

## **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE IN SECURITY GOVERNANCE**

Documents included:

1. Resolution to Establish Doctor of Philosophy degree in Security Governance
2. Supporting Documentation- Doctor of Philosophy degree in Security Governance
3. Presentation – slides

## **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE IN SECURITY GOVERNANCE**

**WHEREAS**, one of the goals of Virginia Tech is to educate and train doctoral-level researchers to address urgent and emerging long-term challenges to the well-being of societies and to disseminate information and knowledge about these challenges through outreach and engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a rapidly growing need for expertise in strategic security analysis and risk assessment at all levels of governance; and

**WHEREAS**, a growing demand for doctorates in security studies and strategic policymaking exists in the Commonwealth of Virginia, nationally, and internationally in colleges and universities, government agencies, civil and military institutions, and global firms; and

**WHEREAS**, the Political Science Department has faculty and other resources for instructing and mentoring doctoral students to specialize in collaborative and integrative research analyzing threats to the safety, security, health, and longevity of individuals and populations in all societies; and

**WHEREAS**, this will be the only degree program in the Commonwealth of Virginia to specialize in security-related dimensions of governance aimed at securing and fostering healthy, safe, vibrant, strong, and resilient communities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Security Governance be established, effective fall 2017.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the above resolution recommending the establishment of the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Security Governance be approved.

November 7, 2016

## **Virginia Tech Degree Proposal**

### **Security Governance (SG)**

#### **PhD Program offered by the Department of Political Science**

**CIP Code:**

**45.1001 [Political Science and Government, General]<sup>1</sup>**

**Type of degree action:**      New      Spinoff      Revision      Discontinuance

#### **Program Description**

The Security Governance Doctoral Program will produce advanced research that combines strategic studies with public policy and decision-making analysis in an emerging research area in the social sciences that links security and strategic resilience in the context of politics at all levels of governance. As the program's title implies, the degree represents a specialization in the analysis of governance motives and mechanisms in policymaking phases of the securitization process. The program is designed to explore analytical domains associated with security risks and strategic threat and resilience assessment in the context of local, national and global governance. Doctoral-level research investigating multiple dimensions of agency, structure, divergent technological and informational processes, outcomes, dynamics, and risks will be examined within the context of governance mechanisms and frameworks concerned with the political dimensions of policy and decision-making bearing on multiple emerging cross- and trans-border problems impacting people's lives throughout the world.

The Security Governance PhD prioritizes security policymaking, broadly defined, and it places special emphasis on environmental politics as a growing area of security theorization, analysis and strategic decision- and policy-making. Strategic policymaking is a political process that involves securitization and de-securitization, a process whereby political actors present issues as security related (or endeavor to prevent them from becoming so). Framing political problems and (perceived) threats as security problematics requiring attention and action from a diverse number of actors has become immediately relevant at all levels of governance.

The program responds to a shift both in research emphasis and analytical perspective that has taken place in Political Science over the past fifteen years: security is no longer strictly

---

<sup>1</sup> Definition: A general program that focuses on the systematic study of political institutions and behavior. Includes instruction in political philosophy, political theory, comparative government and politics, political parties and interest groups, public opinion, political research methods, studies of the government and politics of specific countries, and studies of specific political institutions and processes. See URL:  
<https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/cipdetail.aspx?y=55&cip=45.1001>

conceived by practitioners and scholars in terms of hard-asset military power (which is often reactive), but in terms of an array of what are now called nontraditional security concerns that require proactive strategies of governance. As this proposal details, nontraditional concerns include environmental security; human security (food, education, wellness, etc.); bio-, cyber-, and cyber-physical security; paramilitary security; security problems associated with a new category of international politics, “emerging conflicts”; national, regional and international defense policy associated with the political challenges of new security environments (especially with respect to terrorism, though also with respect to nuclear, chemical and biological weapons); and so on. All of these aspects share a common element: governance. All are constitutive of an increasing number of political domains where agents increasingly respond to, and structures are designed to accommodate, the *proactive* efforts of political collectives striving to assess threats and design strategies to secure healthy, safe, vibrant, strong and resilient communities.

