The Brady-Johnson Program in Grand Strategy

Studies in Grand Strategy, Fall 2019

Director: Beverly Gage

Associate Director: Michael Brenes (michael.brenes@yale.edu)

Practitioners: Victoria Nuland, Jake Sullivan, and Evan Wolfson

Course numbers: HIST 483J
GLBL 344
PLSC 161
MGT 984 02: ID # 20253 (this section only for SOM-MBA students)

Office Hours: Beverly Gage:
Location: 31 Hillhouse Avenue, Office 301
Wednesdays 3:30-5:30

Michael Brenes
Location: 31 Hillhouse Avenue, Office 307
Mondays 10:00-12:00

Meeting time/place: Mondays, 2:30 – 4:20; 81 Wall Street, Room 101

THE YEAR-LONG COURSE

Studies in Grand Strategy is a year-long seminar intended for students interested in history, politics, and public service. Its goal is to equip students to think rigorously and historically about the category of grand strategy, and to apply their learning to large-scale problems in the contemporary world. The course emphasizes the study of history and humanistic thought, and promotes the sharing of knowledge between scholars and practitioners.

This second semester focuses on recent events and contemporary challenges for grand strategy. The semester includes team strategy briefs, as well as a crisis simulation. The semester is organized into four thematic units taught primarily by the practitioners, in conversation with Professor Gage and Professor Brenes:

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<td>Instructor: Jake Sullivan</td>
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MANDATORY EVENTS

Briefings Workshop, September 16, 2019 (Luce 202)
Michael Brenes will meet with students to discuss how to handle the preparation of a briefing. The forum will prepare students to brief different audiences and synthesize complex material into a concise presentation.

Crisis Simulation, December 6, 1-5 PM (ROOM TBD)

Dinners and Special Events with Visiting Speakers
Throughout the year, there will be several special lectures and dinner discussions, often featuring distinguished visitors. These events are usually, though not always, held on Monday nights at 5pm. **Students are required to attend all dinners and special events.** Students who are unable to participate in a dinner or event should email Michael Brenes (michael.brenes@yale.edu) well in advance of the event date. Below is a brief schedule of events and dinners. More details on these events follow on page 10 of the syllabus:

*Friday, August 30: “Welcome Back” dinner with Professors Gage and Brenes*

*Monday, 9 September: Dinner with the World Fellows, The Graduate Club*

*Wednesday, October 2: “Big Picture” event with Samantha Power and Harold Koh, followed by private reception*

*Monday, 7 October: “Big Picture” event with James Comey and Asha Rangappa, followed by private dinner*

*Monday, 11 November: “Big Picture” event with Ross Douthat and Carlos Eire, followed by private dinner*

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Individual work

1) Class preparation and participation are vital to the seminar’s success. Students are expected to attend all class meetings and to be ready to discuss the week’s readings. Prior to the class session, faculty will post questions for discussion and consideration on the Canvas discussion board. **Each week, students will submit a discussion response** (approximately 250 words) considering at least one of these questions, and comparing and contrasting the week’s readings, in preparation for class discussion. **Reading responses should be posted to the appropriate Canvas discussion thread no later than 5 pm on the Sunday before each class.** Individual assignments will not be graded, but responses must reflect evidence of preparation and demonstrate a close, careful analysis of the readings. **Successful completion of the response papers is worth 10% of the final course grade.**
2) Students will write a **15-20-page, double-spaced paper**, based on their summer research projects, **due Friday, September 27th at midnight, uploaded to Canvas as a Word document**. In this paper, students are asked to present their research or insights from their summer project. All references should be appropriate, carefully researched, and properly cited. **The summer research paper is worth 30% of the final course grade.** Students may choose from one of three formats for the research paper:

A **strategy briefing** should be prepared in the form of a briefing for top executives or government officials. The audience should be made clear. After a one-page executive summary, the essay should then lay out the landscape in a detailed and nuanced way that leads to a **clear statement of the problem or threat, specifies the objective or “end” in mind, and provides a strategy to achieve the desired end**. The essay should consider multiple strategies and explain why the recommended strategy is best. The limitations or risks of the selected strategy should be identified and addressed, and a high-level timeline for action should be included. The briefing should pay particular attention to long-term historical analysis, in addition to analyzing contemporary challenges.

An **essay for a generalist audience** should be prepared in the form of a submission to an outlet such as *Foreign Affairs* or *The Atlantic*. The paper should provide new insights about a problem or question of grand strategic importance based on summer research. **The paper may rely on secondary readings, conversations with interviewees, and observations of events, rather than original data sets**, but it must pay particular attention to long-term historical analysis, in addition to analyzing contemporary challenges.

