ELECTIVE COURSE

Public Diplomacy and National Security

NWC 6075

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021 (FALL)

Room TBD

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Overview: This course examines the role of public diplomacy/strategic communication as an instrument of state power designed to understand, inform, and influence external audiences in the service of national security/foreign policy objectives. We will examine public diplomacy concepts, institutions, toolkits, and practices.

Designed for national security practitioners, the course will focus on understanding a strategic instrument that is relevant to and employed by multiple departments and agencies within the U.S. Government (USG). The course also will examine how other state and non-state actors use public diplomacy to understand cultures, attitudes and behavior; build and manage relationships; and influence attitudes and actions to advance their interests and values.

Focus: We will seek to understand these themes by focusing on three areas of inquiry:
● What is public diplomacy?
  ○ Concepts and theory underpinning public diplomacy, including soft power and public opinion, public affairs, strategic communications, and propaganda;
● What is the environment in which actors conduct public diplomacy?
  ○ An evolving context shaped by global trends and technological advances, social networks and public spheres, and changing international and regional dynamics;
● Who conducts public diplomacy and how?
  ○ U.S., large/middle/small-power states, and non-state actors’ public diplomacy “toolkits”—advocacy & daily communications, international broadcasting & digital media, exchanges & cultural diplomacy, and “nation” branding.

Objectives: By the end of the course, students will be able to:
● evaluate the role of public diplomacy (understand, inform, influence) in advancing national security objectives;
● analyze audiences, including formal and informal information sources that influence public opinion;
● develop a focused and realistic public diplomacy strategy to advance a national security policy/issue;
● consider ways to measure impact.

Academic Requirements: The course consists of twelve weekly sessions.

1) Seminar Performance/Contribution: All students are expected to read posted assignments as the basis for seminar discussions and activities. In-class activities may include nation-branding proposals and engagements with guest participants & each other.

2) Public Diplomacy Strategy: Students will develop a ~2,500 word public diplomacy strategy using a range of PD tools to advance a specific policy/issue. Students will submit selected topics by topic 7 for approval. Students will present individual strategies during topics 11 and 12 during which the seminar will engage and offer feedback. The public diplomacy strategy is due one day after topic 12 (to incorporate peer reviews). See pages 23-24 for amplifying guidance on content and structure. In general, PD strategies employ a Framework of “ABCDEF”: Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, and Effectiveness Assessment/Follow-Up.
In coordination with the course director, students have the option of writing a research paper about critical issues affecting U.S./DoD public diplomacy/strategic communications in accordance with various essay competition guidelines. See https://ndupress.ndu.edu/About/Essay-Competitions/ for information about the Secretary of Defense and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Strategic Essay Competitions. Students may also write papers for the Women, Peace & Security Essay Competition; see https://ndu.libguides.com/wps_writing_award and https://ndu.libguides.com/ld.php?content_id=50290019 (Note: students may also tighten their PD strategy and then submit for the SecDef/CJCS strategy paper competition.)

**FORMAT.** In scope and format, strategy papers are not academic research papers in the usual sense. PD strategies are designed to understand, inform, and influence the attitudes and behavior of selected, relevant audience(s) relating to a significant issue. Students may choose to write a PD strategy on behalf of the U.S. government as a whole or a specific department/agency, a foreign government, a regional organization, or a non-state actor/organization such as an NGO.

- Prepare papers double-spaced with 12-point font, preferably in a standard font like Times New Roman or Arial.
- Prepare the paper to the directed word count target or page length; list word count when appropriate at the footer of the last page. Footnotes or endnotes are not included in the textual word count. In-text quotes and epigraphs are included in the word counts.
- Use one-inch margins, all around.
- Use footnotes or endnotes in the Chicago “note-bibliography” Style, as detailed in Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition, Chapters 15-17.
- Prepare a cover sheet that shows the paper title, student’s name, course and seminar, Course Director, Faculty Advisor, and date.
- Include page numbers at the bottom of the page.