This doctoral program will expand the Political Science Department’s recognized programmatic and institutional strengths in the study of security and especially environmental politics and policy in many analytical domains of politics and governance. It will significantly enhance the ability of faculty members and doctoral students to conduct specialized research into security problems and the policy challenges they present through a curricular focus that emphasizes links and overlapping areas of research and analysis in today’s new security landscapes. Designed with a research-based focus, the program prioritizes the political and governance challenges confronted by societies experiencing rapid political, economic, environmental and social-system change, especially emerging risks and threats to basic human and environmental security locally, nationally and internationally. The entire spectrum of security risks generated in multiple political domains has produced a wholly new field of study within the discipline of political science called “security studies,” as well as “security governance.” This new field is devoted to an analysis of the political issues societies now face in emerging security environments, issues with overriding significance for public policy-making at all levels of governance.

Unique to the Security Governance PhD Program is the application of flexible and adaptive approaches that eschew the rigidity of disciplinary fields. Inquiry and analysis in this new domain assert and demand flexibility because research must respond to unique forms of complexity in political and social life. Social, economic, informational and technological challenges arise and become understandable in spatially and temporally unique security environments with strategic implications for governance at all political levels. Networks of cross-boundary information and knowledge sharing in today’s world present agents of all kinds (local, national, and global institutions, multinational corporations, NGOs, etc.) with new opportunities to address political challenges corresponding to the needs of states, international organizations, national and global firms, and scientific and research communities that are all faced with the assessment and analysis of security threats in an ever more complex political world. Doctoral-level education, training and research in these areas must be multi-, trans- and inter-disciplinary in nature; must draw upon and foster experiential education; and must practice collaborative and practice-based research toward the development of original scholarship in wholly new and critically important policy domains.

The Security Governance Doctoral Program attends directly to topics requiring multiple integrative perspectives and focused analytical frameworks that are united by the need to address several key interconnected areas of analysis, including national security and homeland security

management; international and transnational security; information and cybersecurity; human security, including areas of health and health care, food, physical or biological security; and human and environmental security. A rigorous, focused and customizable course of study will permit doctoral students to avail themselves of programmatically prescribed foci, as well as to tailor individualized projects and analyses that together will inform research into many emerging interconnected problems of twenty-first century politics. The problem-centered, research-based approach of the program prioritizes, first, the examination of how risks arise and agents respond, and second, analysis of divergent outcomes that reflect different policy and strategic decisions which are all determined, cast, and shaped according to political dynamics within established but rapidly evolving governance structures.

The political challenges presented by the twenty-first century's security landscape can be grouped into the following key areas of focus of this PhD program: resilience studies; political economy and international organization; environmental studies; urban politics and policy analysis; conflict associated with climate change; political and economic development; human security (in addition to national and international security); newly emerging conflicts; refugee and humanitarian assistance, peacekeeping, and peace-building; cyber security; civil-military relations; climate change policy and national and international energy policy; global, international and transnational social processes; government, information strategy and management; digital governance; renewable energy and energy storage; natural resource policymaking; biosecurity; civic engagement; and e-government/governance; new media technology and studies; labor studies; health and taxation policy; finance, international trade, property rights, technology, logistics, supply chain; political and economic development; emerging economies; regionalism and hegemony; urbanization, industrialization and demographic change; institutions; fiscal and monetary policy; and, domestic, regional and global regulation and governance.

Many actors in numerous venues of negotiation, mediation and disputation are now engaged in debates concerning policy-making across multiple societal and governmental sectors, work places, living environments and new urban spaces. In these locations, the politics associated with environmental pressures reveal direct as well as indirect influences with respect to human as well as nonhuman biological security. It is remarkable that very few doctoral programs abroad or in North America currently feature environmental politics as a specific focus of governance when it comes to matters of security. Fewer still do so in ways that emphasize the problematics of national and human security as they should be framed analytically through an examination of governance in the context of both strategic leadership and applied scholarly research.

In fact, at this time only a handful of universities with doctoral programs anything like the one outlined in this proposal currently exist. Outside of the United States, the School of Politics, Philosophy, International Relations, and the Environment (SPIRE) at Keele University (United Kingdom) has an interdisciplinary PhD program with some foci like the Security Governance PhD Program. A doctoral degree in Global Governance at the Balsillie School of International Affairs (a joint undertaking of the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University) in Waterloo, Ontario, Environmental Governance at Wageningen University in Wageningen (Netherlands), and the University of Victoria in Victoria, BC, all offer PhD studies that link topics in environmental studies and political science, though none of these programs explicitly addresses security dynamics and outcomes.

