



## KAUTILYA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

GITAM (Deemed to be University)  
Rudraram, Patancheru Mandal  
Hyderabad, Telangana 502329

<b>Course Code:</b> PPOL6631	<b>Course Title:</b> Strategic Thinking and Strategic Planning.	
<b>Trimester:</b> 1	<b>Course Type:</b> Skill Shop	<b>Credits:</b> 1
<b>Home Program(s):</b> MPP	<b>Batch/Academic Year:</b> 2023-2025	
<b>Course Lead:</b> Lt Gen Sanjiv Langer	<b>Assigned TA/RA:</b> Ms. Rituja Ghosh	

### Course Description

This course is centred on the conviction that Strategic Thinking and Strategic Planning are essential skills, for functionality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Professional space. It is also equally significant to appreciate that they apply to all domains of functionality and are not esoteric attributes. The course is structured to bring into focus the evolution of these twin domains over time. While a ‘theoretical fixing’ and ‘Fencing’ of these will be undertaken the objective is to bring these aspects to life for the students through interactive instruction, case studies, and a class-level ‘Strategic Game’.

### Learning Objectives

The students will

1. be given an overview of the evolution of Strategy, to its modern manifestation, of Strategic Construct / Frame.
2. be cognisant of and introduced to the Challenges to Strategic View and Strategic Formulation, in the Information Age.
3. be presented case studies highlighting strategic factors and outcomes in differing functional paradigms.
4. participate in a collaborative strategic game.
5. be given a suggested manner of formulating Strategy and a Strategic View.
6. write a brief strategic analysis.

### Course Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. clearly discern the strategic elements in any functional paradigm
2. develop a strategic view based on assessment of factors
3. evolve simple strategic plans for furthering functionality

4. be assessed for their individual strategic planning capability.

### Assessment Rubric

- **Assignment 1 (70 marks):** Paper - Strategic Analysis
- **Class participation (15 marks):** In class Activities and Presentation
- **Attendance (15 marks):** Subject to Attendance Policy

### Classroom Etiquette

The consumption of food and the use of laptops, tablets, smartphones, and other addictive electronic devices are not allowed. If you are unable to take notes by hand, please discuss an alternative arrangement with the teaching team. Phones must be turned off at the start of class.

### Course Schedule

<b>Unit I</b>	<b>Sessions: 2</b>	<b>An Overview of the Strategic Domain</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Strategies” - to – A Strategic Construct / Frame.</li> <li>● Tracings of Indian Strategic Thought.</li> </ul>		
<b>Unit II</b>	<b>Sessions: 2</b>	<b>Strategic View and Formulation in the Information Age</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strategy , Intelligence and Decision Making.</li> <li>● How to “Hit the Road Running”</li> </ul>		
<b>Unit III</b>	<b>Sessions: 2</b>	<b>Strategy at Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Throwing the Dice; Loading the Dice, a Collage of Strategic Decision and Outcomes.</li> <li>● Three Case Studies ( Presentation ), Initiative, Ingenuity and Overreach</li> </ul>		
<b>Unit III</b>	<b>Sessions: 2</b>	<b>Strategy at Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Peace Game “<i>Haste Ansoo</i>” Class will function in three Syndicates.</li> <li>● Taking a View and Imperatives – The Planners Kit.</li> </ul>		

### Textbooks and Course Materials

#### Essential Readings

- Thinking Fast and Slow - David Kahneman (Chapter 5, 6, 7 & 8)
- Why the West Rules for Now - Ian Morris ( Chapter 8, 10 & 11)
- The Third Pillar - Raghuram Rajan (Chapter 3, 6, 7, 13)

- The Great Game - Peter Hopkirk (Chapter 3, 10, 18, 25, 32)
- Against the Gods - Peter L. Bernstein

### Additional Readings

- The future is faster than you think by Peter H. Diamandis and Steven Kotler
- Antifragile: Things That Gain from Disorder by Nassim Nicholas Taleb
- India after Gandhi by R. Guha
- From the Ruins of Empire: The Revolt Against the West and the Remaking of Asia by Pankaj Mishra
- India Vs. China by Kanti Bajpai
- The book of War by John Keegan
- Why the West rule - for Now by Ian Morris
- The Destruction of Lord Raglan by Christopher Hibbert
- The Proud Tower A Portrait of the World Before the War 1890 1914 by Barbara W. Tuchman
- 21 Lessons for the 21st Century by Y. N. Harari
- Makers of Modern Strategy: Military Thought from Machiavelli to Hitler by Edward Mead Earle
- 7 Deadly Scenarios: A Military Futurist Explores War in the 21st Century by Andrew Krepinevich
- Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield by Jeremy Scahill

### **Suggested movies**

- Bridge of Spies directed by Steven Spielberg (2015)
- The Ultra Enigma by Chip Proser (1998)
- The guns of Navarone directed by J. Lee Thompson
- The Battle of Tsushima Straits (The battle of Japanese Sea) directed by Seiji Maruyama (1969)
- A Bridge Too Far directed by Richard Attenborough (1977)
- Kagemusha directed by Akira Kurosawa (1980)
- The Big Short directed by Adam McKay (2015)
- Lincoln directed by Steven Spielberg (2012)
- The Highwaymen directed by John Lee Hancock (2019)
- JFK directed by Oliver Stone (1991)
- The Battle of Midway directed by John Ford (1942)
- The Ipcress File directed by Sidney J. Furie (1965)
- Argo directed by Ben Affleck (2012)
- Enemy of the State directed by Tony Scott (1998)

- Allied directed by Robert Zemeckis (2016)