

Full Course Title: Congressional Research Service- Defense and Trade Division: Weapons Acquisitions Trends in Emerging Powers and the implications for the US Defense Strategy

Course Title for Registration System: Congressional Research Services- Weapons Acquisitions

Course Number: SIPAU9000.053

Faculty Advisor: Austin Long

Columbia Email Address: al2866@columbia.edu

Meeting Date/Times: Thursday from 11-12:50

Location: IAB 418

Office Hours: By appointment

Credits: 3

Course Overview:

Brief description of client:

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) works exclusively for the United States Congress, providing policy and legal analysis to committees and Members of both the House and Senate, regardless of party affiliation. As a legislative branch agency within the Library of Congress, CRS has been a valued and respected resource on Capitol Hill for nearly a century. CRS is well-known for analysis that is authoritative, confidential, objective and nonpartisan. Its highest priority is to ensure that Congress has 24/7 access to the nation's best thinking.

Summary of project:

CRS Defense and Trade Division is seeking a capstone project related to the role of emerging powers in changing global dynamics; particular focus will be assessing the patterns and trends of these powers in military procurements. Specifically, CRS is interested in a project that would look at the trending weapons acquisitions in specific emerging powers. Students would then contribute their perspective on what this could mean for the U.S. defense strategy. While there are a number of country experts who understand the individual movements of particular countries, but do not yet have the complete picture as to what each of these individual movements mean in total. This would be a broad analysis of the weapons acquired and sold by specific emerging countries and then would provide impressionistic recommendations for what this would mean for the U.S. in terms of defense. CRS's expert analysts will use this information to generate their own analysis regarding the implications for the US.

SPECIFIC COUNTRIES FOR CONSIDERATION: India, Brazil, South Africa, Turkey and Indonesia

CRS will provide access to information and specific data sources to aid in the research for the project. CRS Librarians will be available to help the students identify source material.

Students will not need to obtain extra clearance for participation in the workshop.

Deliverables to client: Written Report

Special skills/knowledge needed by team members:

Initial meeting(s) with your student team in late November or early December, if applicable:

Dates for meetings with client, if already scheduled:

Field component: Students will need to travel to Washington D.C. for the final presentation and may need to make one other trip during the duration of the project

Student selection: [All eligible students may apply for up to five workshops through a special online application process from October 15th until October 31st. Assignment of students will be coordinated by the Office of Academic Affairs, and relevant faculty will be consulted about team membership for their workshop(s).]

Grading (students receive an individual grade):

Grades for the workshop will be based on the following criteria:

Quality of individual written work (10%)

Quality of participation in class, Peer review (20%)

Feedback from the client (20%)

Overall professionalism, including timeliness, ability to work with team, etc. (20%)

Quality of team's final report and briefing (30%)

***Academic Integrity Statement*:**

The School of International & Public Affairs does not tolerate cheating and/or plagiarism in any form. Those students who violate the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct will be subject to the Dean's Disciplinary Procedures. Cut and paste the following link into your browser to view the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct online.

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/deans_discipline_policy.html

Please familiarize yourself with the proper methods of citation and attribution. The School provides some useful resources online; we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with these various styles before conducting your research:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/code_of_conduct.html

Violations of the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct should be reported to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.