ENGAGE, LEAD & ANALYZE

the future of conflict

The ASU Online Masters in Global Security

spgs.asu.edu/global-security-ma

Master of Arts in Global Security

An innovative global security program for today's practitioners

The MA in Global Security is an interdisciplinary, 30-credit, online program that trains students to critically engage global conflict and international security in a comprehensive manner designed to aid professional advancement in military, government and private sector careers.

The MA builds on the expertise of top faculty at Arizona State University – one of the largest and most innovative public research institutions in the country - and integrates lectures, case studies and materials from a team of former military (general officers, soldiers, special forces, etc.), former government officials, journalists and scholars, many of whom are significant thought-leaders in the field.

Students may take the MA from anywhere in the world, proceed at their own pace and study while working.

Enabling innovative strategic thinking

Developing analytic tools

Supporting critical interdisciplinary engagement

Encouraging resilient approaches to complex challenges

Careers in

- Diplomacy
- International development
- Military
- Global security
- Management
- Cybersecurity
- Humanitarian assistance

Cybersecurity concentration

This concentration is a unique program within the MA that focuses on cyber threats from an interdisciplinary global security framework. It involves completing four non-technical courses taught by top academic and practitioner faculty linking a critical review of major issues and trends, case studies and policy exercises to prepare graduates for professional advancement in an increasingly interconnected world.

Selected program faculty

Peter L. Bergen, award winning journalist, author of many best-selling books including *Manhunt: The Ten Year Search for Bin Laden* and *United States of Jihad: Investigating America's Homegrown Terrorists*.

Matt Cavanaugh, active duty US Army strategist, co-founder of the Modern War Institute at West Point.

Anand Gopal, journalist and sociologist and Pulitzer Prize finalist for *No Good Men Among the Living: America, the Taliban, and the War through Afghan Eyes.*

Sarah Holewinski, former deputy chief of staff in the U.S. Mission to the UN, expert on civilian protection in war.

David Kilcullen, former Senior Counterinsurgency Advisor to Gen. David Petraeus and Special Advisor to Sec. of State Condoleezza Rice, author of *The Accidental Guerrilla Counterinsurgency and Blood Year*.

Jeff Kubiak, political scientist specializing in strategy and narrative, retired USAF colonel, former faculty at the US Army School of Advanced Military Studies.

Ajit Maan, philosopher specializing in analysing narrative and strategy to assist counter-terrorism , author of *Narrative Warfare.*

Valerie Mueller, economist specializing in international development, migration and food security, with a focus on Africa.

Candace Rondeaux, expert on post-conflict reconstruction, formerly of US Institute of Peace, SIGAR and Afghanistan/Pakistan Bureau Chief for *The Washington Post*.

Daniel Rothenberg, anthropologist, expert in managing rule of law and human rights projects in Afghanistan, Iraq, Africa and Latin America, editor and author of multiple books including *Drone Wars.*

Lt. Gen. (ret.) Robert Schmidle, first Deputy Commander of US Cyber Command, combat fighter pilot, Ph.D. in philosophy, expert on strategy and changing character of war.

Peter W. Singer, leading expert on 21stcentury security, author of best-selling books including *Wired for War, Cybersecurity and Cyberwar* and *LikeWar: The Weaponization of Social Media.*

David Siroky, political scientist specializing in comparative politics, international relations and ethnicity with a focus on Central and Eastern Europe.

Reed Wood, political scientist specializing in conflict processes, human rights and the strategic dimensions of state and non-state actor violence against civilians.

The ASU Online Masters of Arts in
GLOBAL SECURITY

The MA in Global Security trains students to critically engage complex global conflict and international security issues. The interdisciplinary curriculum and links an overview of major ideas on international relations and world politics with practical case studies. Students gain insight into cutting-edge research through courses taught by top faculty, including program-specific lectures and materials from former government officials, military leaders, journalists, human rights experts and others. The MA focuses on developing students' critical strategic thinking to enable career advancement through a unique educational experience at the nation's most innovative university. .

COURSES

Required Core (3 credits)

War, Conflict and Security

The course engages interdisciplinary approaches to conflict and international security with a focus on defining strategic approaches to short, medium and long-term global trends. The class reviews key philosophical and social science theories of war and conflict drawn from international relations, sociology and conflict studies.

Electives / Research (24 credits)

Security Studies

The course considers key determinants of global insecurity including ungoverned spaces, civilizational conflict, technological innovation, climate change and terrorism. The course links security with economic well-being and principles of domestic and international governance.

Future of War

The course engages the profound social, political, economic, and cultural implications of the changing character of war and conflict. It also provides an overview of key philosophical and military-strategic theories and conceptions of war.

