The Brady-Johnson Program in Grand Strategy
Studies in Grand Strategy, Spring 2018

Director: Beverly Gage
Associate Director: Ian Johnson
Instructors: Beverly Gage, Bryan Garsten, Ian Johnson
Founders: John Gaddis, Charles Hill, Paul Kennedy
Practitioners: Victoria Nuland, Jake Sullivan, Evan Wolfson
Guest lecturers: Rosie Bsheer, Emily Greenwood, Jason Lyall
Administrator: Kathleen Galo kathleen.galo@yale.edu

Course numbers: HIST 985
HIST 482J
PLSC 321

Office Hours: Beverly Gage:
Location: 31 Hillhouse Avenue, Office 307
Email: beverly.gage@yale.edu
Wednesdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Bryan Garsten:
Location: 115 Prospect Street, Room 422
Email: bryan.garsten@yale.edu
Tuesdays, 3:00-5:00 pm.

Ian Johnson:
Location: 31 Hillhouse, Office 210
Email: ian.johnson@yale.edu
Mondays, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Meeting time/place: MW 2:30-3:45

THE YEAR-LONG COURSE

Studies in Grand Strategy consists of a two-semester class and an individual summer project. The first semester explores the history and theory of grand strategy through readings, discussion, and lectures in history and political thought. The second semester focuses on contemporary challenges in statecraft, geopolitics, domestic politics, and social change. This second semester includes team strategy briefs, as well as a crisis simulation.

Students must take both semesters of the seminar. They must also undertake a summer research project or internship focusing on some particular aspect of strategy, whether of a historical or a
contemporary character. They will also be expected to attend separately scheduled faculty workshops and lectures by distinguished guests.

**SPRING 2018 COURSE STRUCTURE**

The spring course meets twice per week. On Mondays, all students attend a group-taught lecture. On Wednesdays, students participate in one of two discussion seminars, taught respectively by Professor Gage and Professor Garsten. Both seminars will discuss the same readings and topics. Students will be assigned alphabetically to one of the two seminars.

**REQUIRED READING**

The following books are available for purchase at the Yale bookstore. ** All other readings are available in the course packet provided to each student on the first day of class. ** Backup copies of the course packet readings are available on Canvas.

1. Thucydides, The Landmark Thucydides, Edited by Robert B. Strassler (Free Press).
5. Saul Alinsky, Rules for Radicals (Random House).
7. Martin Luther King, Jr., Why We Can’t Wait (Signet Classics).
8. Mark Engler and Paul Engler, This is an Uprising: How Nonviolent Revolt is Shaping the Twenty-First Century (Nation Books).
9. Course Packet, containing all other readings.

Reading assignments from required books are indicated throughout the syllabus by a +. Reading assignments from the Course Packet are indicated throughout the syllabus by a *.

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS**

Students are responsible for four written assignments during the spring term, as well as four blog posts responding to readings assigned in seminar. All written work, with the exception of the blog posts, should be submitted via Canvas under Assignments.

**Blog posts/reading responses**

Reading and preparation for discussion are crucial for the Wednesday seminars. To aid in discussion, each student will be responsible for **four blog posts of approximately 250 words** over the course of the semester responding to the week’s readings and lectures, and framing questions for in-class discussion. The blog assignments will be **randomly assigned at the**
beginning of the semester. Students are expected to complete their blog posts by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, in advance of Wednesday’s discussion. These are to be posted to Canvas, under “Discussions.”

Assignment 1: Strategic Autobiography

The first assignment (3-5 pages, double-spaced) requires you to think strategically about your own past and future, and will serve as the basis for a personal introduction during the class retreat on Sunday, January 21. The paper should address the following questions: What do you hope to accomplish, or to contribute to the world, over the next twenty years? How do you plan to do it? What are the greatest obstacles to achieving your goals? Students should devote thought to these questions during winter break, and arrive at the retreat prepared to give a brief personal introduction addressing these themes. The retreat will serve as an opportunity for further brainstorming and refinement of your ideas with your classmates. The written autobiography is due at midnight on Sunday, January 28. The assignment must be uploaded to Canvas by that date.

Assignment 2: Summer research prospectus

Early in the spring semester, each student will be expected to consult individually with one or more of the GS faculty on a summer project. If approved, funding will normally be available for these projects averaging $2,500 – 3,000 per student, and students are highly encouraged to seek out sources of supplementary funds. In order to receive funding, students must develop a research prospectus (3-5 pages, double-spaced) outlining the scope of the project, essential questions and themes, and a budget for project completion. The research prospectus is due at midnight on Sunday, March 11. The assignment must be uploaded to Canvas by that date.

