

**THE COMMAND AND STAFF SCHOOL
DEFENCE & STRATEGIC STUDIES MODULE
SRD 01 - STRATEGY**

1. **Subject:** SRD Strategy

2. **Programmed for:** SRD 0930hrs Tuesday 30 Sep at MU.

3. **Aim:** To give students an understanding of strategic theory and its use in guiding military strategy today.

4. **Study assignment:** All course members will read the following paper (link):

- [Colin S. Gray, 'The Strategist as Hero' in Joint Forces Quarterly, Issue 62, 3rd Quarter, 2011, pp. 37- 45.](#)
- [Wilf Owen, 'Modern Errors in Discussions on Strategy' in Military Strategy Magazine Volume 5 Issue 4.](#)

5. **Further reading** – for reference and follow up for essays if desired:

- Colin S. Gray & Jeannie L. Johnson, '[The Practice of Strategy](#)', in Baylis et al, Strategy in the Contemporary World, 7th ed. (Oxford: OUP, 2022) chap.22
- Peter Viggo Kajobsen, '[What is strategy? What is the use of it?](#)' in Scandinavian Journal of Military Studies, 5(1) 2022.
- J. Boone Batholomees Jr. (ed.) [US Army War College Guide to National Security Issues. Vol. 1. Theory of War and Strategy](#), 5th ed. (Carlisle, PA: Strategic Studies Institute, 2012) see Part 1 'Strategy Theory',
- David Lonsdale, 'Strategy' in D. Jordan et al, [Understanding Modern Warfare](#), 2nd ed, (Cambridge: CUP, 2016) chaps 1-3.
- Antulio Echevarria, [Military Strategy: a very short introduction](#), 2nd ed (Oxford: OUP, 2024)
- P. Paret (ed.), [Makers of Modern Strategy from Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age](#), (Princeton, 1986) esp. chaps 6-7
- Carl Von Clausewitz, On War, Translated by Michael Howard and Peter Paret, (Princeton, 1976)
- Sun Tzu, The Art of War, Translated by Samuel Griffith, (Oxford, 1963)

6. **Questions:** for the Syndicate leader to consider, to help guide the discussion:

- What is strategy and why is it so difficult to do well?
- Should the military be consumers or producers of 'strategy'?
- Discuss the idea of the 'indirect approach' and examine the extent to which it provides a useful guide to military strategy today.

7. Syndicate Leaders

Syndicate 1: Comdt Rath
Syndicate 2: Comdt Waters

8. **Point of Contact:** Comdt Simon Keenan