A **research paper for an academic audience** should be prepared in the form of a submission to a peer-reviewed academic journal in which the student provides **primary data and original analysis** of a problem of grand strategic importance that has not been previously addressed in the literature. **Methods should be clearly specified.** The paper should pay particular attention to long-term historical analysis, in addition to analyzing contemporary challenges.

**Group work**

Students will be assigned to groups tasked with devising a grand strategy to address a given topic. Each group will prepare a **written brief** (10 pages, double-spaced, maximum), including a 1-page executive summary. The brief will present a grand strategy for the given topic, targeted at the assigned audience. **The written brief is due 72 hours before each of the two oral presentations, uploaded to Canvas as a Word document.** Each group will revise their **written brief** after the first presentation, and upload it to Canvas 72 hours before the second presentation.

Each group will give **two oral presentations of their strategy proposals**. The first briefing will last for one hour. Each briefing team should prepare a twenty minute presentation, but should expect that frequent interruptions and clarifying questions will extend the length of each presentation. Following the briefing itself, students will receive feedback from the course faculty.
and invited outside experts, as well as from classroom peers. **The first round of briefings will occur during class on October 14. Preparation and quality of work will be worth 10% of the final course grade.**

The second presentation will be shorter and more formal. It is expected that the final briefings will reflect the feedback received during the first round of briefings. **The final briefing session will be held in class on December 6.** This will constitute most of the grade for the briefings. **20% of the final course grade will be determined by the written briefs, and 20% by the oral presentations.**

Equal collaboration and participation within each group is required for a successful briefing. Barring any extenuating circumstances, all students will be graded as a group. More details on the briefings will follow later in the semester.

**Class Participation**

Students are expected to participate actively and productively in class discussions and related events. **Participation is worth 10% of the final course grade.** Participation grades indicate evidence of adequate preparation, completion of the readings, and productive engagement with the class.

**ADDITIONAL POLICIES**

**Lateness policy**
Assignments that are handed in after the due date will be penalized one grade for each day the assignment is handed in late. For example, if the paper is handed in Saturday, September 28th--when it was due on September 27th--the highest grade the paper can receive is an A-. If handed in on Sunday, September 29th, the highest grade will be a B+, and so forth.

**CR/D/F**
Undergraduate students are strongly discouraged from enrolling in the class CR/D/F. Majors in History, Political Science, Global Affairs, and EP&E may not count the GS class toward the major if it is taken Cr/D/F. Students who take the class Cr/D/F may not receive summer fellowship funding.

**Laptop Policy**
Laptops and other electronic devices are not permitted in class. Students who use such devices during class time may be asked to leave the classroom.

**Plagiarism**
You must document all of your source material. If you take any text from somebody else, you must make it clear the text is being quoted and where the text comes from. You must also cite any sources from which you obtain numbers, ideas, or other material. If you have any questions about what does or does not constitute plagiarism, ask! Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be treated lightly. Fortunately, it is also easy to avoid and if you are the least bit careful about giving credit where credit is due you should not run into any problems.
Disclaimer on Syllabus
All instructors reserve the right to amend the syllabus as the semester changes and the course progresses. Changes to the syllabus will be announced to the class via email and/or in class.

Reading Assignments
Weekly readings will be distributed on paper in class the week before they are due, except when drawn from the purchased books. All readings (aside from those in the books below) are also available on Canvas. A relevant URL follows a reading assignment that can be obtained online. The following are the required books for the course:


STUDIES IN GRAND STRATEGY, FALL SCHEDULE

UNIT I: Geopolitics and the Great Powers, August 30-September 16
Jake Sullivan, instructor

INTRODUCTION
Friday, 30 August                                             Fundamentals of Geopolitics

Reading Assignments:

*Friday, 30 August, 5:30 PM: “Welcome Back” dinner*

Monday, September 2nd: NO CLASS: LABOR DAY

Monday, 9 September                                         US-China Relations

- Kori Schake, “How International Hegemony Changes,” Cato Unbound, March 5, 2018
- Vice President Mike Pence, “Remarks by Vice President Pence on the Administration’s Policy Toward China,” October 4, 2018, [https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/)$\text{rem}$$\text{arks-vice-president-pence-administrations-policy-toward-china/}$

Optional

*Monday, 9 September, 6:30 PM: Dinner with the World Fellows, The Graduate Club*
Monday, 16 September

- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Preamble and Articles I through VI, https://www.state.gov/t/isn/trty/16281.htm

Optional
- *Kenneth N. Waltz, “Why Iran should get the bomb: Nuclear balancing would mean stability,” Foreign Affairs, July/August 2012.