**Student Assessment:** Students must meet all stated course objectives to pass this course. The course director will use performance on the following assessments to determine each student’s final grade:

- 60%: Seminar performance, as evident by preparation, active and relevant contributions to discussions and activities including nation branding, and group interaction
- 40%: Public diplomacy strategy (written and oral presentation; content, composition)

**Source Materials are posted on Blackboard in addition to three books:**


See Student Catalogue for university/college policies regarding grade scale, grade appeals, attendance, original work etc.
Topic 1 (September)
Introduction to Public Diplomacy

States [have] sought to engage foreign publics for centuries. The core practices of public diplomacy: listening, advocacy, cultural and exchange diplomacy and even international broadcasting all [have] deep roots in ... statecraft ...

Nicholas Cull

At the risk of sounding tautological, strategic communications is communicating strategically: it’s the thoughtful integration of issues of stakeholder perception and response into policy-making, planning and operations at every level...and the orchestration of actions, images and words in support of our policy objectives.

Rosa Brooks, Former Senior Advisor, DoD

Soft power is the ability to affect others to obtain the outcomes one wants through attraction rather than coercion or payment. A country’s soft power rests on its resources of culture, values, and policies.

Joseph S. Nye, Jr., Harvard University

Throughout history people in groups have sought to comprehend, engage in discourse with, and influence the thoughts and actions of people. International relations depends upon communication, many forms of which depend upon a state’s soft power. Whatever it is called – rhetoric, propaganda, public diplomacy, or strategic communication – actions, language, and images have been used as instruments of political power. A framework for effective public diplomacy/communication strategy is “ABCDEF”: Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, and Follow-Up.

Objectives:
• Understand the concepts and components of soft power and public diplomacy.
• Consider why and how actors conduct public diplomacy (understand, inform, influence) in support of national security.

Questions for Discussion:
• What is the relationship between soft power and a state’s ability to communicate? Why is soft power more “complicated” for strategists?
• Why is listening critical for public diplomacy/strategic communication? What are other tools in a public diplomacy/strategic communication toolkit?
• Why and how are government-civil society connections relevant to national security/foreign policy?

Readings: 45 pages


Topic 2 (January 21)
Understanding Public Opinion

The only feeling that anyone can have about an event he does not experience is the feeling aroused by his mental image of that event. That is why until we know what others think they know, we cannot truly understand their acts.

Walter Lippmann, Public Opinion

In 1922, Walter Lippmann pioneered the theory of public opinion, including the abstract and underlying forces that shape its formation and manipulation. Considering public opinion is essential for public diplomacy practitioners’ quest to understand, inform, and influence foreign audiences’ attitudes and behavior. In developing a public diplomacy strategy, it is an essential starting point when considering “ABCDEF” elements: Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, and Follow-Up.

Objective:
• Understand the concept of public opinion, why and how it is formed.
• Consider how to analyze foreign public opinion in order to understand audiences.

Questions for Discussion:
● What is the nature of public opinion, how is it formed, and what forces does it reflect?
● How might you diagnose your own and others’ “stereotypes”? Others’? Why would this be important to the practice of public diplomacy?
● Why is public opinion hard to measure?

Readings: 67 pages, plus video
• Chapter 1 “The World Outside and the Pictures in our Heads,” 1-17.
• Chapter 6 “Stereotypes,” 43-52.
• Chapter 7 “Stereotypes as Defense,” 52-57.
• Chapter 8 “Blind Spots and their Value,” 57-63.
• Chapter 9 “Codes and their Enemies,” 63-71.
• Chapter 10 “Detection of Stereotypes,” 71-86.
• Chapter 11 “The Enlisting of Interest,” 87-93.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubR8rEgSZSU (4 minutes)

Visit for Situational Awareness.

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs Public Opinion Polling.
https://www.thechicagocouncil.org/issue/public-opinion

University of Chicago General Social Survey (GSS) Data Explorer
https://gssdataexplorer.norc.org/trends
Social connections have value precisely because they can help us to achieve what we could not achieve on our own.