In the United States, there are very few comparable PhD programs. Colorado State University, one of Virginia Tech's SCHEV-peer institutions, has a doctoral program focused on environmental politics, although it is mainly concerned with the USA and in particular its Western states. Likewise, the University of California-Berkeley has a PhD program in Environmental Science, Policy, and Management, but the study of political issues like security is not central to its plan of study. The University of Massachusetts-Boston has started a Global Governance and Human Security doctoral program, but it lacks a robust environmental politics focus such as our program includes. And, finally, the University of Oregon has a more general PhD program that focuses on Environmental Sciences, Studies, and Policy, but it does not delve deeply into security-governance concerns.

Less directly related, PhD programs exist in Energy and Environmental Policy at the University of Delaware and at Michigan Tech, and also at Yale University where the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies offers a PhD with optional tracks that address some areas of environmental governance. Many universities offer narrow tracks of study in governance, security studies, or environmental policy, but they are usually still working within the conventional tracks of traditional political science doctoral studies. This situation is particularly true of the PhD programs in the Commonwealth for political science at George Mason University and the University of Virginia. The Security Governance PhD Program at Virginia Tech would therefore be innovative and distinctive within this state as well as throughout the United States.

### **Curriculum Summary**

The doctorate in Security Governance (SG) does not require prior graduate study. Students may enter the program with a BA or BS degree. Students may also choose to enter the program with an MA degree. Students entering the SG Program with a BA or BS will be able to receive a Masters degree in the course of pursuing the SG doctorate. The Political Science Department currently has Masters degree- granting authority, and this authority will be maintained – the MA will remain a terminal degree option both for our on-campus and on-line students.

All students pursuing a doctoral degree in SG must complete at least 90 credit hours. 45 credit hours will consist of graded (A-F) course hours (usually 15 courses), and 45 hours will consist of Research and Dissertation.

MA-level graded course (A-F) credit hours (typically 21 hours, or 7 courses) may count toward the 45 required course credit hours for the SG PhD. An additional 24 graded credit hours (8 courses) will consist of course credit hours at the 5000- and 6000-levels, bringing the total graded credit-hour requirement of the doctorate to 45.

### **Relevance to University Mission and Strategic Planning**

At the present time Virginia Tech stands in need of developing a much greater strategic profile in social science education and research to meet the educational demands of peoples and communities in today's rapidly changing world. ASPECT, PAPA, STS and PG&G, four signature social science and humanities-based doctoral programs that Political Science faculty are very much involved in, also contribute in critical ways to the university's emerging

doctoral-level foundation in the social sciences. The SG PhD Program will further build on this foundation and contribute a new and innovative dimension with its focus on security governance challenges in a time of dramatic environmental change in local, national, regional and global political contexts.

This doctoral program is certainly consonant with the spirit of Virginia Tech's role as a premier research university and primacy as a land-grant institution devoted to public service in all areas of public policy. The academic, intellectual and professional thrust of this program can help to meet several key areas outlined in Virginia Tech's 2012-2018 Strategic Plan, entitled "A Plan for a New Horizon: Envisioning Virginia Tech." This Plan acknowledges that Virginia Tech is "part of larger societal systems and [is] dynamically fueled by the process of involvement – involvement in world affairs; involvement in the needs of individuals and their communities, businesses, industries, and governments." The SG program will also help deepen the university's ties to international universities such as TU-Darmstadt and the University of Kent-Brussels, among others, and it will enhance the university's collaboration with a number of international organizations, including the United Nations, the World Bank and IMF, the WTO, and the ILO as well as a range of civil society organizations in the National Capital Region.

This doctoral program is also consistent with the curricular and research aims of the Integrated Security Destination Area (IS-DA). The integration of cross-departmental, cross-college curricula and research programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels that is taking place as a result of DA designs will necessarily draw upon the expertise of faculty in Political Science as well as other social science units (SPIA, the Hume Center, PAPA, STS, and ASPECT). Colleagues in Engineering fields, the Computer Sciences, and the Pamplin College of Business are also involved in DA designs that will bridge the gulf between STEM and social science disciplines. The Political Science Department has participated in the IS-DA, as well as the Data Analytics/Decision Science DA, and we see many complementarities across these innovative new programmatic and research clusters relative to this new doctoral program. The Information Policy and Society Graduate Certificate that has been offered by Political Science for years is well subscribed, and also highlights the Department's longstanding commitment to analyzing policymaking aspects associated with the burgeoning field of data analytics.