Monday, September 16, 6 pm: Briefing Workshop (Luce 202)

Michael Brenes will meet with students to discuss how to handle the preparation of a briefing. The forum will prepare students to brief different audiences and synthesize complex material into a concise presentation.

UNIT II, Liberal Democracy and Populist Autocracy,
September 23-October 7
Victoria Nuland, instructor

Monday, 23 September

- Robert L. Beisner, Dean Acheson, a Life in the Cold War, chapter 37, "Conclusion: Power for a Purpose."
- Richard A. Debs, The Bretton Woods Mission: Before, Then and Now, Bretton Woods@75 Compendium https://www.brettonwoods.org/BW75/compendium-release
- Angela Merkel, Harvard Commencement Speech, May 2019
  Merkel at Harvard
***FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27: PAPER DUE BY MIDNIGHT***

**Monday, 30 September**

- Madeleine Albright, Testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, February 26, 2019 [https://docs.house.gov/meetings/IG/IG00/20190226/108940/HHRG-116-IG00-Wstate-AlbrightM-20190226.pdf](https://docs.house.gov/meetings/IG/IG00/20190226/108940/HHRG-116-IG00-Wstate-AlbrightM-20190226.pdf)

*Wednesday, 2 October, 2:00 PM: “Big Picture” event with Samantha Power and Harold Koh (moderated by Jake Sullivan), followed by private reception*

**Monday, 7 October**

- Andrew Wilson, *Ukraine Crisis: What it Means for the West*

Optional (two views on film)

*Monday, 7 October, 5 PM: “Big Picture” event, followed by private dinner with James Comey and Beverly Gage (moderated by Asha Rangappa)*
UNIT III, US Politics and Social Change, October 14-October 28
Evan Wolfson, instructor

Monday, 14 October  Social Movement Strategy and the Freedom to Marry

- *Mark Engler and Paul Engler, This is an Uprising: How Nonviolent Revolt is Shaping the Twenty-First Century* (2016), chapters 1, 4 (review from Spring 2019).

Monday, 21 October  The NRA & Multiple Methodologies of Change


Monday, 28 October  The Future of Protest


Monday, 4 November  Briefing Sessions- Round One (WLH 208 and 211)

Instructors: Beverly Gage, Michael Brenes
Briefing Topics:
1) U.S.-China relations
2) U.S-Russia relations
3) Gun Violence in the United States
4) Immigration
UNIT IV, Current Events in Grand Strategic Perspective, November 11 and 18
Jake Sullivan, Victoria Nuland, Evan Wolfson, instructors

Monday, 11 November  The Future of International Order and U.S. Grand Strategy

Reading Assignments:
TBD

Monday, 11 November 5 PM: “Big Picture” event with Ross Douthat, Carlos Eire, and Victoria Nuland, followed by private dinner

Monday, 18 November  The State and Future of Immigration and Refugee Policy

Reading Assignments:
TBD

Monday, 2 December  Final Briefings (TBD)

Friday, December 6  Crisis Simulation (TBD)
**GRAND STRATEGY EVENTS--FALL 2019**

*Friday, 30 August, 5:30 PM: “Welcome Back” dinner with Beverly Gage and Michael Brenes*

This dinner will be an opportunity for Grand Strategy students to reconnect with each other following the break, discuss the upcoming semester, and review insights from their summer projects with Professor Gage and Professor Brenes.

*Monday, 9 September, 6:30 PM: Dinner with the World Fellows, The Graduate Club*

Yale’s Greenberg World Fellows Program brings 16 accomplished, mid-career, global leaders to Yale for a four-month immersive program. The fellows are leaders in human rights, business, journalism, art and other areas. This year’s fellows include a former Olympian, an environmental activist, a former member of the Ukrainian parliament, and a Syrian-Turkish journalist. For a full list of this year’s fellows, see the World Fellows Website. The Monday night dinner will feature conversations with a number of the World Fellows, who will share their experiences and answer student questions. This dinner also serves as a chance to Grand Strategy students to meet the fellows with whom they will be serving as liaisons for the fall semester.

