Spring 2013 Courses

Science and Global Security: From Nuclear Weapons to Cyber warfare - WWS 353 / MAE 353

Alexander Glaser

This course will provide students with a basic technical understanding of some of the critical technologies that are relevant to national and global security and will equip students with the skills to better assess the challenge of developing effective policies to manage such technologies. Case studies will inter alia include nuclear weapons and their proliferation, nuclear and radiological terrorism, space weapons, biosecurity and cyberware.

Topics in International Relations - Protection Against Weapons of Mass Destruction - WWS 556D

Frank von Hippel and Zia Mian

U.S. and Chinese nuclear-weapon policy communities find it difficult to understand each other. In the US, some see China as content with the current situation in which China's small non-alert strategic nuclear force is seen as sufficient to prevent nuclear threats by the US nuclear superpower. Others fear that China could decide to "race to nuclear parity." The purpose of this workshop is to better understand the influences of the US and Chinese strategic offensive and defensive programs on each other. The final report will make recommendations to both sides to prevent the US fears of a Chinese nuclear buildup from becoming self-fulfilling.

Policy Seminar - WWS402

Harold Feiveson