### **Justification for the Proposed Program**

In response to post-Cold War and post-9.11 political and social-system changes in both domestic and international politics, the research and curricular emphases within the Department of Political Science have shifted significantly to issues including basic security in several key domains and policy areas: large-scale societal disruptions caused by war; genocide and mass atrocity; subnational conflict; terrorism and political extremism; resource scarcity and environmental insecurity; illicit smuggling and human trafficking; rapid climate change with its pressures on built and unbuilt environments; food and water, and other material resource insecurity; threats posed to human and nonhuman populations due to biospheric pollution; threats to biodiversity, marine ecosystems, and fish stocks; natural resource scarcity and degradation; newly emerging diseases, legal-institutional failures in mitigating these developments; and the social, political, and economic inequities caused by these dynamics and their unanticipated feedback effects visited upon, and reflected in, many social-political-ecological practices. All of these dynamics in the US and developments in many other countries

can no longer be considered low-cost externalities or minor disruptions to the stable institutions of government. Instead, these dynamics are creating critical challenges for governments and a host of other actors that strike at the heart of social contracts of existing states. New political, social, economic, cultural and environmental transactions arise from these complex interactions, and their concomitant dynamics spark social unrest, economic crises, institutional dysfunction, state failures, as well as intensifying social fragmentation within and across political communities. By focusing on Security Governance, the SG doctoral program will gather many of these concrete issues at the forefront of the Political Science Department's graduate curriculum, thus highlighting their salience as a core feature of the Department's mission at the graduate as well as the undergraduate levels of research and instruction.

Virginia is host to only two other doctoral-degree-granting programs that use the “Political Science and Government, General,” or “Political Science and Government, Other” CIP Codes. These programs are the University of Virginia’s Department of Politics PhD, and George Mason University’s Political Science PhD Program. Both programs organize education and research at the doctoral level according to what is often termed the traditional model of the late nineteenth century, a model that was originally transposed from the natural sciences. This model was initially developed to provide general causal explanations for why people do what they do in politics. Both programs – UVA’s and GMU’s – divide the field of politics and government into four or five subfields – American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Politics, Political Theory, and Research Methodology – in which quite different and isolated practices of politics and governance were thought to obtain. Most political science departments in North America continue to organize themselves, formally or informally, along these lines.

Faculty members in the Department of Political Science are especially well-qualified to pursue these objectives given existing and future research and curricular emphases (see Appendix F). National security and foreign policy, international relations and political economy, law and society, applied policy practices at the local, state, and national levels in the US and other nation-states, and environmental politics are all subfields where the Department has special strengths. To a significant degree, the Department’s faculty members conduct research and have designed teaching curricula in Political Science and the International Studies Programs to prioritize understanding more fully many dimensions of security in a world where people and governments encounter new challenges to their basic survival and livelihood.

### **Student Demand**

A recent Brookings Institution report showed that interest of international students in US universities is at an all-time high.<sup>2</sup> Over 800,000 foreign students are studying in the US at the present time, representing twenty-one percent of the entire foreign student population worldwide. Many of these students are from rapidly developing countries such as Brazil, China, Mexico, South Korea, India, and Saudi Arabia. The report notes that middle-income countries now send more students to the US than to other OECD-member countries. A large number of international students arrive in the US with scholarships paid for by students’ domestic

---

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.brookings.edu/research/interactives/2014/geography-of-foreign-students#/M13980>

governments and by private foundations. Many of these students find jobs in their targeted fields after graduation at universities and other organizations in their home countries. We expect to recruit some of these students from abroad as well as strong applicants from within Virginia and across the US. The number of international students seeking graduate degrees at US universities is expected to grow in the years ahead.

The SG doctoral program is designed in part to respond to the growing demand for social science graduate education and research. According to data from the Institute of International Education (IIE), the number of international students currently enrolled in US institutions of higher learning is at an historic high. Remarkably, almost half of all international students in the U.S. are enrolled in graduate degree programs. Most international students studying in the US come from middle-income countries, importantly Brazil, China, India, Turkey and many Arab states. This fact bodes well for the SG doctoral program because a significant feature of the program is its focus on global dynamics and determinants of national and international politics. The SG Program's three concentrations or fields of study, as well as its international and comparative research orientation, mean the program will be an important draw for international students from many rapidly developing countries.

