

United States National Security

Summer Academy at the University of Georgia

10-14 July 2017

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“Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.” -Benjamin Franklin, 1755

Course Description

What keeps the United States safe? How do we balance interests at home and interests abroad? Is it possible to achieve security without damaging liberty? Passionate debates on this subject have raged for generations, and as we will see in this camp, there are no easy answers. The lack of an immediate solution is what makes this topic so incredibly interesting. Indeed, the complexity should inspire us to learn all that we can, lest we avoid falling into the same patterns again and again. During the week, you will learn about all facets of national security policy in the United States (and some around the world). You will study the decision-making process, you will learn about the decision makers themselves, and you will put yourself in the shoes of the movers and shakers of the U.S. national security policy world. We will accomplish all of this through debate, discussion, role-playing, simulation, and more.

Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Better understand the inner-workings of national security policy in the United States
- Effectively analyze current events in the international security realm
- Work together in a group to resolve crises using critical thinking skills

Course Requirements

- A positive attitude and respect for the opinions of others
- Notebook and writing utensils
- Professional attire for the crisis simulation on the final day of the camp

Course Schedule

Monday, July 10:

Course Introduction / Conceptualizing National Security

- Morning: Course Introduction / National Security and Security Culture
- Afternoon: Security and Liberty

Tuesday, July 11:

Players and Processes

- Morning: Balance of Security Roles
- Afternoon: Media and Public Views

Wednesday, July 12:

Contemporary Security

- Morning: Emerging Threats and Weapons / Appropriate Response
- Afternoon: Field Trip – US Army National Guard Armory (Winder, GA)

Thursday, July 13:

Future Security

- Morning: Technological Security
- Afternoon: Future of the Military

Friday, July 14:

National Security Crisis Simulation / Conclusion

- Morning: Simulation
- Afternoon: Simulation / Course Conclusion