Assignment 3: Reading analysis

The second essay assignment requires an essay of 5-8 pages on one of the topics listed below. The goal in this paper is to understand and reflect on the analysis of these issues in our readings. Before we can think about the possibility of applying the readings’ insights elsewhere, we have to be sure we understand those insights themselves. The reading analysis is due at midnight on Sunday, March 25. The assignment must be uploaded to Canvas by that date.

1. Why do nations go to war with one another, and what are the most promising strategies for reducing the likelihood of war? Approach this broad question in a focused way by a) carefully studying the causes of war according to Thucydides, the analysis of “the causes of hostility among nations” in Federalist #6, and Rousseau’s “The State of War,” and b) analyzing the strategies for reducing war put forward by the Federalists, Kant, and the designers of the League of Nations and the United Nations. Which of the strategies explored in those works are most likely to be successful against the causes of war identified in the readings, and why? Among the strategies you should consider are the encouragement of commerce, the maintenance of balanced alliances, the construction of confederations between states, the consolidation of states into larger empires or nations (e.g. the U.S.), and the articulation of international norms and laws.
2. How can the energy and judgment of “the people” best be harnessed in politics?
Approach this broad question in a focused way by a) carefully studying the promise and the pitfalls of popular involvement in politics as described in Thucydides, Machiavelli and the Federalists, and b) analyzing the institutional structures and leadership strategies that those authors seem to recommend. Choose one or two of these strategies to evaluate. Explain carefully what governing challenge they aim to address and explore their likely success.

Assignment 4: Grand Strategy in Historical Perspective

Choose a moment or topic from the historical case studies discussed since spring break, and analyze how (or if) something recognizable as “grand strategy” played a role in shaping the course of events. This will require you to offer a working definition of “grand strategy,” and to analyze the success or failure of such large-scale, intentional ways of thinking as measured against other contingent historical forces (political, economic, social, cultural). A variety of approaches is possible. You might choose to analyze the actions of U.S. government officials in their views of war, international conflict, and world order. You might instead choose to explore strategies of social change employed by activists or grassroots movements. Alternatively, you might choose to analyze the strategies employed by a government other than that of the U.S., either in cooperation with or opposition to U.S. grand strategy. The key is to narrate and analyze a historical moment through a strategic lens: What did particular actors hope to accomplish? How did they understand the problems they were facing? Did they succeed or fail, and by what measures? This 8-10-page assignment is due by midnight on Sunday, May 6. The assignment must be uploaded to Canvas by that date.

GRADING

Students will be assessed in the following manner:
- In-class participation, including lectures, seminars, and dinners (20 percent)
- Blog posts (10 percent)
- Strategic autobiography (10 percent)
- Summer research prospectus (10 percent)
- Reading analysis (20 percent)
- Historical case study (30 percent)

DINNERS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout the year, there will be several special lectures and dinner discussions, often featuring distinguished visitors. This spring, there are nine total dinners with policymakers, scholars and others. These will be held Monday, and occasionally Wednesday, nights at the Q Club and the Yale Graduate Club. Students are welcome and encouraged to attend all of the dinners. They are required to attend at least four dinners over the course of the semester. The dinners with Jake Sullivan, Evan Wolfson, and Victoria Nuland are mandatory. In addition, all students must attend at least one other dinner over the course of the spring semester.
For non-mandatory dinners, attendance is on a “first come, first served” basis. Kathleen Galo will take reservations for these, which tend to go quickly. It is recommended that students email her promptly to confirm their attendance as soon as the dinner is announced via email.

**LAPTOP POLICY**

Laptops and other electronic devices are **not permitted** in class. Students who use such devices during class time will be asked to leave the classroom. Repeat offenders **may be dismissed** from the Grand Strategy program.
# Studies in Grand Strategy, Spring Schedule

## WEEK 1

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, January 17</strong></td>
<td>Introduction (Gage, Garsten)</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, January 19</strong></td>
<td>Roundtable: The Past, Present and Future of GS (Gage, Garsten, Gaddis, Hill, Kennedy)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, January 21</strong></td>
<td><strong>CLASS RETREAT, 1-4 p.m., HGS 211</strong> **</td>
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## WEEK 2 (JANUARY 22/24)

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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, January 22</strong></td>
<td>No class</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, January 24</strong></td>
<td>First sections meet</td>
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<td>The first sections expand upon discussion of the reading material assigned for the class retreat: Brands, Gaddis, Liddell-Hart, Slaughter, and Tufekci.</td>
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## PART 1: STRATEGY AND TACTICS

