

iSpy: LIS, Espionage, and the World of Intelligence Gathering
INF 385T, #28830 – Fall 2014
Friday 12:00-3:00 PM

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Course Overview

The purposes of this class are fairly specific. First, I want to introduce you to the world of intelligence gathering and espionage, primarily from the perspective of the United States' intelligence community (IC). Second, I want to explicitly tie that world to the world of information seeking, of books and knowledge, and of the discovery and organization of information. In other words, to the world we all know very well in LIS. It may be surprising to find how closely the two worlds are aligned culturally and historically.

Recently, the intelligence community has become front and center in American (and global) debate thanks to Edward Snowden, Wikileaks, and general concerns about surveillance and privacy in a digital age. We will delve into all these topics and try to make sense of them.

Assignments

Assignments can vary from semester to semester, depending on the size and inclination of the students taking the class. I try to come up with assignments that stimulate the specific curiosities of all the students taking the course over the semester. To this end, we may work together to come up with the best mix of assignments, which range from group projects to more traditional research papers.

In general, assignments take three forms:

Assigned Readings – we will read several required texts, including books and articles that are assigned during the semester (some by the students themselves.) I expect everyone to have completely read each all assignments prior to class and come ready to discuss.

Discussions – Similarly, I expect everyone to participate in class. Actively. You are all graduate students and that means any classes that turn into lectures by me represent a failure on both our parts. The reality is that only one of the parties in that relationship is penalized for the failure, so it is incumbent upon all of you to keep me from lecturing.

Papers and Projects – in order to apply the readings and discussions, I'll be asking you to undertake papers and projects over the course of the semester. There will be some choice and flexibility involved here. We'll talk more about these assignments in class.

Grades

Given that the class only meets once a week, it is critical that you attend each scheduled class session. If you must miss a class you must let me know well ahead of time and

arrange with one of your colleagues to take notes for you or cover any assignments due. I reserve the right to impose grading penalties on students who miss class.

Class Participation – keeping up with the readings, resulting in regular and engaged participation in class discussions, is required and counts for 1/3 of your final semester grade.

Per University policy, the grading scale for this class is A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, and F.

Office Hours: By Appointment

Required Textbooks

Ash, T.G. (1997). *The File: A Personal History*, Vintage Books.

Greenwald, G. (2014). *No Place to Hide: Edward Snowden, the NSA, and the U.S. Surveillance State*. Macmillan.

Hench, J.B. (2010). *Books as Weapons: Propaganda, Publishing, and the Battle for Global Markets in the Era of World War II*. Cornell University Press.

Lowenthal, M. (2014). *Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy*, 6th Ed. CQ Press.

Steele, R. (2012). *The Open-Source Everything Manifesto: Transparency, Truth, and Trust*. (Evolver Editions).

Walton, T. (2010). *Challenges in Intelligence Analysis: Lessons from 1300 BCE to the Present*. Cambridge University Press.

Warrick, J. (2012). *The Triple Agent: The al-Qaeda Mole who Infiltrated the CIA*. Vintage Books.

Williams, R., & Lipetz, B. (2010). *Covert and Overt: Recollecting and Connecting Intelligence Service and Information Science*. Information Today, Inc.

Other supplemental readings will be assigned during the course of the semester. We will discuss these readings on the first day of class and throughout the Fall.

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please view the University catalog:

<http://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/the-university/#universitycodeofconduct>

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259.

Calendar:

Class	Activity	Reading & Assignments
Aug 29	Course Introduction Readings & Assignments	<i>Syllabus</i>
Sept 5	Discussion	<i>Lowenthal, Chapters 1-8 Walton Selections</i>
Sept 12	Discussion	<i>Lowenthal, Chapters 9-15, Appendix 2 Walton Selections</i>
Sept 19	Discussion	<i>Warrick Walton Selections</i>
Sept 26	Case Studies Due Case Study Presentations	
Oct 3	<i>INDEPENDENT READING</i>	
Oct 10	Discussion	<i>Williams & Lipetz Hench</i>
Oct 17	Discussion Final Paper Topic Due	<i>Williams & Lipetz Hench</i>
Oct 24	<i>INDEPENDENT READING/WRITING</i>	
Oct 31	Discussion	<i>Ash Greenwald Steele</i>
Nov 7	Discussion Final Paper Draft Due	<i>Ash Greenwald Steele</i>
Nov 14	<i>INDEPENDENT WRITING</i>	
Nov 21	<i>INDEPENDENT WRITING</i>	
Nov 28	Happy Thanksgiving!	
Dec 5	Last Day Final Paper Due	