Virginia Tech performs very well in attracting international students in STEM-related fields, but fewer international students at VT enroll in programs in the social sciences at the graduate level. In this respect Virginia Tech is an anomaly when compared to R 1 universities in other states. Clearly, international students have great interest in pursuing graduate degrees in social science disciplines like political science, especially given the prestige these degrees confer upon students seeking professional careers in international organizations or pursuing academic research and teaching careers in universities in their home countries.

Additionally, increasing the competitive profile of social sciences at Virginia Tech would have quite important positive spillover effects in the Political Science Department's undergraduate programs (in Political Science as well as in the International Studies Program, which together have graduated well over 200 students with Bachelors degrees per year since 2001). Cohorts of new graduate students in the SG PhD Program would be available to teach courses on pressing topics of global concern and will offer unique perspectives, sometimes drawing from first-hand experience with challenges in developing countries and conflict-ridden areas of the world. This is very much in keeping with Virginia Tech's goals of enhancing global perspectives at the university level as well as enhancing its prestige as a comprehensive research institution with a truly global mission and reach.

As well as attracting international students, we see college graduates across the US searching for doctoral programs in the social sciences that emphasize integrated research and learning across the subfields in political science. While there are only a handful of PhD programs with this focus, there are now scores of BA/BS and MA/MS level programs in security studies, environmental politics, governance and policy studies that would all be likely recruiting sites for the SG program. Increasingly we find that expertise in the subfields of security studies and environmental politics, as well as international political economy, requires broadly based knowledge in such fields as international relations and US politics as well as integrative inquiry across subfields and among multiple issue areas. Students with this training are very competitive in today's job markets, and we believe SG graduates definitely will be in this group.

In addition, large-data, informatics-based societies require new forms of critical thinking and integrative (as well as interdisciplinary) preparation and research techniques that cross subfields within, as well as those that straddle, traditional disciplines. National security concerns increasingly bear upon health policy decision-making and also directly concern the politics of sustainable environments and economies. Job ads in political science now increasingly highlight the need for this kind of specialized yet integrative education and training. The number of academic jobs in the US is not growing rapidly, but positions in government, international relations, political science, environmental politics, and security studies are still quite numerous.

### **Market/Employer Demand**

Several faculty members in Political Science were principal participants in the creation of VT's School for Public and International Affairs, and the Governance and Globalization track in the Planning, Governance and Globalization PhD Program between 2004 and 2007. The first four graduates in this track, who all had dissertation chairs and committee members from Political Science during AY 2006-2007, all quickly secured academic jobs, and all have been promoted and tenured. Another 28 out of PG&G's 60 graduates through August 2014 followed the first four under the mentoring of our faculty, and these graduates have found employment, been promoted, and continue to thrive in International Studies, Political Science or other Social Science programs as well as government agencies. Thus, the Political Science faculty has documented success in producing and placing PhD students in Political Science, International Studies, and other social science departments.

The ASPECT Doctoral Program, where Political Science faculty are very active, has graduated 15 PhD students since 2010. Moreover, this PhD program was designed and developed under the leadership of Political Science faculty members going back over ten years. Our faculty members also have chaired several ASPECT dissertation committees, and we have served as committee members on many more. ASPECT graduates have secured appointments as assistant professors, post-doctoral fellows, lecturers, and visiting scholars at a number of research institutes, colleges, and universities. With over 400 MA students in Political Science from 1970 through 2014, a large number of our graduates are admitted to excellent political science doctoral programs elsewhere, including top-25 PhD programs. This loss of talent to other schools could be slowed by starting the SG Doctoral Program at Virginia Tech.

In addition to academic jobs, we anticipate doctoral students in this doctoral program will secure employment at the local, state, and federal levels of government, including in such agencies and departments as DHS, HHS, DoD, the State Department, US Armed Services, as well as in the United Nations, the World Bank and IMF, and the WTO among other international organizations. With regard to these recruiting sites, the Political Science Department has graduated 51 MA students in Political Science through its On-Line Master of Arts (OLMA) program. A clear majority of these graduates have been working professionals in government agencies and departments, and many of them want to continue their studies at the doctoral level. With the SG Program, we hope to develop an intensive year-long on-campus program of study to enable some to do this by taking a year's leave of absence or educational leave to study residentially in with the SG doctoral program. This innovative approach to doctoral training also

would make that opportunity available to other MA graduates from other universities.