Nicholas Christakis and James H. Fowler, 2009

With a basic understanding of public opinion as a foundation for attitudes and behaviors, this week we consider the logic of social network theory. Specifically, we investigate the intricate patterns of social connections/networks that affect our opinions, actions, choices, and experiences. In order to effectively communicate and affect public opinion and behavior, strategists must consider the range of social networks in which their audiences are immersed. This foundational context informs your analysis of many of the “ABCDEF” elements: 

**.objectives:**
- Understand the basic logic of social network theory
- Appreciate how various network structures may influence behavior

**Questions for Discussion:**
- How do configurations of social networks affect the “contagion” of ideas/narratives?
- How do “weak ties” open groups to new norms, new ideas, and new behaviors?
- Walter Lippmann highlighted the importance of ascertaining “the feeling aroused by [people’s] mental image[s]…” What is more powerful: emotions or facts? Why?

**Readings: 50 pages and podcast**
Nicholas A. Christakis and James H. Fowler, Chapter 1 “In the Thick of It” in Connected: The Surprising Power of Our Social Networks and How They Shape Our Lives (New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2009), 3-32, xx (chapter 2 (emotions) or 6 (politics)). (xx pages)


We live in the midst of a tempest, by which I refer to the turbulent nature of the electronic media environment as it has evolved via digital technologies. Wave after wave of changes to our modes of communication and interaction, our tools for thought and social action have altered and continue to alter our societies and our cultures, as well as our psyches and ourselves.

Lance Strate

International relations depends upon communication and public diplomacy focuses on engaging with populations abroad in support of national interests and goals. This week we consider the contemporary context in which public opinion is shaped. The readings highlight multiple dimensions of change and global trends impacting the information environment and your analysis of “ABCDEF” elements: Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, and Effectiveness Assessment/Follow-Up.

Objective:
- Consider the public diplomacy implications of contemporary contexts and trends in the information environment/media space.

Questions for Discussion:
- What factors have contributed to the evolution of news/information content and delivery?
- As new information technologies have emerged over time, how have they impacted societies?
- What aspects of the changing world do you find may be most impactful for public diplomacy practitioners and why?

Readings: 45 pages, plus podcast


Prevailing in the struggle will require far more than military force. It will require the use of all elements of our national power: public diplomacy; development assistance; law enforcement training; expansion of economic opportunity; and robust intelligence capabilities... In this struggle, scholarships will be far more important than smart bombs.

John McCain, 26 March 2008

Culture awareness is a two-sided equation in that it involves both the self and other. Without cultural self-awareness it is difficult to accurately perceive and understand the behavior of others.

R. S. Zaharna, 2012

Cultural diplomacy is a tricky business in a democracy.

Louis Menand, 2005

There are many players in educational and cultural diplomacy from U.S. government-sponsored programs to a plethora of civil-society organizations such as Sister Cities International, Rotary Club International, and Athletes for Hope. Today, U.S. exchange programs involve nearly 55,000 American and foreign participants per year. In fact, one in three world leaders has participated in a U.S. Government exchange program. Abroad the U.S. has nearly 700 American Space cultural centers in 169 countries that were visited by nearly 40 million last year. Yet, as Frank Ninkovich observes, “the desire to break down cultural barriers is hardly innocuous or innocent. It is hard to imagine a foreign policy activity that is more serious, even subversive in intent” (Ninkovich 1996, 44).

Objectives:
• Understand how educational and cultural diplomacy supports national security objectives.
• Appreciate the strengths and limitations of educational and cultural diplomacy.
• Consider how to employ educational and cultural diplomacy tools.

Questions for Discussion:
• How can educational and cultural activities contribute to the advancement of national security interests?
• How might you consider Walter Lippmann’s discussion of stereotypes when analyzing audiences and planning and conducing educational and cultural diplomacy activities?
• Why might American cultural diplomacy be contentious, both at home and abroad? How would you represent American culture? What would you exclude? How would you choose?
• How could you measure the impact of such activities?

