

**The Military Industrial Complex and the Federal Tax Dollar**  
**PADMN 6965-002 and POLS 5/6965-002**

Days/Time	May 16 to August 1, 2006 Tuesday 4:35 to 7:30 p.m.
Location:	Orson Spencer Hall, Campus Rm. 208
Instructor:	Brigadier General Paul D. Slack, USMC (Retired)
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Hours:	By appointment

### Course Overview

The course will begin with an introduction to the players in the military industrial complex. The principle players examined will be the Executive Branch of the federal government, the Department of Defense (DOD), the U.S. Congress, and defense contractors. Corporate shareholders, labor, and communities are also stakeholders to be considered. You will become familiar with the strategic threat analysis that drives defense spending and the process used to procure weapons and systems to meet that threat. We will discuss and examine the impact of prime defense contractors on the communities in which they reside and, finally, discuss improvement or restructuring of the military industrial complex.

### Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the complexities of strategic threat analysis, the federal budget, and Federal Acquisition Regulations
- Discuss the relationship among key players of the military industrial complex
- Discuss key issues and strategies related to the military industrial complex, the community and the distribution of corporate profits.
- Coordinate group projects and make presentations.

### Course Requirements

- Actively participate in class discussion and make presentations on assigned projects.
- Maintain an open and objective mindset when analyzing issues.
- Access information found on the Internet and other sources.
- One 6-8 page paper addressing a critical issue related to the military industrial complex.
- Two one-hour quizzes.
- Final exam will be an analytical type exam, not a recall exam.

## Grading Policy

Attendance and participation 20%

Team Presentations 10%

Critical issue paper 30%

Quizzes and final exam 40%

## Course Materials

*Swords Into Dow Shares*, Rachel Weber (Westview Press)

Assigned articles

## Course Schedule

### **May 16**

Introductions/Course overview

- History of the military industrial complex
- Team assignments for corporate review
- Overview of DOD

### **May 23**

- *Swords into Dow Shares*
- Introduction to social theorists
- Chapter 1, "The Crisis of Corporate Governance"

### **May 30**

- Determining threats to U.S. national interests
- The federal budgeting process
- The federal acquisition process

### **June 6**

Morals, ethics and you

### **June 13**

- Class team presentation on key players in the military industrial complex (Quiz)

### **June 20**

- Team presentations

### **June 27**

- Chapter 2, "Governing Defense Contactors"
- Chapter 3, "Adjusting to the Drawdown"

### **July 11**

- Chapter 4, "General Dynamics: The Shareholder Success Story of the 1990s"

### **July 18**

- Chapter 5, “Redistribution Risks & Rents at General Dynamics”
- Chapter 6, “Accommodating Public Interest in Corporate Change”

### **July 25**

- Course Review (Distribute final exam to be completed outside class)

### **August 1**

- Turn in final exam
- Discuss and share positions on the issues

Guest speaker schedule may dictate schedule changes. Prior notice will be given when change is necessary.

### **Reasonable Accommodation**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), I offer any student with a disability the opportunity to meet with me privately to discuss receiving reasonable accommodation. Such accommodations will be afforded based on the specific disability and as agreed in writing. This statement in no way asks that students identify themselves as having a disability; however, a request for reasonable accommodation can only be granted if a student makes his or her disability known.

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is expected, and dishonesty will not be tolerated. An act of academic dishonesty may result in a course grade of E and a recommendation of additional disciplinary action. In the event of suspected academic dishonesty, I may substitute an examination or assignment for the work in question. I have adopted the following guidelines concerning what constitutes a violation of ethical standards for work completed in this course. Any of these violations will be considered academic dishonesty and treated as such. These guidelines are in addition to any University-wide guidelines concerning academic dishonesty which may be in effect.

- 1. Cheating.** The giving or receiving of any unauthorized assistance on any academic work.
- 2. Plagiarism.** Presenting the language, structure or ideas of another person or persons as one’s own original work.
- 3. Falsification.** Any untrue statement, either oral or written, concerning one’s own academic work or the academic work of another student, or the unauthorized alteration of any academic record.
- 4. Original work.** Unless specifically allowed by the instructor, all academic work undertaken in a course must be original, i.e., it must not have been submitted in a prior course or be submitted in a course being taken concurrently.

## MPA Major Research Papers

Any student desiring to write their MPA major research paper in conjunction with this course will be given instruction under separate cover.