## WEEK 3 (January 29/31)

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<td>(Garsten, Emily Greenwood)</td>
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+Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*

- Book One: Introduction, sections 1-23 (pp. 35-49 in Penguin edition); The debate at Sparta, sections 66-88 (pp. 72-87)
- Book Two: The first year of the war, sections 18-33 (pp.136-143); Pericles’s Funeral Oration, sections 34-46 (pp. 143-151); The Plague, sections 47-55 (pp. 151-156); The policy of Pericles, sections 56-65 (pp. 156-164)
- Book Three: The Mytilenian Debate, sections 36-50 (pp. 212-223); The Civil War in Corcyra, sections 69-85 (pp. 236-245)
- Book Five: The Melian Dialogue, sections 84-116 (pp. 400-408)
- Book Six: The Sicilian Expedition, sections 8-32 (pp. 414-429)


WEEK 4 (FEBRUARY 5/7) MANAGING PRINCES AND PEOPLES (Garsten, Gage)

+Machiavelli, The Discourses on Livy, Book One, Preface, chapters 1-21, 26-27, 29-30, 32-34, 38, 40, 46-48, 52-59; Book Two, chapters 1-6, 9-10, 12; Book III, chapters 30-35, 49.

Wednesday, February 7: Dinner with Senator Russell Feingold  
Russell Feingold is the Martin R. Flug Visiting Professor in the Practice of Law at Yale Law School. He served as a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin from 1993 to 2011 and a Wisconsin State Senator from 1983 to 1993. From 2013 to 2015, he served as the United States Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region of Africa and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition to his congressional and diplomatic career, Senator Feingold has taught or lectured at Stanford University and Stanford Law School, Lawrence University, Marquette University Law School, American University, and Beloit College. He is a regular contributor to The Guardian. Senator Feingold holds a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Oxford (as a Rhodes Scholar), and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

WEEK 5 (FEBRUARY 12/14) PROJECTS OF PEACE THROUGH CONFEDERATION (Garsten, Hill)

+The Federalist Papers #1-13, 28, 37, 49-51.  
*Charter of the United Nations (1945), full text, esp. preamble and chapters 1-3, 6-7.

Monday, February 12: Lecture and dinner with Heather McGhee  
Heather C. McGhee is President of Demos, a public policy organization devoted to ensuring that all Americans have an equal say in democracy and an equal chance in the economy. A widely recognized public intellectual, McGhee frequently appears on shows such as Meet the Press and her opinions, writing and research have appeared in numerous outlets. In 2009, she co-chaired a task force within Americans for Financial Reform that helped shape key provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. She is currently a member of the World Economic Forum’s
Global Agenda Council on Civic Participation and serves on the boards of the Center for Working Families and Consumer Reports. She holds a B.A. in American Studies from Yale University and a J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley School of Law.

WEEK 6 (FEBRUARY 19/21) ON WAR
(Johnson, Jason Lyall)

**NOTE: Seminars will meet on Monday, February 19; Lecture will meet on Wednesday, February 21**

* Beyerchen, “Clausewitz, Nonlinearity, and the Unpredictability of War.
* Clausewitz, On War (Jolles Edition), Excerpts.
* Sumida, Decoding Clausewitz, Introduction.

Monday, February 19: Dinner with Yuval Levin
Yuval Levin is the editor of National Affairs. He is also the Hertog Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, a senior editor of The New Atlantis, and a contributing editor to National Review and the Weekly Standard. He has been a member of the White House domestic policy staff (under President George W. Bush), executive director of the President’s Council on Bioethics, and a congressional staffer. His essays and articles have appeared in numerous publications including The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, Commentary. He is the author, most recently, of The Fractured Republic: Renewing America's Social Contract in the Age of Individualism. He holds a BA from American University and a PhD from the University of Chicago.

WEEK 7 (FEBRUARY 26/28) TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM
(Gage, Garsten)

* Bruce Hoffman, Inside Terrorism, chapter 1.
* FILM: The Battle of Algiers (1966, see below)

Monday, February 26: Dinner with General John E. Hyten
General John E. Hyten is Commander of U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), one of nine Unified Commands under the Department of Defense. USSTRATCOM is responsible for the global command and control of U.S. strategic forces to meet national security objectives, providing a broad range of strategic capabilities and options for the President and Secretary of Defense. General Hyten attended Harvard University on an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship, graduated in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in engineering and applied sciences and was commissioned a second
lieutenant. General Hyten's career includes assignments in a variety of space acquisition and operations positions. He served in senior engineering positions on both Air Force and Army anti-satellite weapon system programs.