Readings: ~34-39 pages, plus exploration of websites

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1 Figures drawn from unclassified U.S. State Department documents. The 2017 Comprehensive Annual Report on Public Diplomacy and International Broadcasting also offers detailed looks at current programs.


http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2005/10/17/051017crat_atlarge and BLACKBOARD

GLANCE (for PD strategy ideas).
- DoS Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs “22.33” audio podcasts featuring first person narratives/anecdotes from those who have engaged in educational and cultural exchanges [https://eca.state.gov/2233](https://eca.state.gov/2233)
- Alliance for International Educational and Cultural Exchange, the leading Washington-based advocacy organization for NGOs and universities engaged in cultural diplomacy [www.alliance-exchange.org](http://www.alliance-exchange.org)
- Defense Security Cooperation Agency’s International Military Education & Training [www.dsca.mil\programs\international-military-education-training-imet](http://www.dsca.mil\programs\international-military-education-training-imet)

Pick One:


Topic 6 (tbd)
PD Toolkit: International Broadcasting / Global Media

…to inform, engage, and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy.
U.S. Agency for Global Media, Mission Statement

To understand the effect of free information on power, one must first understand the paradox of plenty. A plenitude of information leads to a poverty of attention . . . Attention rather than information becomes the scarce resource, and those who can distinguish valuable information from background clutter gain power.

Joseph Nye, Harvard University

This week we examine international broadcasting / global media as part of the public diplomacy toolkit. U.S. public diplomacy practitioners continue to imagine how to best employ tools and methods promoting monologue, dialogue, and collaboration across electronic technologies to be effective in the 21st century global information environment. According to UNESCO, at least 75% of households in developing countries have access to radio. Along with radio, nearly 70% of the world’s population are unique mobile subscribers. Over half of the world’s population has access to the Internet. The State and Defense Departments increasingly are appreciating the power of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and social media platforms to understand, communicate, and engage with civil societies and networks to accomplish national security goals and objectives. Additionally, U.S. Global Media offers news and program content for digital, television, and radio platforms. And yet, Freedom House finds that the freedom of the media has been deteriorating around the world for the last decade.

Objectives:
• Understand how international broadcasting / global media supports national security objectives.
• Appreciate the strengths and limitations of U.S. international broadcasting / global media.
• Consider how to use international broadcasting / global media to reach and connect with audiences.

Questions for Discussion:
• How do states employ digital communication tools, specifically international broadcasting / global media, to further strategic interests? What specific programming does U.S. global media offer in the regions/countries you will visit?
• What are key challenges facing international broadcasting / global media?
• If you compared various state-funded outlet headlines for a current news story, what framing might you notice?
• How can we measure the impact of international broadcasting / global media?

Readings: 39 pages, plus 22 minute podcast and exploration of USAGM website/programs

two-5 (a story about a formerly-DoS funded local radio station in Syria and the potential within broadcasting in trying to change mindsets)


United States Agency for Global Media website https://www.usagm.gov/  
- Explore: “Who We Are”, “Our Work”, and “Networks”  
  - Voice of America https://www.voanews.com/  
    - VOA Learning English Program, including Video Programs (English in a Minute etc) at bottom of website https://learningenglish.voanews.com/  
    - https://youtube.com/voalearningenglish  
    - facebook.com/voalearningenglish  
    - twitter.com/voalearnenglish  
  - Radio Free Asia https://www.rfa.org/english/  
  - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCirnBv9qGKCJYZSaWmYGFaQ  
    - @RFERL  
    - https://www.facebook.com/rferl/  
  - Middle East Broadcasting Networks  
  - Radio Sawa https://www.radiosawa.com/  
    - https://www.liveonlineradio.net/arabic/radio-sawa.htm  
  - Alhurra TV https://www.alhurra.com/  
    - https://www.youtube.com/user/alhurra

GLANCE for AWARENESS. Various state-funded (and for some, state-run), English language channels designed to reach and influence Anglophone audiences (albeit not all according to the same journalistic standards).

