emeritus, School of International Service, American University

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- American National Government
- State and Local Government
- The Presidency
- Introduction to Comparative Politics
- Introduction to International Relations
- US Foreign Policy
- Comparative Politics: Advanced Nations
- Comparative Politics: Modernizing Nations
- Latin American Politics
- Public Administration
- Public Policy Analysis
- Scope and Methods of Political Science
- Research Methodology
- Foreign Policy Seminar
- Political Risk Analysis Seminar
- National Security Policy Seminar
- Non-State Actors in International Relations
- Seminar Latin American Strategic Study
- Strategic Intelligence Seminar
- Public Administration Theory Seminar
- Military Force Development Seminar
- Comparative Local Politics Seminar
- Bureaucratic Politics Seminar
- Seminar on Defense Policy in the Americas
- Seminar on Peace Operations
- Combating Terrorism
- Low Intensity Conflict/Small Wars
- Capstone Course: War & Conflict from Ancient Times to the Present
- National Security Leadership
- Multiple online courses IRLS and NSEC programs at AMU/APU

Representative Publications and Presentations

Books

- 2017 American National Security Policy, Rowman & Littlefield

- 2008 Security Force Assistance: The Mosul Case with Robert Thornton and Marc Tyrrell, <http://smallwarsjournal.com/mag/>
- 2007 (ed.) Capacity Building for Peacekeeping: The Case of Haiti, Potomac Books and NDU Press.
- 2006 Uncomfortable Wars Revisited, with Max G. Manwaring, University of Oklahoma Press
- 1998 Toward Responsibility in the New World disorder: Challenges and Lessons of Peace Operations, editor with Max G. Manwaring and co-author, (London: Frank Cass)
- 1998 (ed.) "The Savage Wars of Peace" A New Paradigm of Peace Operations, (Boulder, CO: Westview Press).
- 1998 Invasion, Intervention, Intervasion: A Concise History of the US Army in Operation Uphold Democracy with Robert F. Baumann and Walter E. Kretchik, (Fort Leavenworth, KS: CGSC Press).
- 1997 Civil Military Operations in a New World, (Westport, CT: Praeger).

Monographs and Reports

- 2004 Building Capacity in Latin America and the Caribbean: PKO and the Case of Haiti, editor &
- co-author, Special edition, Security & Defense Studies Review, E-Journal of the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies, National Defense University, Washington DC
- 2000 Hints for Facilitators: A Manual for Seminar Facilitation for Latin American Defense Professionals, Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies, National Defense University
- 1995 The Panama Intervention of 1989: Operation Just Cause and its Aftermath, DFI International, Inc. Presented to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy.
- 1995 The Grenada Intervention of 1983, DFI International, Inc. Presented to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy.
- 1992 The Fog of Peace: Planning and Executing the Restoration of Panama, SSI, US Army War College, Carlisle, PA.
- 1992 Liberation, Occupation, and Rescue: War Termination and Desert Storm, SSI, US Army War College, Carlisle, PA.

Articles, Book Chapters, & Professional Papers

- 2014 Review Essay: Organización de la Defensa y Control Civil de las Fuerzas Armadas en América Latina edited by David Pion-Berlin and José Manuel Ugarte, in Security & Defense Studies Review, Volume 15.
- 2014 "Is FM 3-24 the Blueprint for COIN" with Edwin G. Corr, Marine Corps Gazette, April.
- 2013 Silvert Reminiscence Project: "A Fifty Year Dialogue with Kal Silvert," Latin American Studies Association Forum, Volume XLIV, Issue 4, October.
- 2013 "Thinking and Writing About COIN: A Review Essay of Fred Kaplan's The Insurgents David Petraeus and the Plot to Change the American Way of War, with Edwin G. Corr in Small Wars Journal, July.
- 2013 "South American Militaries," in Encyclopedia of Military Science. Sage.
- 2013 12 articles in Encyclopedia of U.S. Military Interventions in Latin America. Edited by Alan McPherson. ABC-CLIO.
- 2012 "Foreword" to Max G. Manwaring, The Complexity of Modern Asymmetric Warfare. The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK.
- 2010 "Afterword" to Max G. Manwaring, Gangs, Pseudo-Militaries, and other Modern Mercenaries: New Dynamics in Uncomfortable Wars. The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK.
- 2008 "The SWORD Model of Counterinsurgency" (with Max G. Manwaring), Small Wars Journal, <http://smallwarsjournal.com/mag/>
- 2005 "Countering Ideological Support to Terrorism in the Circum-Caribbean," paper prepared for conference at the G. C. Marshall Center for Strategic Studies, book chapter in A. Aldis and G. Herd, Countering Ideological Support to Terrorism, Routledge.
- 2003 "Educating for 'Jointness': An Analysis of the Joint Professional Military Education System of the United States," A study prepared for presentation to the Chilean

Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos and to the Military Education Branch of the J-7 of the US Joint Staff (with Craig A. Deare and Salvador G. Raza).

Awards, Distinctions, and Fellowships

- Recipient of \$20,000 Presidential Dream Course grant from the University of Oklahoma for Fall 2009.
- Faculty Fellow, Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS), National Defense University, 2000 – 2006.
- Invited Participant in the Democracy Projects, The American University, Civil-Military Relations in Latin America, 1987- 2006.
- Defense Meritorious Service Medal, 1989
- Joint Service Commendation Medal, 1988
- Research Grant, US Army School of International Studies, 1985
- Sabbatical, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, 1982
- US Army Humanitarian Service Medal, 1980
- Research Grant, Center for Latin America, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and University of Wisconsin LaCrosse, 1979
- President, North Central Council of Latin Americanists, 1978
- Research Grant, Center for Latin America, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1975
- Fellowship, University of Minnesota, Institute on Public Policy Analysis, 1973
- Fellow, Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, 1972-85
- US Army Commendation Medal, 1971
- Indiana University Doctoral Research Fellowship, 1967-68
- Indiana University Latin America Summer Research Fellowship, 1966
- Indiana University Summer Research Fellowship, 1965 NDEA Title IV Fellowship, 1965-68
- "Rufus Choate" Scholar, Dartmouth College, 1964

Professional Associations

- American Political Science Association
- Civil Affairs Association
- International Studies Association
- Latin American Studies Association
- Midwest Association of Latin American Studies
- North Central Council of Latin Americanists
- International Studies Association
- Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Reserve Officers Association
- Military Officers Association of America
- Foreign Area Officers Association
- Veterans of Foreign Wars