**Tuesday, February 27: Battle of Algiers Film Screening**

**WEEK 8 (MARCH 5/7)**
NON-VIOLENCE, LAW, AND SOCIAL CHANGE
(Gage, Evan Wolfson)

+Mark Engler and Paul Engler, *This is an Uprising: How Nonviolent Revolt is Shaping the Twenty-First Century*, introduction, chapter 1-2, 4, 10.

**REQUIRED: Monday, March 5: Dinner with Evan Wolfson, Brady-Johnson Distinguished Practitioner in Grand Strategy**
Wolfson was founder and president of Freedom to Marry, the campaign that won same-sex marriage in the United States, and is widely considered the architect of the movement that led to nationwide victory in 2015. During the 1990's he served as co-counsel in the historic Hawaii marriage case that launched the ongoing global movement for the freedom to marry, and has participated in numerous gay rights and HIV/AIDS cases. Wolfson wrote the book, *Why Marriage Matters: America, Equality, and Gay People's Right to Marry*. In 2012, Wolfson received the Barnard Medal of Distinction alongside President Barack Obama. Having achieved in 2015 the goal he had pursued for 32 years, Wolfson now devotes his time to advising and assisting diverse movements and causes in the U.S. and around the world eager to adapt the model and apply the lessons that made the Freedom to Marry campaign so successful.

**MARCH 10-25: SPRING BREAK**

**PART 2: U.S. Power at Home and Abroad**

**WEEK 9 (MARCH 26/28)**
WOODROW WILSON AND THE PROBLEM OF EMPIRE
(Gage, Rosie Bsheer)
REQUIRED: Wednesday, March 28: Dinner with Jake Sullivan, Brady-Johnson Distinguished Practitioner in Grand Strategy
Sullivan served in the Obama administration as national security adviser to the Vice President and Director of Policy Planning at the U.S. Department of State, as well as deputy chief of staff to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. He was the Senior Policy Adviser on Secretary Clinton’s 2016 presidential campaign and served as deputy policy director on her 2008 presidential primary campaign. Sullivan also previously served as a senior policy adviser and chief counsel to Senator Amy Klobuchar, worked as an associate for Faegre & Benson LLP, and taught at the University of St. Thomas Law School. He clerked for Judge Stephen Breyer and Judge Guido Calabresi of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

WEEK 10 (APRIL 2/4) FROM U.N. TO CONTAINMENT
(Johnson, Gaddis)

*John Gaddis, Strategies of Containment, pp. 3-87.
*George F. Kennan, The Long Telegram.
*Harry S Truman, Address at the United Nations Conference.

Monday, April 2: Lecture and dinner with Molly Worthen, in conversation with Charles Hill

WEEK 11 (APRIL 9/11) COLD WAR CIVIL RIGHTS
(Gage, Victoria Nuland)

*Mary Dudziak, Cold War Civil Rights, intro, chapter 3.
+Martin Luther King, Jr, *Why We Can’t Wait*.

**REQUIRED: Monday, April 9: Dinner with Victoria Nuland, Brady-Johnson Distinguished Practitioner in Grand Strategy**

Victoria Nuland served as Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs from September 2013 until January 2017, and was responsible for U.S. policy and diplomatic relations with 50 countries spanning the continent from the United Kingdom to Russia, NATO, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. A career member of the U.S. Foreign Service for 3 decades, she served in China, Russia, Mongolia and twice at NATO in Belgium. Her career also includes serving as: Spokesperson of the State Department under Secretary Clinton; Ambassador to NATO under President George W. Bush; Deputy National Security Advisor to Vice President Cheney; and Political Officer at Embassy Moscow.

**WEEK 12 (APRIL 16/18)   VIETNAM AND THE LIMITS OF U.S. POWER (Gage, TBD)**


*David Halberstam, *The Best and Brightest*, introduction, chapter 1

*FILM: Fog of War (2003, see below)*

**Tuesday, April 17: Fog of War Film Screening**


**WEEK 13 (APRIL 23/25)   WHO ENDED THE COLD WAR? (Johnson, Kennedy)**

*Francis Fukuyama, “The End of History?”*


**WEEK 14 (APRIL 30)   U.S. STRATEGY IN A POST-COLD WAR WORLD (Gage, Garsten)**

*The Instructors Reserve the Right to Modify or Amend This Syllabus*