

NDU 6014

Contemporary Issues in WMD: WMD and Mass Media



LIGHTS! CAMERA! EXPLOSION!

- **Watch and debate WMD films!**
- **Counter disinformation and propaganda!**
- **Learn how visual media (movies, news, social media, and more!) shapes opinion & informs action.**

NDU 6014: WMD and Mass Media

Fills the foundation course requirement for Master's Degree Area Concentration in WMD Studies
(but you don't have to be in the concentration to take the course)

Mass Destruction and Mass Media



- WMD 101
 - Nuke, Chem, Bio, & Rad Weapons
 - Emerging technologies
 - State and terrorist use
- Mass Media and WMD Portrayal in film, documentaries, YouTube, social media...
 - Apocalypse and Armageddon
 - Disinformation
 - Pandemics

You will gain an understanding of
WMD issues and media literacy

Disinformation in Media

- Influence
 - Perspective
 - Disinformation
 - Manipulation
 - Narrative
- ...all shapes opinion
& informs action**



We'll use movies, documentaries, YouTube, and social media...



MATT DAMON FELICITY JONES JUDE LAW
COTILLARD DAMON HISHBURNE LAW PALTRON WINSLET

CONTAGION



 **YouTube**



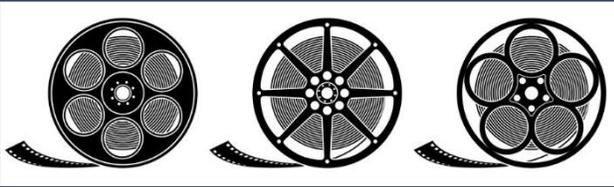
LIVE  **RUSSIAN FM: SOLID EVIDENCE SYRIA'S DOUMA 'CHEMICAL ATTACK' STAGED**

BREAKING NEWS RUSSIAN FM: WE HAVE SOLID EVIDENCE CHEMICAL ATTACK IN SYRIA'S DOUMA WAS STAGED

Purpose

- Baseline understanding of WMD threat and efforts to counter it
- Assess and understand how visual media that includes or features WMD:
 - informs (and misinforms) public and policymakers,
 - shapes opinion & informs action,
 - is leveraged and manipulated by current and potential adversaries
- Understand narratives, perspective and influence in a post-truth world





Movies and Topics



- Nuclear Weapons

- *Trinity and Beyond* (1995)
- *Fat Man and Little Boy* (1989)

- Biological Weapons

- *The Living Weapon* (2007)
- *The Plague War* (1994)

- Chemical Weapons

- *Wonder Woman* (2017)

- Fears of Armageddon and Apocalypse

- *On the Beach* (1959)
- *The Day After* (1983)

- Deterrence and Brinksmanship

- *Dr. Strangelove* (1964)
- *Thirteen Days* (2000)

- Nuclear Command-and-Control

- *Fail Safe* (1964)
- *WarGames* (1983)

- WMD Terrorism

- *Dirty War* (2004)
- *The Peacemaker* (1997)

- Disinformation and WMD

- *Contagion* (2011)

- State use: Assassinations

- *Panorama: How to Poison a Spy* (2007)

- Synthetic Biology and Emerging Technologies

- *The Andromeda Strain* (1971)
- *GATTACA* (1997)

Questions?