### **Issues of Duplication**

Virginia Tech currently has no doctoral program specializing in the governance problems associated with security and risk theorization, analysis and assessment. The Planning, Governance and Globalization PhD (PG&G) was designed as an MA-entry research-oriented doctoral program that straddles several areas of concentration. Virtually no aspect of politics is not covered by the PG&G program – from (in track 1) governance to institutions to civil society, all the way (in track 2) to globalization, identities and on to security and economics. The PG&G degree was designed and constructed to accommodate a vast range of interests within a very general doctoral degree area dealing with a host of issues in a time of international governance and globalization. It also should be noted that PG&G uses an Urban Studies CIP code.

By contrast, we are proposing a degree that concentrates with significant depth in security studies and areas of political strategy related to new security challenges, again, broadly defined at local, domestic, regional, and international levels. Our program achieves breadth through examinations of all governance-related aspects of security politics and policymaking. Security, in other words, has implications for political economy, health care and health policy, urban politics and governance, institutional lawmaking in general, judicial theory and practice, and so on.

The Security Governance PhD Program is a taught degree. It is a BA-entry degree built on 45 (taught) course credit hours – 50% of the required 90 credit hours for the degree. It is grounded in the Political Science discipline – we propose using the Political Science and Government, General, CIP code. We have created three new courses – Security, Governance and Environmental Politics, National Security and Topics in Environmental Politics – two of which will be required for this new degree. These courses will serve as critical content platforms for the program.

By contrast, the PG&G degree is based on 36 credit hours of (taught) courses. The European model of doctoral programs (at least in the social sciences) was one source of inspiration for this structure. It permits flexibility. Of the core degree courses (not to mention the electives), by far most of the courses that the Security Governance degree is built upon originated as PSCI courses. Political Science now has over 40 graduate-level courses on the books.

### **Resource Needs/Savings**

The Political Science Department has many of the necessary resources for this doctoral program already in place. Faculty members teach many of the over forty existing 5000-level courses offered in our residential and on-line MA programs. Ten existing 6000-level courses which consist of the Department's PSCI classes, GIA and STS cross-lists, as well as ASPECT courses and cross-lists can be used to launch and sustain this program. The Department also has members who supervise the 7994-level research and dissertation-hours for doctoral research in ASPECT, GIA, and STS, guided by security, governance, and environmental politics experts on our faculty.

Additional resources will be needed for this doctoral program, especially a number of new and well-funded four-year-long graduate stipends, summer support for graduate students, and office space. In addition, the Department will need to make two new faculty hires (already approved) to further consolidate strengths in the areas of security studies and environmental politics in particular. These lines will not be dedicated solely to the Political Science doctoral degree program. The Department will be developing this proposed PhD program with three new undergraduate majors in International Studies (International Relations, National Security and Foreign Affairs, and International Public Policy) – majors that are expected to have very high demand. These lines represent new faculty positions that the Political Science Department anticipates it will need regardless. The Department will also need at least one additional full-time staff member.

RESOURCE	ESTIMATE COST (use NA if not applicable)
Faculty	Estimated \$120,000 over a two-year period to be funded through the College's internal resource allocation process. Already approved faculty commitments in National Security and related subfields: \$120,000 for two tenure track lines for faculty with appointment date of August 2017.
Space	NA. No new laboratory space required. Office space for GTAs and tenure-track faculty to be achieved through established university and college space allocation/reallocation processes.
Administrative Staff	NA
Graduate Teaching/Graduate Research Assistants	Primary: \$482,610: internal re-allocation of existing college and departmental base resources. This includes converting lines currently supporting the MA in Political Science into PhD lines. Supplemental: Strategic Initiative Funding to the Dean (\$190,000) to fund stipends for needed additional lines. Estimate GTAs teach 2500 SCH over 5 years, partially offsetting stipends and waivers in the new performance budget model. Private support anticipated for graduate research and differential stipends.
Library	NA. Strengthening library holdings and database access in the social sciences is crucial to the research productivity of all our social science programs, including this one.
Equipment	NA
Other	NA