Understanding Conflict and War

The course provides a critical review of different definitions and meanings of war and armed conflict. It also considers empirical studies to help explain what drives, sustains and resolves conflict.

Law of War

The course provides an overview of key elements of the law of war, also known as international humanitarian law (IHL) and the law of armed conflict (LOAC). It engages basic principles of international law, reviewing its history, sources and operations.

U.S. Politics of Security

The course reviews the structure of US national security institutions and the ways in which they work together and sometimes operate in conflict. The class reviews separation of powers as linked to war and policy and engage the structure and function of key agencies.

Global Politics of Security

The course reviews the structure and operation of international security institutions and actors including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the United Nations' Security Council, peacekeeping missions, regional organizations (NATO, EU, Inter-American System, ASEAN, etc.) and others.

Comparative Studies of Conflict

This course provides a critical overview of key theories on the causes, justifications and structures of armed conflict. It reviews ideas of collective action, nonviolence as a political strategy and engages distinctions between civil wars and interstate wars.

Emerging Technologies and Global Security

The course reviews the impact and significance of emerging technologies on global security with a focus on cybersecurity/cyberwar, mass surveillance, autonomous systems, drones, bio- and genetic weapons, and weapons of mass destruction.

Governance in Post-Conflict/ Transitional Contexts

The course considers the challenges of governance in post-conflict and transitional contexts. It reviews core issues of peacekeeping, stability operations, reconstruction, reconciliation and governance.

Terrorism and Insurgency

This course provides a critical overview of the use of terror by governments, insurgents and other non-state actors. The class reviews different definitions of terrorism and engages key theories as to the causes, meaning and impact of the use of terror as a strategy by distinct groups.

Human Rights and Armed Conflict

This course explores the impact of armed conflict on civilian populations and efforts by professionals working to protect them. The class reviews key humanitarian principles and policies created to mitigate civilian harm.

Global Trends

The course reviews significant post-WWII global trends to understanding security issues in an interdisciplinary manner. The class reviews the impact and meaning of decolonization, modernization, democratization and international development as policies and mechanisms of understanding key political, economic, cultural and structural challenges.

Intelligence Issues in Global Security

This course provides an interdisciplinary approach to engaging a variety of intelligence issues. It reviews intelligence gathering, analysis and processing with a focus on its defensive and offensive value.

Urbanization, Security and Conflict

This course examines the complex nature of the security in dense urban areas, It reviews the capabilities and limitations of governing structures to provide security, challenges of securing urban terrain and provides useful analytical frameworks for understanding security in these environments.

Overview of Cybersecurity

The class provides an overview of cybersecurity with a focus on its relationship to broad national and international security issues. The class explains core concepts of cybersecurity, cyberwar and cyberpower and engages key ideas of internet architecture and complexity, public governance and protection and the potential for escalation within cyber domains.

Cybersecurity Threats and Trends

The class focuses on the complex nature of cybersecurity threats and emerging trends within the field. The class covers hacking, data breaches, protecting critical infrastructure and examines considers ethical concerns of balancing the need for actionable intelligence and the protection of basic civil rights and liberties.

Cybersecurity, Global Politics and Resiliency

The class engages the special challenges associated with preparing for cybersecurity threats, with a focus on the meaning and mechanisms of enabling resiliency from a global security perspective. The class provides an overview of core vulnerabilities, types of attackers, modes of targeting and developing ideas and systems to withstand complex threats.

Cybersecurity Planning and Strategy

The class focuses on comprehensive cybersecurity planning with a consideration on the meaning and implementation of strategy. It reviews relevant institutions and actors, modes of threat analysis, and international cyber and internet regulation.

Culminating Experience (3 Credits)

Capstone

This course serves as the culminating experience of the Masters in Global Security. The capstone course allows each student to explore a research area, interest, theme or question. Final written products will be developed individually based on consultation with faculty.

The **School of Politics and Global Studies** at ASU emphasizes research that links theory with real world issues and action through policy. The School generates and diffuses knowledge that contributes to society's understanding of politics and governance at local, national and global levels. Students will study topics ranging from campaigns and elections to violence, conflict and human rights. As an SPGS student, you will be prepared to develop innovative approaches to major emerging challenges.

The **Center on the Future of War** explores the social, political, economic, and cultural implications of the changing character of war and conflict. Our teams of academic and professional experts generate creative solutions to pressing security issues through interdisciplinary research, policy oriented publications and innovative educational programming.

Contact

spgs.asu.edu
spgs@asu.edu

futureofwar.asu.edu
futureofwar@asu.edu