*Wednesday, 2 October, 2:00 PM: “Big Picture” event with Samantha Power and Harold Koh (moderated by Jake Sullivan), followed by private lunch*

*Samantha Power* is the Anna Lindh Professor of the Practice of Global Leadership and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School and the William D. Zabel Professor of Practice in Human Rights at Harvard Law School. She received her B.A. from Yale University in 1992, where she majored in History, and her J.D. from Harvard Law School. From 2013 to 2017, Power served in the Cabinet of President Barack Obama and as US Ambassador to the United Nations. From 2009 to 2013, Power worked on the National Security Council as Special Assistant to the President for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights. Power’s book “*A Problem from Hell*: America and the Age of Genocide” won the Pulitzer Prize in 2003. She is also the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Sergio: One Man’s Fight to Save the World*, and is most recently the author of a memoir, *The Education of an Idealist*. Power began her career as a journalist reporting from countries including Bosnia, East Timor, Rwanda, and Sudan, and she has been named by *TIME* as one of the world’s 100 Most Influential People and by *Forbes* as one of the World’s 100 Most Powerful Women.
**Harold Koh** is Sterling Professor of International Law at Yale Law School. He returned to Yale Law School in January 2013 after serving for nearly four years as the 22nd Legal Adviser of the U.S. Department of State. Professor Koh is one of the country’s leading experts in public and private international law, national security law, and human rights. He first began teaching at Yale Law School in 1985 and served as its fifteenth Dean from 2004 until 2009. From 2009 to 2013, he took leave as the Martin R. Flug ’55 Professor of International Law to join the State Department as Legal Adviser, service for which he received the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award. From 1993 to 2009, he was the Gerard C. & Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law at Yale Law School, and from 1998 to 2001, he served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. Professor Koh has received seventeen honorary degrees and more than thirty awards for his human rights work, including awards from Columbia Law School and the American Bar Association for his lifetime achievements in international law. He has authored or co-authored eight books, published more than 200 articles, testified regularly before Congress, and litigated numerous cases involving international law issues in both U.S. and international tribunals.

**Monday, 7 October, 5 PM: “Big Picture” event with James Comey and Beverly Gage (moderated by Asha Rangappa), followed by private dinner**

**James Comey** was sworn in as the seventh director of the FBI on September 4, 2013. A Yonkers, New York, native, Jim Comey attended the College of William and Mary and the University of Chicago Law School. After law school, Comey returned to New York and joined the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. There, he took on numerous crimes, most notably Organized Crime in the case of the United States v. John Gambino, et al. Afterwards, Comey became an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia, where he prosecuted the high-profile case that followed the 1996 terrorist attack on the U.S. military’s Khobar Towers in Khobar, Saudi Arabia. At the end of 2003, he was tapped to be the Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice (DOJ) under then-U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft and moved to the Washington, D.C. area. Comey left DOJ in 2005 to serve as General Counsel and Senior Vice President at Defense contractor Lockheed Martin. Five years later, he joined Bridgewater Associates, a Connecticut-based investment fund, as its General Counsel. In early 2013, Comey became a Lecturer in Law, a Senior Research Scholar, and Hertog Fellow in National Security Law at Columbia Law School.
**Asha Rangappa** is a Senior Lecturer at the Yale University’s Jackson Institute for Global Affairs and a former Associate Dean at Yale Law School. Prior to her current position, Asha served as a Special Agent in the New York Division of the FBI, specializing in counterintelligence investigations. Asha has been a contributor on numerous television and radio outlets, and is now a legal and national security analyst for CNN.

**Monday, 11 November, 5 PM: “Big Picture” event with Ross Douthat and Carlos Eire (moderated by Victoria Nuland), followed by private dinner**


**Carlos Eire** who received his PhD from Yale in 1979, specializes in the social, intellectual, religious, and cultural history of late medieval and early modern Europe. Before joining the Yale faculty in 1996, he taught at St. John’s University in Minnesota and the University of Virginia, and was a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton for two years. He is the author of many books including *A Very Brief History of Eternity* (2010); *Reformations: The Early Modern World* (2016); and *The Life of Saint Teresa of Avila: A Biography* (2019). He has also ventured into the twentieth century and the Cuban Revolution in the memoir *Waiting for Snow in Havana* (2003), which won the National Book Award in Nonfiction in the United States and has been translated into more than a dozen languages. His second memoir, *Learning to Die in Miami* (2010), explores the exile experience. His recent book *Reformations* won the R.R.Hawkins Prize for Best Book of the Year from the American Publishers Association, as well as the award for Best Book in the Humanities. It was also awarded the Jaroslav Pelikan Prize by Yale University Press.