



Security and Strategy Seminar

U.S.-Iran Strategic Competition *September 2020 to May 2021*

Since the Islamic Revolution of 1979, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been a critical challenge for American policymakers, turning from friend to foe overnight. In the ensuing four decades, nearly every American president has had an Iran-related crisis help define his presidency. Over the course of the seminar, fellows will gain a clear understanding of the history of America's relationship with Iran and take an in-depth look at the ideological nature of the Iranian regime. They will delve into the challenges the regime presents to the United States, from its nuclear program to its regional ambitions to its oil diplomacy.

The Security and Strategy Seminar (SSS) is a graduate-level seminar in Washington, D.C. focused on distinct challenges to the American position in the world with an emphasis on policy and cohort-building. Taught by leading scholars in the field, each SSS will consist of 15 evening sessions that meet on Thursday evenings from September-May and will afford participating fellows an opportunity to gain a breadth of knowledge on critical subjects, forge relationships with senior scholars and practitioners, sharpen analytical frameworks through written and oral arguments, and build a cohort with their peers.

Ideal Candidates:

SSS seeks a professionally diverse and first-rate class of highly committed junior to mid-level professionals (25 to 35 years old) already working in policy-relevant institutions. Fellows will be responsible for around 50 pages of reading for each session and will be required to write two short essays over the course of the program. If the ongoing public health crisis prevents in-person gatherings, SSS will operate via virtual platforms.

How to Apply:

[Submit](#) your resume, a letter of interest, a 5-page writing sample, and two references by **June 15, 2020**. Candidates are eligible to be considered for more than one seminar.

Draft Seminar Agenda as of May 13, 2020

Welcome to the Competition

The Presidents and the Shah:
1945-1978

The Islamic Revolution

The Islamic Republic: Ideology,
Structure, and Power

Iran's Energy Sector and Strategy

Iran's Grand Strategy

Systems of Control: Iran's
Counterrevolutionaries and
Dissidents, at Home and Abroad

The Iranian Economy: Sanctions
and Multilateral Action

Iran in Iraq and Afghanistan

Iran's Regional Ambitions: Iraq,
Syria, Lebanon, Yemen

The Military Balance

Battlefield Europe: Where do
America's Allies stand?

The Iranian Nuclear Program

The/A Nuclear Deal?: The Rise
and Fall of the JCPOA

Competing to Win

THE
Alexander Hamilton
SOCIETY



HERTOG
FOUNDATION