College of Liberal Arts and  
Human Sciences



# **Security Governance**

## **Ph.D. Program Proposed by Political Science**

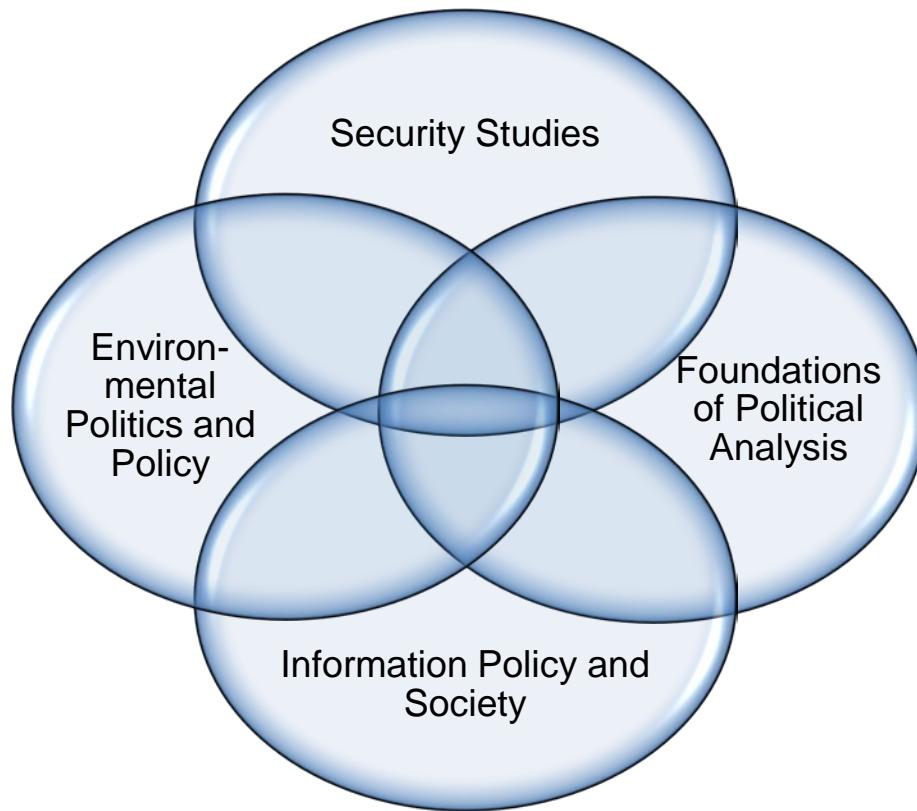
Scott Nelson, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Political Science  
Karen Hult, Professor and Department Chair, Political Science

# Security Governance

Study of politics and diplomacy, public law and institutions, and strategic policy and decision-making in the context of emerging and integrated security threats

# Political Science Graduate Program

## Graduate Certificates



- 75 active students
- Significant recruitment among branches of the military
- Four well-subscribed graduate certificates
- Over 40 M.A.- and Ph.D.-level courses on the books
- Multiple areas of specialization, including security studies, environmental politics, political economy, political institutions, public law, and political theory
- Record of placement of graduates in top Ph.D. programs

# Justification

- *Wicked problems:* ecological and social system collapse, terrorism, social unrest, state failure, refugee migrations, resource scarcity, network, grid and cyber attacks
- *Proactive strategies:* addressing complex and dynamic security challenges
- *Employment:* in key research, teaching and applied areas linking security studies with public policy analysis and implementation

# Objectives

- Prioritizes emergent security challenges as matters of governance
- Establishes curricular, policy and research foci on security relative to the broad spectra of threats for policy-makers at all levels of governance
- Produces advanced research and scholarship to address diverse, evolving and linked security challenges
- Integrates multiple analytical frameworks that address inter-connecting security risks

# Security Governance PhD Curriculum Summary

<u>Security Governance PhD:</u>	<u>90 credit hours</u>
PhD core-degree courses:	27 credit hours
Required primary concentration:	18 credit hours
PhD thesis & research hours:	45 credit hours

Required core-degree courses (27 hours):

PSCI 5115, Research Methods I

PSCI 5116, Research Methods II

PSCI 5214, Contemporary Political Theory

GRAD 5104, Preparing Future Professoriate

PSCI 5584, Environmental Politics and Policy

PSCI 6004, Security, Governance and Environmental Politics – **New Course**

PSCI 6204, Theories of Globalization

PSCI 6254, National Security – **New course**

Choose *one* of the following core electives:

PSCI 5284, Transnational Migration

PSCI 5374, Electronic Governance

PSCI 5474, Global Governance

PSCI 5514, Global Security

# Security Governance PhD Curriculum Summary

Attachment F

## (continued)

Students choose among three Primary Concentrations:  
Security, Governance or Environmental Politics

