



# Neurophilosophy of Global Security

How does the 'emotional amoral egoism' of man shape the global system?

## Thematic cluster:

Geopolitics and Global Futures

## Course date:

14 June 2019

## Course location:

Geneva, Switzerland

Is morality innate or alterable? Are emotions and rational decisions intertwined? How critical is the balance between human nature and human dignity? Human nature is at the centre of political theory and public policy, but our notions of what that precisely means are often oversimplified and subjective, lacking scientific rigour. Significant advances in neuroscience, brain-imaging and neurochemistry are helping to clarify what shapes our actions and emotions, at an individual level and collectively.

## COURSE BENEFITS

The course explains the neurophilosophical concept of "Emotional Amoral Egoism" in reference to both humans and states, demonstrating how it affects international relations and governance.

Participation in this course will provide you with:

- a comprehensive overview of the relevance and uses of neuroscience across a wide range of security policy issues and global conflicts
- new tools for analysing political processes, political change, power and leadership
- a review of emerging technologies in the area of neuroscience, such as cognitive enhancement, and their implications for equality, ethics, security and the future of humanity

## COURSE FOCUS:

This course will explore:

- the effect of emotions on conflict prevention, resolution and global security
- how insights from neurophilosophy can influence thinking on sustainable governance paradigms
- how insights from neuroscience can inform leadership issues
- potential effects of enhancement on society and warfare

It includes presentations by international experts on the following topics:

- Neurophilosophy of identity and culture
- Neuroscience of morality
- Neuroscience of emotions
- Neuroscience of diplomacy
- Neuroscience of torture





## Course Director

**Professor Nayef Al-Rodhan** is a Philosopher, Neuroscientist and Geostrategist. He is Head of GCSP's Geopolitics and Global Futures Programme and Honorary Fellow of St. Antony's College at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom. He holds an M.D. and a Ph.D. He trained in neurosurgery/neuroscience research at the Mayo Clinic, Yale University and Harvard University.

## Expert Educators

Our educators include the GCSP's own international team composed of academics and practitioners with broad experience in security policy, diplomacy and/or military affairs, as well as guest speakers who are government officials, military officers, representatives from international institutions and civil society, academics and researchers.

Please visit the course page on the **GCSP website** for further details on speakers.

### Who should attend

This course is designed for officials from governments and international organisations, as well as members of the security and defence policy planning and the intelligence communities. This course is also relevant to representatives from the private sector and non-governmental organisations, journalists, and anyone with a professional interest in understanding future international security challenges.

### Tuition fees

CHF 500

Apply by 14 April 2019 to qualify for a 15% discount. Alumni qualify for a 20% discount. A limited number of partial tuition waivers may be available.

GCSP reserves the right to modify the programme dates, location and fee at any time. Discounts are not cumulative.

### Registration deadline

10 June 2019

### Language requirements

The course will be held in English; no translation will be provided

### Venue

GCSP, Maison de la paix,  
Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2D, Geneva  
Switzerland

### Contact

For further details about the course or customised solutions, please contact:

**Email:** [excedu@gcsp.ch](mailto:excedu@gcsp.ch)

**Telephone:** +41 (0)22 730 96 00

**Web:** <http://www.gcsp.ch>

### Alumni Community

Completing the executive course gives you access to a global and expanding network of over 6'500 experts. Alumni are able to connect online through our Alumni Portal, attend numerous conferences and events, and benefit from reduced rates in future courses.

### GCSP

The Geneva Centre for Security Policy is an international foundation with 52 member states from across the globe. We bring people from every industry and nation together so they can thrive in today's ever-changing security landscape.

### In the heart of international Geneva

Home to over 35 international organisations, some 380 non-governmental organisations, and more than 175 diplomatic missions, representations and delegations, Geneva is a leading hub for international expertise.

### Geopolitics and Global Futures Symposium

This course is part of the three-day Geopolitics and Global Futures Symposium which will take place on 12 - 14 June 2019. Contact us for more information or to register for the full three-day event.

### Testimonial from a past participant

**“** *The course was well organised to introduce the interdisciplinary use of neuroscience in the field of politics and international relations to a very diverse audience. Its innovative approach to understanding current international affairs provides a great and promising platform for developing responsible governance in a highly complex world.*

**Theologia Illiadou**  
PhD Researcher

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