

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
IAFF 206.10: Long Range Issues in National Security
Capstone

Professor Leon Fuerth
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Fall Semester 2002
Thursday, 6:10-8:00pm
Class meets in Stuart 401B
For appts. e-mail Jill
Phone: 994-4543

Class meets: 9/5, 9/26, 10/17, 11/7 and 12/5. (*Meetings with additional guest speakers may be scheduled throughout the semester. We will notify you of these dates*)

Course Mission Statement:

Students will explore long-range trends and events in science, economics, defense and governance that could have a major impact on our society and on the world in general, by the time the students themselves have reached positions of senior responsibility. The students will explore whether such events could prove to be especially challenging to democratic governance. The students will therefore also discuss ways in which, starting now, it would be possible to improve the capacity of the government of the United States to perceive and respond to the accelerating onrush of future events.

Note: All examinations, papers, and other graded work products and assignments are to be completed in conformance with The George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity.

Structure:

The class will need one deputy national security adviser to be responsible for coordinating the preparation of the final paper and presentation. The class will divide itself into five subgroups and choose team leaders: *Science & Technology, Security: Military & Defense, Economics & Finance, State Stability & Governance* and *Networking & Process*. The subgroups will be required to meet at additional times to be decided by the groups. In addition, each student will choose an individual area of concentration relevant to the subgroup topic to research and prepare a written assessment.

Timeline:

SESSION #1: September 5th

In class: Overview of the course, organization, presentation of President's instructions. Students will separate themselves into five groups: security, science and technology, economics, governance, and network applications. Teams will choose team leaders. Students will be given an overview on how the network is to operate, along with the names of outside consultants.

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First post-class interval, September 5-26: During this time, the students activate the net, review findings of their predecessors, look through the welcome kit, operating as teams during this time under the leadership of the separate team leaders. The students will meet with outside experts, and will also meet once with Professor Fuerth (one meeting per team). The focus of their work during this time is to think about major future developments in their respective areas. They will operate separately as groups each from its own perspective, but there are certain common issues that they will also explore: population and aging, environment, energy, proliferation, disease...etc. These can be thought of as important determinants of what the world will look like. During this period, the students will begin to prepare group papers presenting their findings and preliminary conclusions regarding major future events. These papers will consist of a brief overall summary (1-2 pages), covering short individual papers from the students (2-3 pages) breaking down the subject matter of their group into its logical components. **Each student's individual paper should be e-mailed to Jill Hayes (jhayes@gwu.edu) by 12:00pm on September 20.** Throughout this period, students in each team will be using the extended net in order to test their views and expand their comprehension.

SESSION #2: September 26th

In class: The five student groups will present the findings represented in their papers for discussion by the class as a whole. Professor Fuerth will respond to their papers singly and in terms of the composition of the whole. Possible second batch of outside experts to talk.

Second post-class interval, September 26-October 17: During this interval, students will focus on identifying policy issues they believe to have been raised as implications to their earlier findings on future developments. Possible encounter with a policy-oriented group of outsiders. Second round of meetings with Professor Fuerth, team by team. Use of the network. Continued preparation of group papers focusing on policy issues. As before, papers to consist of brief 1-2 page covering summary on top of short 2-3 page individual papers dealing with constituent issues as determined by students. **The group papers should be e-mailed to Jill Hayes by 12:00pm on October 15.**

SESSION #3: October 17th

In class: Papers on policy issues will be presented by the teams and discussed by the group as a whole. Possible outside guests.

Third post-class interval, October 17-November 7: In this period, the focus will shift to process, with special emphasis on the impact and potential of networked communications and decision-making systems. In contrast to previous post-class intervals, the group responsible for network applications and process will take the lead, with inputs from

other groups as required. Outside guests to talk about long range planning in relevant parts of government. Another round of meetings with Professor Fuerth. Use of the network.

SESSION #4: November 7th

In class: Focus of the meeting is on both governance (classical sovereignty vs. multilateralism/global governance) and adaptation of government processes to 21st century conditions. Papers on policy issues will be presented by groups and discussed by class as a whole.

Fourth post-class Interval, November 7-December 5: Students regroup as committee of the whole to fuse their findings into an integrated paper to consist of an overall report and executive summary and power point summary. Use of the network to vet these. **Drafts of these materials to be e-mailed to Jill Hayes by November 22.** Final consult with Professor Fuerth subsequent to submission of draft in anticipation of final class.

SESSION #5: December 5th

In class: Class presents findings to "President." (Power point briefing) Discussion. Summary report of discussion to be distributed to members of net.