- British Broadcasting Company https://www.bbc.com/  
- Voice of America http://www.voanews.com/  
- Iran’s Press TV https://www.presstv.com/  
- Russia RT https://www.rt.com/  
- China CNTV http://english.cntv.cn/01/index.shtml
In *The Future of Power*, Joseph Nye argues that one of the stages of public diplomacy is daily communications “which involves explaining the context of domestic and foreign policy decisions… [as well as] crises” (Nye 2011, 105). Daily transparent communications actively symbolize commitment to our political, democratic values and thus also may enhance U.S. credibility in the long run. In today’s information ecology, both professional and citizen media are active players. Media decisions regarding what stories to highlight and how can shape political agendas and public opinion. For U.S. practitioners, engaging with global media provides an opportunity to advocate, set agendas, and frame situations in support of national interests and specific policy objectives. Yet, the effectiveness (in terms of resonating with audiences) often rests upon the political cultural congruency between the U.S. and the recipient nation(s)/audiences(s).

**Objectives:**
- Understand the logic of how government officials may influence public opinion via media engagements.
- Appreciate the strengths and limitations of U.S. advocacy & daily communications.
- Consider how to conduct daily communications in support of national security objectives.

**Questions for Discussion:**
- Gilboa argues that global communication plays various roles in its relation to foreign policy officials, and may serve as “a sophisticated tool in the hands of government officials.” How?
- Public perception of issues is a function of framing which itself involves multiple steps and actors. How can you conceptualize Entman’s basic model to account for the plethora of media sources in today’s environment?

**Readings: 45 pages**


Visit for Awareness.
Department of State. @StateDept @statedeptspox @ForeignPressCtr [https://blogs.state.gov/](https://blogs.state.gov/)

Department of Defense. @DeptoDefense @USNationalGuard [www.dodlive.mil](http://www.dodlive.mil)

USAID. @USAID
Topic 8 (March 3)
“Nation Branding”

Many countries have wasted enormous sums of public money on communication campaigns based on the assumption that people don’t respect their country simply because they don’t know enough about it. In most cases, they are deluding themselves, and the real reason why their country has a negative reputation is that it doesn’t deserve a positive one.

Simon Anholt, Nation Branding: Propaganda or Statecraft

This week we consider “nation branding” and national image as a public diplomacy tool supporting foreign policy and national security goals. Most states engage in public diplomacy; however, public diplomacy strategies of great powers often differ in important ways from those of small and medium states. This lesson considers how “middle powers” may develop an effective, attractive brand/image, represented via a strategic narrative designed to underpin the inherent attractiveness of a state and its policies; and enhance state legitimacy in terms that persuade, attract and ultimately, positively influence audience attitudes and behaviors. In other words, nation branding may provide a “middle power” “with ample opportunities to gain influence in world affairs far beyond their limited material capabilities” (Gilboa 2009, 24).

Objectives:
• Understand the concept of nation branding.
• Appreciate how states may develop and promote a national brand to support the advancement of national interests and objectives.

Questions for Discussion:
• What’s the relationship between soft power and nation branding?
• How do external audience perceptions and values influence brand reception?
  • What is the country’s reputation? Is it deserved? What can you do about it?
  • How well do various rankings reflect what you know/ have learned about that country? Do these reflect national culture? Historical context? Geographic considerations? Economics? Social or political realities?
  • In developing a national brand, how should you think about a public’s emotional appreciation—and which publics should you consider?
• What are the limitations of nation branding in today’s complex information environment?

Readings: 28 pages, plus Indices


Seminar Individual Activity:

- Acting as a PD practitioner working on behalf of the state you will visit during your field studies, craft a nation branding campaign/narrative using attributes identified within various indices and your own academic research to date. Presentations of 3-5 minutes.
  - FutureBrand’s Country Brand Index https://www.futurebrand.com/country-brand-index
  - Simon Anholt’s Good Country Index, https://goodcountry.org


**Topic 9 (tbd)**

**Public Diplomacy of Peer Competitors**

*Whichever nation’s communications capacity is strongest, it is that nation whose culture will spread far and wide... with the most power to influence the world.*