Security: required courses (18 credit hours):

PSCI 5254, Global Conflicts

PSCI 5464, Critical Security Studies

PSCI 5514, Global Security, or PSCI 6114, Critical Geopolitics

+ 3 electives

Governance: required courses (18 credit hours):

PSCI 5244, Constitutionalism in Theory and Practice

PSCI 6144, Topics in Global Governance

PSCI 5314, Legislative Branch, or PSCI 5324, Executive Branch, or PSCI 5334, or  
Judicial Branch + 3 electives

Environmental Politics: required courses (18 credit hours):

PSCI 5364, Public Ecology

NR 5634, Urban Ecology

PSCI 6444, Topics in Environmental Politics – **New Course**

+ 3 electives

# Employment Demand

**Careers in:** higher education, government agencies, think tanks, international organizations and commercial firms

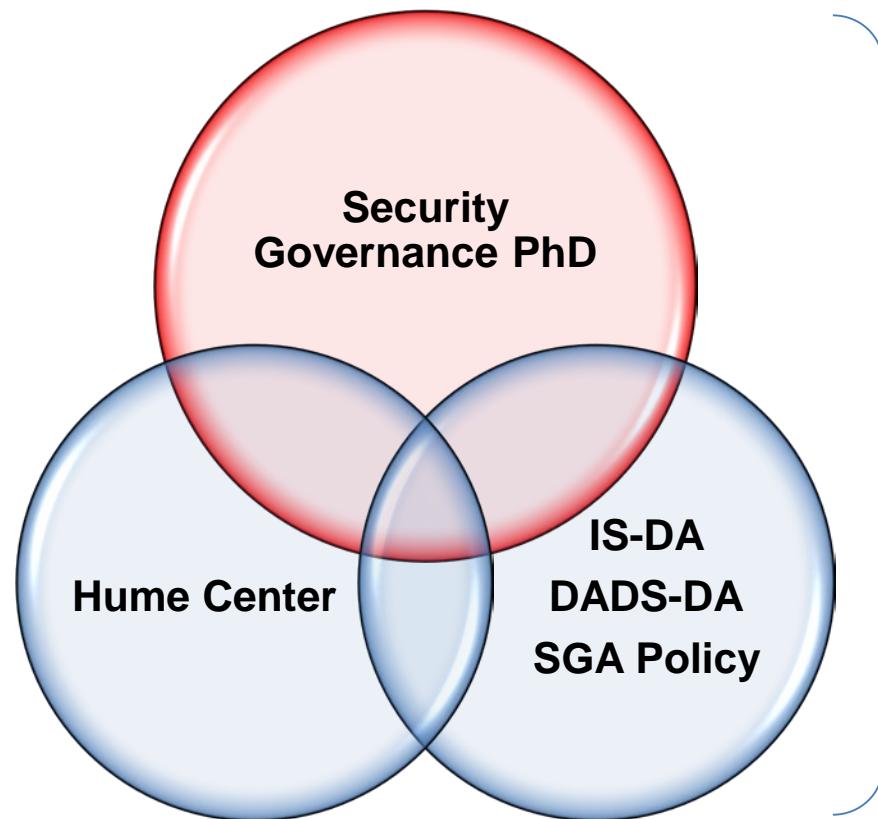
**Job ads** cite needed expertise in:

- national, international and human security; defense analysis
- environmental, human, and social-system security
- cyber-physical security, nuclear and WMD non-proliferation strategy and policy, terrorism studies, military and civilian preparedness
- information technology policy related to war, strategic energy policy, health policy, and intelligence studies

# Why VT?

- Emphasizes applied social science research, education and practice in a high-growth field
- Draws on strengths of 27-plus Political Science faculty with a tradition of security-oriented research
- No other institution in Virginia, and few in North America, specializes in doctoral-level education and research based on the challenges security assessment and threat analysis present to governance

# Security-related Destinations at VT



The Security Governance Ph.D. leverages a key specialization in the social sciences and complements existing capacities across the university:

- Hume Center
- Integrated Security Destination Area (IS-DA)
- Data Decision Sciences Destination Area (DADS-DA)
- Strategic Growth Area (SGA) on Policy

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the above resolution recommending the establishment of the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Security Governance be approved.

November 7, 2016



College of Liberal Arts and  
Human Sciences



# Security Governance

Ph.D. Program Proposed by Political Science