Coercion & Competition: How the United States can impose costs and disrupt adversaries without resorting to war

The Modern War Institute’s annual USMA Class of 2006 - War Studies Conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of top thinkers from across academia, civilian practitioner communities, and the military to discuss new ideas and forge effective solutions to the complex problems facing our current and future military.

The purpose of the 2020 War Studies Conference is to foster creative and critical discussion about how the United States can compete with and deter adversaries in an age of great power competition.

Through a series of panels with experts, and by connecting scholars and practitioners from diverse communities, this conference will explore how United States can achieve its national interests without resorting to war.

Each panel will focus on a major adversary named in the National Defense Strategy, with a final panel to synthesize the conversation and consider paths forward for American strategy.

Key questions this conference will consider include: What actions are adversaries most likely to take to achieve their goals? What tools can the United States use to increase the costs of those actions? How can the United States exploit weaknesses in its adversaries’ strategies? Where do American interests overlap with the interests of these adversaries? When should the United States draw red lines for adversarial behavior, and how can it best communicate these lines? What is the appropriate role and force structure for the United States military to support American interests?

Wednesday, November 4th, 2020

Virtual
Microsoft Teams link TBD