

Great Decisions lecture series - Iran at a Crossroads

By Robert D. Martin, USAWC PAO 17 February 2023



Great Decisions 2023
Iran at a Crossroads
Dr. Chris Bolan
March 31
1 – 3 p.m.
AHEC

Dr. Chirs Bolan looks into an Iran that is in a state of turmoil due to widespread protests against wearing of the hijab, a failing economy, an ineffective new president, and the looming succession of the country's leader.

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[Economic Warfare - Dr. Mark Duckenfield](#)

Dr. Robert Hamilton is the next presenter in the Great Decisions lecture series, Friday, March 24 at 1 p.m. at the Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle. Dr. Hamilton will be discussing what exactly are war crimes and what constitutes a war crime and how will the war crimes committed in Ukraine be dealt with?

"Great Decisions" is America's most extensive discussion program on world affairs. Locally, Great Decisions features Army War College faculty's expert insights in a weekly series of presentations with question-answer opportunities for some of the most critical issues facing America each year.

Lectures are conducted in the AHEC's multipurpose rooms. Each session is two hours and consists of a lecture and a question-and-answer period. Every lecture begins at 1 p.m. and ends @ 3 p.m. The Series dates are

March 24, and 31. and ends on April 7. Below is a list of topics and a brief bio of the speaker.

Iran at a Crossroads – Friday, March 31, 1 – 3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Christopher Bolan, Professor of Middle East Security Studies at the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College

Dr. Bolan researches and teaches graduate-level courses on U.S. national security, foreign policy, and Middle East security issues. He has served as a foreign policy advisor for Vice Presidents Gore and Cheney on the Middle East and South Asia affairs. He is a retired U.S. Army colonel with overseas tours in Korea, Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia. He holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and a Master of Arts in Arab Studies from Georgetown University.

Ethics and A.I. – Friday, April 7, 1 – 3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. William Barry is an Emerging Technologies and Cybersecurity professor at the Army War College.

Barry teaches Science and Tech and Human-AI Teams: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, which is co-taught with Barry's robot, Maria-Bot. This method of co-teaching with a robot is unique to the war college, as Barry is the only professor in the United States to co-teach with A.I.

He has over 25 years of experience as an innovative and creative experiential educator. Barry was a Philosophy Professor at Notre Dame de Namur University in California. He was the founding Director of the Virtual Reality & Augmented Reality Experiential Learning Lab at Notre Dame de Namur University. At West Point, he was a visiting professor of Philosophy and Ethical Reasoning.

Barry received his B.A. in Political Science at Western Connecticut State University, his M.A.T. in Secondary Teaching at Sacred Heart University, and his Ph.D. from Nottingham Kent University in England.

Climate Migration - Friday, Jan. 20, 1 – 3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Michele Devlin. Devlin is a Professor of Environmental Security at the U.S. Army War College.

Devlin is also a Professor of Global Public Health and an Emergency Medical Technician in the Department of Health, Recreation, and Community Services at the University of Northern Iowa. She has provided

technical assistance on cross-cultural issues to thousands of law enforcement, military, public safety, search and rescue, disaster response, public health, and emergency management professionals at the national and international levels. Dr. Devlin has extensive travel experience in nearly 65 nations worldwide and served with the U.S. Army Corps of Civilians in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom as a lead social scientist.

Politics in Latin America – Friday, Feb. 3, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Evan Ellis. Ellis is a Professor of Latin American Studies at the U.S. Army War College Strategic Studies Institute.

Ellis's research focuses on the region's relationships with China and other non-Western Hemisphere actors. He has given testimony on Chinese activities in Latin America to the U.S. Congress on multiple occasions. He has discussed his work regarding China and other external actors in Latin America on a broad range of radio and television programs. Dr. Ellis has published over 300 works, including the 2009 book *China in Latin America: The Whats and Wherefores*, the 2013 book *The Strategic Dimension of Chinese Engagement with Latin America*, the 2014 book *China on the Ground in Latin America*, and the 2018 book *Transnational Organized Crime in Latin America*.

Arctic Environmental Security Panel – Friday, Feb. 17, 1 - 3 p.m.

Speakers: Col. Stewart Lindsey, Lt. Col. Justin Pritchard and Lt. Col. Sarah Witt

All three have extensive, on-the-ground experience working in the American Arctic with the US Army or in extreme cold environments in the lower 48 with the National Guard.

- COL Stewart Lindsey, 11th Airborne Operations in the Arctic
- LTC Justin Pritchard, Arctic engineering
- LTC Sarah Witt, National Guard operations in extreme cold conditions

How will the United States respond to China's growing global presence? – Friday, March 10, 1 -3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Carol Evans. Evans is the Director Strategic Studies Institute and the USAWC Press.

Dr. Evans research and teaching interests are wide ranging in the areas of geoeconomics, geostrategy, intelligence, and international security with a

focus on the Indo-Pacific region. Dr. Evans brings 30 years of expertise in the areas of mission assurance, asymmetric warfare, terrorism, maritime security, and homeland security.

Economic Warfare – Friday, March 17, 1 – 3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Mark Duckenfield, Professor of International Economics in the Department of National Security and Strategy, U.S. Army War College

From October 2015 through June 2021, Prof. Duckenfield was the DNSS Department Chair. Before joining the USAWC, he taught at the Air War College (2009-2015), the London School of Economics (2004-2009), and University College London (2000-2004). More recently, his research has focused on the economics of national security with articles in the journals *Strategic Studies Quarterly* and *Baltic Security and Defense Review*. Dr. Duckenfield has given invited lectures on topics ranging from European economic policy and the euro to the ongoing financial crisis in the United States, Europe, and Asia. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Harvard University, where he specialized in European political economy.

War Crimes – Friday, March 24, 1 – 3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Robert Hamilton, Research Professor of Eurasian Studies in the Strategic Studies Institute at the U.S. Army War College

Dr. Hamilton was an instructor in the DNSS at the Army War College from 2011-2022. His most recent assignment was as a civilian advisor to the Ministry of Defense of Georgia (2020-2022). While an Army Colonel and assigned to the War College, he was deployed to serve as the Deputy Chief of the Security Assistance Office at the Office of Defense Representative-Pakistan (2013-2014) as the D.O.D. Russia Policy Advisor to the International Syria Support Group in Geneva (July-August 2016), as the Chief of Assessments for the NATO Special Operations Component Command-Afghanistan (February-May 2017), as the Chief of the Russian De-confliction Cell at Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve (August-October 2017). His academic degrees include a B.S. from the U.S. Military Academy, an M.A. in Russian Studies, and a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Virginia. Hamilton is fluent in Russian.