Contemporary Security Studies
Alan Collins

Introduction:
What Is Security Studies?
What Is Security Studies?

Welcome to Security Studies: 

the sub-discipline of International Relations

- It is the survival of agents that has been the dominant explanatory tool for understanding behaviour

- For much of the discipline the agent has meant sovereign states

- Security is a matter of high-politics; central to policy-making and the priorities they establish
What Is Security Studies?

Towards a Definition of Security Studies
Definition of Security
What Does It Mean to be Secure?

Security Studies is threats to survival but those threats are far reaching

What Threats?

Organised State Violence
Beyond the State
Definition of Security

*The lines between International Relations, Political Science and Security Studies have been blurred*

Globalization has led to internal issues becoming externalised and external issues internalised:

*Broadening*

Referent objects and the means to security beyond the state

*Deepening*

Questioning past assumptions as a possible cause of insecurity
What Is Security Studies?

Towards a Definition of Security Studies

Different Approaches to Security Studies
Approaches to Security Studies

- Traditional
- Securitization
- Human Security
- Gender Security
- Peace Studies
- Critical Security
The theoretical approach you take will determine the type of subjects you consider to constitute security.
## Traditional and Non-Traditional Security

### Traditional
- Coercive diplomacy
- The Role Of Intelligence
- Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Terrorism
- The Defence Trade

### Non-Traditional
- Aids and HIV
- Transnational Organised Crime
- Children and War
What is Security Studies?

Conclusion
How Security Studies be Studied?
Conclusion

The past, present and future of Security Studies

Contemporary Security Studies should present you with the state of security studies and the types of theorising that have taken place within the discipline:

*The context of why we think about the subject the way we do*

There is no right or wrong!