INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND WORLD POLITICS

The Political Science Department's course in *Introduction to International Relations and World Politics* introduces methods for analyzing the relationships between groups that act on the world stage--nations, states, tribes, empires, etc.. The goal of the course is to introduce the student to a set of themes and definitions that can be used to analyze and evaluate world political activity. Students are expected to master a series of arguments, learn how to apply these arguments to situations in world politics and, hopefully, develop a set of values and preferences that will guide thinking about the role of our community in international affairs.

Political Science 170 is divided into four sections and each of these sections is based on a question that is at the heart of the study of international relations. **Part I** looks at the variety of ways that people see the world and asks what the factors are that push communities to take action, and the condition that bring them into conflict with one another. **Part II** evaluates policy making in different situations and asks how policy comes about. **Part III** focuses on theories of conflict and the tendency of the system to resort to war, and asks what it is about the human condition that leads so often to communal violence. **Part IV** examines the different ways that nations, states, and empires interact with one another, concentrating on topics such as military and economic power, world trade, nuclear deterrence, and war, and asks about theories of conflict resolution.

**Readings:**

The following books will be used as texts:

- Thomas Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, (Anchor, expanded edition)
- PEW Case Studies: - *Key Decisions in Somalia Intervention*
  - *Watershed in Ruanda*
  - *The One-Hundred Hour War*

Handouts will also be distributed during the term.

**Grading:**

Grades for the course will be based on a combination of two exams, three short written essays, a number (about 20) one-page un-graded "daily journal exercises," and class attendance/participation.

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Exam</td>
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<td>2nd Exam</td>
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<td>Short Essays #1</td>
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<td>Short Essay #2</td>
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<td>Short Essay #3</td>
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Ungraded journal exercises (20), participation/attendance 25%

Attendance is required in all classes; reading assignments should be completed before coming to class; journal exercises due on date listed on journal assignment.

Jan 4 Fri INTRODUCTION

PART I: WAR, PEACE, AND THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

International relations/world politics investigates the relationships between the world's polities. These relationships are influenced by a number of factors including the nature of economic systems, moral and cultural values, and the arrangement of domestic institutions. In this section, we look at the role of the nation-state and ask questions about the importance of other actors. What factors structure the interaction of nation-states? What assumptions do we bring to our evaluation of conflict and peace---its onset and resolution? Are there other forms of human organization that challenge or undercut the role of the modern nation-state?

Jan 7 Mon NATIONS, STATES, AND WORLD CONFLICT

Regular Session: (Assigned Classroom)

Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 1, pp. 3-52

Evening Session: (6:30-8:00 p.m. Boliou 104)

FILM: *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*

*Time Magazine*, Articles, (Oct. 2, 1939)
*Newsweek*, Article, (Aug. 5, 1940)
*Carletonian*, Articles, 1939-40

Jan 9 Wed LESSONS OF WAR: Just and Unjust Wars

Essay #1 Due (complete the essay, then read the following)

*Hitler* (separate handout)
Stoessinger, *Why Nations Go to War* Ch. 2 ("Hitler's Attack on Russia")

Jan 11 Fri JUST AND UNJUST WARS: The Idealist Argument

Hedley Bull, *Recapturing the Just War* (separate handout)
Thomas Aquinas, *Of War*, p. 1
Wilson, *The World Must Be Made Safe for Democracy* and *The Fourteen Points*, p. 2
Kagan, The Peloponnesian War (separate handout)
Jan 14 Mon THE REALIST POSITION

- Thucydides, *The Melian Dialogue*, p. 6
- Machiavelli, *The Prince*, p. 9
- Hume, *Of the Balance of Power*, 12
- Hans Morgenthau, *A Realist Theory...*, p. 20
- Waltz, *The Anarchic Structure of World Politics*, p. 22

Jan 16 Wed THE LIBERAL RESTATEMENT

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch 3 ("Alternatives to Power Politics") pp. 109-124
- Kant, *Morality, Politics, and the Perpetual Peace*, p. 28
- Moravcsik, *A Liberal Theory of International Relations*, p. 32

Jan 18 Fri SOME "RADICAL" CRITIQUES

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 3 ("Alternatives to Power Politics") pp. 124-159
- Leo Tolstoy, *Address*, p. 43
- Tickner, *A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism*, p. 53

PART II: FOREIGN POLICY FORMATION: TWO CASE STUDIES

Foreign policies are the strategies used by governments to guide their acts in the international arena. These policies derive from a number of sources: the actions of state leaders, the influence of important bureaucracies and political groups, and the perceptions and fears of important community constituencies. In this section we ask which of these actors is most important? How does policy come about? What options are available to policy makers?

Jan 21 Mon AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY PERSPECTIVES

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 4 ("Foreign Policy") pp. 163-178
- Mankaus, *Key Decisions in the Somalia Intervention* (PEW case)

Jan 23 Wed CASE STUDY: CENTRAL AFRICA IN THE 1990s

- Ausink, *Watershed in Ruanda* (Pew Case)

Jan 25 Fri THE MAKING OF FOREIGN POLICY

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 4 ("Foreign Policy") pp. 179-193
- Howard and Donnelly, *Human Rights and World Politics*, p. 38
- Howard Zinn, *Vietnam: The Moral Equation*

**Essay #2 Due**
Jan 28 Mon GREAT POWER CONFRONTATION

*The Soviet/American Competition in Afghanistan* (handout)

Jan 30 Wed CASE STUDY: RUSSIA, KOSOVO, AND THE 1999 WAR

Exam Question #1 Distributed

Jan 31 Fri THE DEBATE OVER POLICY

Feb 4 Mon Mid-Term Break

PART III: POWER, CONFLICT, AND WAR

Disagreement and conflict are at the heart of international relations. States have different needs and goals, and these differences structure the interaction of governments with one another. In this section we ask how conflict comes about, how these conflicts tend to be resolved. How important is the use of violence and war in this conflict resolution? Why is war such a common feature of conflict resolution? Is it learned behavior? Or, is it endemic to the human condition?

