

BOOK/FILM/SERIES/DOCUMENTARY TIPS!



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHAT TO WATCH/READ THIS SUMMER CONNECTED TO YOUR NEW STUDY PROGRAMME SECURITY STUDIES!

This list is created by various teachers at the Institute of Security and Global Affairs at the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs of Leiden University for prospective students of the Bachelor Security Studies..



**Universiteit
Leiden**

Governance and Global Affairs

NON-FICTION

BOOKS

● **PERSEPOLIS - MARJANE SATRAPI**

An autobiographical graphic novel about life in Iran during the Islamic Revolution.

● **INVISIBLE WOMEN: EXPOSING DATA BIAS IN A WORLD DESIGNED FOR MEN - CAROLINE CRIADO PEREZ**

Exposes how gender plays into our perception of security and how it affects policy making on security and safety issues.

● **INTERVENTIONS - KOFI ANNAN**

With eloquence and immediacy, Annan writes about the highs and lows of his years at the United Nations: from shuttle-diplomacy during crises such as Kosovo, Lebanon and Israel-Palestine to the wrenching battles over the Iraq War to the creation of the landmark Responsibility to Protect doctrine. He is remarkably candid about the organization's failed efforts, particularly in Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. Ultimately, Annan shows readers a world where solutions are available, if we have the will and courage to see them through.

● **EMERGENCY SEX AND OTHER DESPERATE MEASURES, TRUE STORIES FROM WARZONES- KENNETH CAIN, HEIDI POSTLEWAIT, AND ANDREW THOMSON**

Details the lives of three UN employees as they travel from conflict zone to conflict zone under the guidance of the UN. Going from Cambodia all the way to the Rwandan genocide and the War in Bosnia, the book depicts the shortcomings of the UN and the difficulties ground crews often face.

● **THE PEOPLE VS TECH - JAMIE BARTLETT**

A good read on how the internet is killing democracy (and how we save it). Describes how our political system is threatened by the digital revolution.

FICTION

BOOKS

● **THE MAP OF SALT AND STARS - JENNIFER ZEYNAB JOUKHADAR**

This book about the Syrian war tells the story of two women living centuries apart. The story moves between contemporary Syria and its past.

● **HOME FIRE - KAMILA SHAMSIE**

This book centers around the topic of radicalisation and is based on the Greek tragedy Antigone but unfolding among British Muslims.

DOCUMENTARIES

● **BEFORE THE FLOOD**

A 2016 documentary about climate change in which different prominent figures and world leaders discuss the topic of climate change.

● **SARAJEVO ROSES**

Covers 24 years of conflict in Bosnia, focused on the capital city of Sarajevo during the siege and its aftermath through the eyes of 5 survivors.

● **FOR SAMA**

For Sama (2019) is both an intimate and epic journey into the female experience of war. A love letter from a young mother to her daughter, the film tells the story of Waad al-Kateab's life through five years of the uprising in Aleppo, Syria as she falls in love, gets married and gives birth to Sama, all while cataclysmic conflict rises around her.

Her camera captures incredible stories of loss, laughter and survival as Waad wrestles with an impossible choice— whether or not to flee the city to protect her daughter's life, when leaving means abandoning the struggle for freedom for which she has already sacrificed so much.

TED TALKS

- **SCHNEIER, B. (2010, OCTOBER). THE SECURITY MIRAGE**

The feeling of security and the reality of security don't always match, says computer-security expert Bruce Schneier. In his talk, he explains why we spend billions addressing news story risks, like the "security theater" now playing at your local airport, while neglecting more probable risks -- and how we can break this pattern.

- **ENSLER, E. (2005, JULY). WHAT SECURITY MEANS TO ME**

Playwright Eve Ensler explores our modern craving for security -- and why it makes us less secure. Listen for inspiring, heartbreaking stories of women making change.

- **HICKS, G. (2016, MAY). I SURVIVED A TERRORIST ATTACK. HERE'S WHAT I LEARNED**

Gill Hicks's story is one of compassion and humanity, emerging from the ashes of chaos and hate. A survivor of the London terrorist bombings on July 7, 2005, she shares her story of the events of that day -- and the profound lessons that came as she learned how to live on.

YOUTUBE

- **SHADOW COMPANY**

This channel has documentaries about private military companies (with academic input).

FILMS

- **KUBRICK, S. (1964). DR. STRANGELOVE OR: HOW I STOPPED WORRYING AND LOVED THE BOMB.**

A Cold War classic black comedy about the problems of nuclear weapons and mutually assured destruction.

- **LIORET, P. (2009). WELCOME.**

Film showing the everyday impacts of the refugee crisis, through an emotional friendship between a French swimming teacher and a young Iraqi-Kurd refugee.

- **CAPTAIN PHILIPS**

Details the kidnapping and hijacking of a freighter ship in the gulf of Aden and how the US military intervened to rescue him.

SERIES

- **WHEN THEY SEE US**

Based on the real 1989 Central Park jogger case where five men of color were falsely accused of assaulting a woman.

- **CHERNOBYL**

Details the greatest nuclear disaster in history, pretty accurately described by HBO and remains true to its source material.

- **PANDEMIC**

About the coronavirus spreading across the world at the moment. It's a new Netflix documentary series that details how different organizations try to stop major pandemics from breaking out and the challenges they face.

PODCASTS

● **INTRODUCTION TO SECURITY STUDIES**

The podcast series 'Introduction to Security Studies' gives you an inside look into the Bachelor's programme in Security Studies at Leiden University in The Hague, The Netherlands.

● **ARAB SPRING: A HISTORY**

If you've ever wondered just what has been happening in the Middle East for the last few years, this is the podcast for you.