Li Chang-Chun, Chinese Communist Party Propaganda Chief

*Russia will continue to pursue an active and constructive line in international affairs. Its weight and influence in the world will increase... The basic principles of Russian foreign policy remain the same... The concept focuses on modern foreign policy tools, including economic diplomacy, elements of so-called soft power, and careful integration into the global information space.*

Vladimir Putin, address to members of the Russian Security Council, 2013

*Question More.*

Motto of RT (formerly Russia Today)

*Much depends on the health and vigor of our own society... Every courageous and incisive measure to solve internal problems of our own society, to improve self-confidence, discipline, morale and community spirit of our own people, is a diplomatic victory over Moscow...*

George Kennan in the “Long Telegram,” 22 February 1946

China and Russia have institutionally organized in order to compete within the broad public diplomacy space. In December 2016, Russian President Putin enacted Presidential Decree 646--a new doctrine in information security that revealed “Moscow’s interpretation of existential threats to its national interests and its priorities in countering them ... [including] “information-psychological influence” and political destabilization” (Jones in Jane’s Defence Weekly, 8 December 2016). Chinese leaders have created a unique model emphasizing cultural elements under the Communist Party of China’s leadership. Understanding why and how peer competitors conduct such activities is a necessary step in developing how the U.S. may address and/or counter such activities within the information space.

**Objectives:**

- Appreciate the evolution of peer competitor public diplomacy activities designed to advance national interests.
- Consider relative prioritization peer competitors place on public diplomacy as an instrument of statecraft compared to the U.S.

**Questions for Discussion:**

- What guides Russian and Chinese public diplomacy activities and what types of institutional and instrumental initiatives have they undertaken? Does such prioritization matter?
- What might be some of the West’s “dominant narratives” and structures that both China and Russia seek to challenge?

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• How would you assess the effectiveness of Chinese and Russian investments in public diplomacy initiatives? What metrics would you consider and why?
• What are the implications of peer competitor public diplomacy efforts for the United States?

Readings: ~55 pages


AND, CHINA


OR, RUSSIA


Public Diplomacy of International Terrorist Organizations

*Bin Laden’s war, of course, is all about propaganda.*

Tony Koran, *Time*, 6 November 2001

*The Islamic State has* its agile and robust propaganda machine that has helped to inspire as many as 31,000 people from across the globe to leave their homes and join the cause.”

Daveed Gartenstein-Ross and Nathaniel Barr, 2016

We will integrate our strategic communications capability across our efforts to send a clear message... this message will aim to discredit terrorist narratives, dissuade potential terrorist supporters, and demonstrate the effects of our counterterrorism operations are not limited solely to direct action.

United States National Strategy for Counterterrorism, October 2018

In April 2016, the U.S. established the Global Engagement Center within the State Department. The GEC is charged with leading U.S. efforts to counter propaganda and disinformation from international terrorist organizations and foreign countries. More specifically, the 2017 NDAA defined its mission as being to “lead, synchronize, and coordinate efforts of the Federal Government to recognize, understand, expose, and counter foreign state and non-state propaganda and disinformation efforts aimed at undermining United States national security interests.”

Using the “ABCDEF” construct of “Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, and Effectiveness Assessment/Follow-Up,” how might national security professionals / public diplomacy practitioners address / counter / inoculate against the public diplomacy / information warfare of other actors in the international environment? Building on what we have learned about public diplomacy concepts and toolkits in prior topics, how might we think of audiences and the attitudes and behaviors we want to affect?

Objectives:

- Consider public diplomacy / propaganda / information warfare conducted by other actors.
- Consider how to use your public diplomacy toolkit (cultural and educational diplomacy, international broadcasting, digital media etc) to address / counter / inoculate against the public diplomacy / information warfare of other actors in the international environment.
- Consider broader science and technology-based actions that may support U.S. efforts.

Questions for Discussion:

- How do pre-existing beliefs/prejudices influence audience response to targeted messaging?
- How could you use public diplomacy tools as part of a public diplomacy strategy to “inoculate” publics against such disinformation? What else can we do?

