



# Complexity and Foreign Policy: First Steps to an Emerging Paradigm?

**August 28 – 31, 2008**

*Venue: Santa Fe Institute (unless otherwise noted)*

## Agenda

### Thursday, August 28

6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Welcome Reception and Informal Dinner venue TBD,

### Friday, August 29

8:30-9:00 Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:30 **Welcome, Geoffrey West, SFI President**

9:30-10:30 **Complexity 101**  
Practical introductory lecture about complex systems theory, based on clear examples of problems in economics, history, and science that were intractable using traditional thinking but began to make sense when approached in new ways. This lecture will introduce some essential vocabulary for non-scientists as well as provide a set of useful questions that can be asked about any complex system.

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:00 **Global Security 101**  
This lecture will review a few essential current problems in IR. It will review briefly the state of the dominant theories of IR, explain the difference between academic IR and real-world policy making, and begin to familiarize non-specialists with how scholars and policy makers think about problems of the “Why history happens” variety.

12:00-12:30 **Sustainability and International Affairs**

12:30-2:00 Lunch

2:00-3:00 Discussion of the morning session



3:00-3:30 Break

3:30-5:00 **Case study: Dealing with Rogue Regimes**

**Saturday, August 30**

8:30-9:00 Continental Breakfast at SFI

9:00-9:30 Discussion

9:30-10:15 **Case Study: US-China Relations**

10:15-10:45 Break

10:45-11:45 **Case Study: Energy, Environment and Health**

11:45-12:30 **Q & A**

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:00 **Case Study: Financial Markets and Banking Systems**

3:30-5:00 Breakout Groups

Dinner Time and Venue TBD

**Sunday, August 31**

8:30-9:00 Continental Breakfast at SFI

9:00-10:30 Breakout Group Reports and Discussion

11:00-12:30 Open discussion, Next Steps

12:30-2:00 Lunch and conclusion