

# National Security Innovation Teaching Team

## Regan Jones, Director of the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs



Regan Jones is the director for military and veterans affairs and provides strategic direction on behalf of the provost for the University's defense, military, and veteran-related programs, teaches a graduate-level leadership class, and is an affiliate fellow with Notre Dame's International Security Center.

Jones, a career infantry officer, currently serves with the Defense Innovation Unit. During his military career, he completed combat deployments to Iraq and non-combat deployments to the Indo-Pacific and East African theaters of operation, and when not deployed overseas, he was involved in all aspects of Marine Corps training and education.

A former Division I athlete, Jones holds an undergraduate degree in political science from the University at Albany, an M.B.A. from Florida State University, and is a graduate of the President George W. Bush Institute Leadership Program.

## Dr. John Soares, Course Instructor



John Soares earned his B.A. in international relations from the University of Virginia and his Ph.D. in history from George Washington University. Before coming to Notre Dame, he taught at George Washington and the University of Cincinnati. At Notre Dame, he teaches a variety of classes on the history of war, diplomacy and soft power, particularly during the Cold War years; he also has been Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in North American Studies at Carleton University in Ottawa.

His publications have appeared in such journals as *Diplomatic History*, *Cold War History*, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, *Notre Dame Journal of International & Comparative Law*; in the Cold War International History Project's Working Paper Series; and in the anthology *Diplomatic Games* (University Press of Kentucky, 2014).

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## Dr. Amanda Leary, Course Producer for Academic Innovation



Dr. Amanda Leary comes from the office of Notre Dame Learning, the central hub for teaching excellence and academic innovation on Notre Dame's campus. With ND Learning, Amanda provides management and operational support for major learning initiatives at Notre Dame. Her role with the National Security Innovation program is to support the design, development, and execution of the course.

Amanda holds a Ph.D. in medieval literature from Purdue University. Her academic work focuses on Chaucer, narrative, and identity. She also holds an M.A. from the University of Chicago and a B.A. in English from Valparaiso University. Her research and teaching interests include inclusive pedagogy, composition, public education, narratology, and literature. As an instructor, she works primarily with first-year students. Outside work, Amanda enjoys exploring independent bookstores and adding to her mug collection.

## Patrick Gibbons, Senior Advisor for National Security



Patrick Gibbons is an adjunct teaching professor at the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business. In previous positions, he has served as executive director of academic communications at Notre Dame, as chief communications officer at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, and vice president of public relations and corporate communications at RTI International, a global nonprofit research and development organization.

Gibbons began his career as a public affairs officer in the United States Marine Corps and served as head of media relations for the Marine Corps at the Pentagon and as principal communications adviser for the Marine Corps Commandant. He earned a B.S. in public relations from the University of Florida and an M.A. in communication from the University of Oklahoma.