Readings: 45 pages

4 https://www.state.gov/r/gec/


Alexander, Audrey. “How to Fight ISIS Online: Why the Islamic State is Winning on Social Media,” *Foreign Affairs* (7 April 2017). (3 pages) [https://www.foreignaffairs.com/print/1119786](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/print/1119786)


Topics 11 & 12 (tbd)
Presentations of Individual PD Strategies

Having developed a public diplomacy strategy (see final pages) to address/advance a selected, specific policy issue/objective, each student will have ~10 minutes to present key elements of his/her public diplomacy strategy to the seminar and respond to seminar critical questioning and feedback. See following pages for guiding structure.

Objectives:
- Demonstrate foundational understanding of the role of public diplomacy in supporting national interests and objectives.
- Enhance public speaking and communication skills through a concise synopsis of an overall public diplomacy strategy.
- Learn from one another.

Questions for Discussion:
- What is the specific policy issue/objective at hand?
- How do the proposed public diplomacy strategies support/advance interests/goals/objectives?
- Does the proposed strategy incorporate “ABCDEF” elements: Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, and Effectiveness Assessment/Follow-Up?
- Do the audience analyses logically inform selected public diplomacy toolkit recommendations?
- Does the public diplomacy strategy incorporate multiple public diplomacy tools and do the tools reinforce one another?

Resources on Bb:
In addition to your individual research, see the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy’s Comprehensive Annual Report on Public Diplomacy and International Broadcasting for an overview of contemporary public diplomacy tools and activities that may provide ideas for the written project. Specifically the 2017, 2018, and 2019 versions which provide basic overviews of information landscapes and media usage in many locations, as well as overviews of existing programs.

Also, U.S. government employees can create an account with Open Source Enterprise at https://www.opensource.gov to access sources of information for foreign audiences.
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY STRATEGY/PLANNING
A General Structure for Public Diplomacy Strategies/Plans
“ABCDEF”: Audiences, Behaviors, Content, Delivery, Engagement, And Effectiveness Assessment/Follow-Up
AY21

PURPOSE AND STRATEGY OVERVIEW

• What is your overarching policy issue aim/goal/objective?
• What are your supporting public diplomacy objectives and how do these tie to your overarching aims/goals/objectives?

AUDIENCE ANALYSIS

Key Audiences and Demographics
• Who do you need to influence in order to accomplish your goals? How can you disaggregate broad(er) audiences into key segments?
• Why are these specific audiences important to achieving your overarching goals?

Audience Concerns, Attitudes and Opinions
• What do the specific audiences care about?
• What are each specific audiences’ views toward us? Towards the issue(s) at stake?
• Are there trends in public opinion worth noting?

Information Sources and channels
• In what formal or informal social networks might they be immersed?
• How do key, specific audiences get their information?
• Whom do they trust? Find authoritative? Where are the information sources located?
• What information sources are growing/declining?
• Are certain information sources more/less popular with certain demographic groups?
• Who has access to your specific audiences?

Allies and Adversaries
• What other governments, private sector entities, multilateral organizations, and non-governmental groups are working on this or similar issues (or competing/distracting issues) within the country/region?
• What are the agenda, programs, and resources of each?
• Who might be potential (informal) partners/“allies”?
• Who might be opposed to, or what conditions/actions might adversarial to our efforts? Why?
• What are key trends/dates you should be aware of? (environmental changes, domestic or international votes/decision dates, international conferences, political events)?
BEHAVIORS (OVER TIME)

- What attitudes or behaviors/actions do you want each segmented audience to adopt as a result of your public diplomacy efforts? (What do you want them to think? To do?)
- What is the time frame for each attitude / behavior? Do you need to think incrementally? (i.e. become aware/understand an issue; materially/politically/emotionally support/cooperate on an issue etc)
- What “SMART” objectives can you create? (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound)

CONTENT, DELIVERY, ENGAGEMENT:
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY TOOLKIT

Tools for Content, Delivery, & Engagement
- Based on the information developed above, what activities and public diplomacy tools will you use to achieve your objectives?
- How might PD tools be sequenced over time to achieve SMART objectives in support of goals?
- What messages/narratives/activities resonate with each specific audience? Why?
- What communications channels will you utilize to reach/engage each specific audience?