Feb 6 Wed POWER

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 5 ("International Conflict") pp. 197-231
- Waltz, *Explaining War*, p. 70
- Hans Morgenthau, *The Future of Diplomacy*, p. 64

EXAM #1 Due

Feb 8 Fri THE EXERCISE OF POWER

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 5 ("International Conflict") pp. 231-239
- Stoeessinger, *Why Nations Go To War*, Ch. 6 ("Saddam Hussein's Two Wars") (handout)
- Diamond, *The One-Hundred Hour War* (PEW study)

Feb 11 Mon WAR AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SYSTEM (1) Systemic explanations

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 6 ("Military Force") pp. 243-269
- Gilpin, *War and Change in World Politics*, p. 86
- Organski, *The Power Transition*, p. 111
- Huntington, *The Clash of Civilizations*, p. 90

Feb 13 Wed WAR AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SYSTEM (2) State Structure Explanations

*Regular Session*: (Assigned Classroom)

- Hobbes, *On the Natural Condition..., p. 78
- Freud, *Thoughts on War and Death*, p. 80
- Mead, *War Is Only An Invention..., p. 83
**Evening Session**: (6:30-8:15 p.m. Boliou 104)

**FILM**: Lord of the Flies

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Feb 15 Fri WAR AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SYSTEM (3) The Role of Human Behavior

**Essay #3 Distributed**

- Hartsock, *Masculinity, Heroism, and Making of War* (separate handout)

Feb 18 Mon WAR AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SYSTEM (4)

**Essay #3 Due**

**PART IV THE SEARCH FOR ORDER AND STABILITY**

This section looks at the ways governments might use to short-circuit the slide into violence and to bring about desired goals. These methods include the formation of international regimes, the creation of military balances, the development of economic orders, and the struggle to achieve hegemonic position. Which are most effective? Which are most commonly used? Which have the greatest chance to move our world beyond the kinds of cataclysmic meltdown that have characterized the great 20th century confrontations?

Feb 20 Wed EXPLAINING THE DEMOCRATIC PEACE

- Bruce Russett, *The Fact of the Democratic Peace* (separate handout)
- Mearsheimer, *Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War* (separate handout)

Feb 22 Fri ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND TRADE REGIMES

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 8 ("Trade")
- Keohane, *Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge* (separate handout)

Feb 25 Mon ECONOMIC POWER AND POLITICAL POWER

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 9 ("Money and Business") pp. 392-434
- Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp. xi-xxii, 1-100
- Gilpin, *No One Loves a Political Realist*, p. 95

Feb 27 Wed ECONOMIC CHANGE AND POLITICAL CONFLICT

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 10 ("Integration") pp. 439-474
- Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp. 101-142
- Barber, *Jihad vs. McWorld*, pp. 3-32 (separate handout)

Mar 1 Fri THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMY (1)
Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 12 ("The North-South Gap") pp. 527-572

Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp.

Mar 4 Mon THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMY (2)

Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 13 ("International Development") pp. 577-626

Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp.

Wade, *Globalization and Its Limits*, p. 106

Mar 6 Wed BALANCE OF TERROR: BASIC CONCEPTS

Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 6 ("Military Force") pp. 265-285

Kahn, *Three Types of Deterrence*, p. 118

Cohn, *Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals*, p. 57

Mar 8 Fri BALANCE OF TERROR: EVOLUTION OF THE THEORY

Mueller, *The Irrelevance of Nuclear Weapons*, p. 121


Mar 11 Mon INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN A CHANGING WORLD

Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 14 ("IR in A.D. 2049")


Bull, *Does Order Exist in World Politics?* P. 125

Exam #2 Due

**Readings: Daily Exercises**

You will complete about 20 "daily exercises" during the course of the term. Many of these exercises involve a critical reading of a scholarly work or popular article. Following is a list of articles required for this part of the course. Most are in the photocopied handout volume; all must be considered part of the "required readings" for the 2nd exam and the final paper.


Robert Keohane, "Realism, Neorealism and the Study of World Politics" in Keohane, *Neorealism and Its Critics*, pp. 1-26

Robert Keohane and Joe Nye, "Realism and Complex Interdependence," *World Politics in Transition*, pp. 23-37


John Owen, "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace" pp. 87-125


Michael Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics," pp. 233-245

Joseph Grieco, "Anarchy and the Limits of Cooperation" pp. 70-74


Barbara Ehrenreich, "Men Hate War Too," *Foreign Affairs* (Jan/Feb 1999)

Carol Cohn, "Emasculating America's Linguistic Deterrent," in *Rocking the Ship of State*, pp. 133-152

Catherine Marshall, "Women and War," in *Militarism versus Feminism*, pp. 35-43


Francis Fukuyama, "Against the New Pessimism," *Commentary*, February, 1994

Sam Huntington, "The Lonely Superpower," *Foreign Affairs*, (March/April, 1999)

Joe Nye, "Redefining the National Interest," *Foreign Affairs* (July/Aug. 1999)

Amitai Etzioni, "The Evils of Self-Determinism" *Foreign Policy* (Winter 1992-3)

James Kurth, "The Real Clash," *The National Interest* (Fall, 1994)


Aryeh Neier, "Asia's Unacceptable Standard" *Foreign Policy* (Fall, 1993)