Building Alliances and Networks
- Within the USG, what departments and agencies are already engaged or could be engaged as “allies” in this issue and how?
- How might you encourage expansion of alliances/ formal and informal partnerships, and coordination among the various entities that are allied around the issue?

Local Capacity Building
- Do you need to build local capacity within the government or civil society to help garner support for the issue? If so, in what areas and how might you do this?

Countering the Opposition
- Do you need to monitor media to track information trends/narratives in the public sphere? If so, how?
- How will you respond to disinformation and/or opposition arguments/situations? Who are the voices/circumstances? What are the channels?

EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT /FOLLOW-UP:

- How can you measure current attitudes/behaviors of key, segmented audiences? What indicators may be helpful?
- How can you assess attitudinal / behavioral change after PD events? Activities? Over time?
- How will the attitudinal / behavioral changes support your overall aims/goals/objectives?
Topic 1 “Introduction” Additional Resources:


   - Christopher Paul, "Strategic Communication is Vague: Say What You Mean."


**Topic 2 “Public Opinion” Additional Resources:**


Adam Curtis, Writer/Director. The Century of the Self, BBC 4 Documentary on Sigmund Freud’s theories on desire and how they are applied in consumerism, advertising, and politics (4 segments) http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/the-century-of-the-self/


**Topic 3 “Social Network Theory” Additional Resources:**


Clay Shirky, “How telephones, Twitter, Facebook can make history,” TED Talk (16 June 2009). [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_iN_QubRs0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_iN_QubRs0)


**Topic 4 “Information Environment” Additional Resources:**


Alina Polyakova and Daniel Fried, “How Democracies Can Defend Against Disinformation,”


**Topic 5 “Cultural & Educational Diplomacy” Additional Resources:**


Canadian Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade “Cultural Diplomacy at the Front Stage of Canada’s Foreign Policy,” (June 2019). https://sencanada.ca/content/sen/committee/421/AEFA/Reports/Report_CulturalDiplomacy_e.pdf


https://search.proquest.com/docview/1658613421/A4F446D4046A4A8DPQ/2?accountid=12686


ES Wim, RD Macy, and G. Ciottone, “Medical and psychosocial needs of Olympic and Pan American athletes after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti: an opportunity to promote resilience through sports medicine and public diplomacy,” Prehospital and Disaster Medicine, Vol 29 (2) (2014), 195-199.


**Topic 6 “International Broadcasting / Global Media” Additional Resources:**


https://www.diplomacy.edu/datadiplomacy/policyresearch


Topic 7 “Advocacy & Daily Communications” Additional Resources:


Topic 8 “Nation Branding” Additional Resources:


 Topic 9 “PD of Peer Competitors” Additional Resources:


China:


**Russia:**


Neil MacFarquhar & Andrew Rossback. “How Russian Propaganda Spread from a Parody

Eliza Mackintosh, “Finland is winning the war on fake news. What it’s learned may be crucial to Western Democracy,” CNN Special Report (May 2019).
https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2019/05/europe/finland-fake-news-intl/?fbclid=IwAR1foBQxbmer4VpJz9mt-PR1yqy6yvdkh9leQCMfQzd8JPIrOk5WT2TdxY


https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/perspectives/PE100/PE198/RAND_PE198.pdf


“Hamilton 68” https://dashboard.securingsdemocracy.org/ (a website that tracks Russian propaganda in near-real time; see the following for the story


**Topic 10 “PD of International Terrorist Organizations” Additional Resources:**

http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/us-counter-ideological-campaign

Colin Clark and Charlie Winter. “The Islamic State may be failing, but its strategic communications legacy is here to stay,” War on the Rocks (17 August 2017). 


