Pol. Sci. 170
Winter 2009

Mr. Grow
Carleton College

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 five 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 theorists evaluate the world and asks what the factors are that push communities to take action, and the conditions 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. ***Part V*** outlines a case study for analysis.

Readings:

The following books will be used as texts:

- 🕮 Joshua Goldstein, *International Relations*, (Longman, 8th Edition)
- 🕮 Thomas Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, (Anchor, expanded edition)
- ✋ Readings from a "course book" (as indicated) distributed in Pol. Sci. office.
- Handouts distributed in class
- Reading a national newspaper (i.e. *NY Times* or *Washington Post* on-line) is required.

Grading:

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

1st Exam	25 points
2nd Exam	25 points
Essay #1, 2, 3	15 points (5 points each)
Essay #4 (about 6 pages)	15 points
Daily "journal" exercises (20), participation/attendance	20 points
	100 points

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

NOTE: The on-line MOODLE syllabus is considered the "official syllabus" for this course. Some assignments may change...please check this site regularly.

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND WORLD POLITICS

Jan 5 Mon 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 Wed NATIONS, STATES, AND WORLD CONFLICT

Regular Session: (Assigned Classroom)

📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 1, pp. 3-37
✋ Mearsheimer, *Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War* (separate handout)

Jan 7 Wed

Evening Session: (6:55 p.m. Bouliou Auditorium)

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 Fri LESSONS OF WAR

➔ **Essay #1 Due** (complete the essay, then scan the following)

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

Jan 12 Mon JUST AND UNJUST WARS: The Idealist Argument

✋ Thomas Aquinas, *Of War*, p. 1
✋ Wilson, *The World Must Be Made Safe for Democracy* and *The Fourteen Points*, p. 2
✋ Hedley Bull, *Recapturing the 'Just War'* (separate handout)
✋ Kagan, *The Peloponnesian War* (separate handout....for background only)

Jan 14 Wed THE REALIST POSITION

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch 2, ("Power Politics") pp. 43-77
- ✋ 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 Fri THE LIBERAL RESTATEMENT

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch 3 ("Alternatives to Power Politics") pp. 83-93
- ✋ Kant, *Morality, Politics, and the Perpetual Peace,* p. 28
- ✋ Moravcsik, *A Liberal Theory of International Relations,* p. 32
- ✋ Grotius, *War, Peace, and the Law of Nations,* p. 35
- ✋ Michael Doyle, *Liberalism and World Politics* (separate handout)

Jan 19 Mon SOME "RADICAL" CRITIQUES

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 3 ("Alternatives to Power Politics") pp. 93-118
- ✋ Leo Tolstoy, *Address,* p. 43
- ✋ Tickner, *A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism,* p. 53
- ✋ Cohn, *Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals,* p. 57
- ✋ Gandhi, *Means and Ends* and *Passive Resistance,* p. 46

PART II: WHEN OUGHT WE ACT

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 Wed AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY PERSPECTIVES

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 4 ("Foreign Policy") pp. 123-134

Jan 23 Fri CASE STUDY: CENTRAL AFRICA IN THE 1990's (Note: Case study may change)

- 📖 Mankaus, *Key Decisions in the Somalia Intervention* (PEW case)

Jan 26 Mon THE MAKING OF FOREIGN POLICY

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 4 ("Foreign Policy") pp. 134-144
- 📖 Ausink, *Watershed in Ruanda* (Pew Case)
- ✋ Howard and Donnelly, *Human Rights and World Politics,* p. 38
- ✋ Howard Zinn, *Vietnam: The Moral Equation* p. 49

Jan 28 Wed DECISIONS TO INTERVENE

- ✋ Alan Kuperman, *Rwanda in Retrospect* (separate handout)
- ✋ Samantha Power, *Bystander to Genocide* (separate handout)

Jan 30 Fri DECISIONS TO INTERVENE (2)

➔ **Essay #2 Due**

Exam #1 Question distributed

PART III: POWER, CONFLICT, AND WAR ("HARD POWER")

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 2 Mon POWER

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 5 ("International Conflict") pp. 149-174
- ✋ Waltz, *Explaining War*, p. 70
- ✋ Hans Morgenthau, *The Future of Diplomacy*, p. 64

Feb 4 Wed THE EXERCISE OF POWER

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 5 ("International Conflict") pp. 174-184
- ✋ Stoessinger, *Why Nations Go To War*, Ch. 6 ("Saddam Hussein's Two Wars") (handout)
- ✋ Diamond, The One-Hundred Hour War (PEW study)
- ✋ von Clausewitz, *On the Nature of War*, p. 67

➔ **EXAM #1 Due**

Feb 6 Fri WAR AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SYSTEM (1) Systemic explanations

- 📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 6 ("Military Force") pp. 189-224
- ✋ Gilpin, *War and Change in World Politics*, p. 86
- ✋ Organski, *The Power Transition*, p. 111
- ✋ Huntington, *The Clash of Civilizations*, p. 90

Feb 9 Mon Mid-Term Break

Feb 11 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

Feb 11 Wed (evening session)

Evening Session: (7 p.m.)

FILM: *Lord of the Flies*

Bouliou Auditorium

Feb 13 Fri WAR AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SYSTEM (3) The Role of Human Nature

Essay #3 Distributed

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

Feb 16 Mon CAUSES OF WAR (1)

➔ **Essay #3 Due**

Feb 18 Wed CAUSES OF WAR (2)

Exam #2 distributed

PART IV THE SEARCH FOR ORDER AND STABILITY ("SOFT POWER")

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 Fri ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND TRADE REGIMES

📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 8 ("Trade") pp. 277-311
✋ *Krasner, The Accomplishments of International Political Economy*, p. 99
✋ Keohane, *Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge* (separate handout)

Feb 23 Mon ECONOMIC POWER AND POLITICAL POWER

📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 9 ("Money and Business") pp. 317-344
📖 Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp. xi-xxii, 1-100
✋ Gilpin, *No One Loves a Political Realist*, p. 95

➔ **Exam #2 due**

Feb 25 Wed ECONOMIC CHANGE AND POLITICAL CONFLICT

📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 10 ("Integration") pp. 351-377
📖 Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp. 101-142

Feb 27 Fri ECONOMIC CHANGE AND POLITICAL CONFLICT (2)

📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 12 ("The North-South Gap") pp. 423-457
✋ Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp. 167-247

Mar 2 Mon THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMY

📖 Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 13 ("International Development") pp. 463-500
📖 Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, pp. 248-275

- Wade, *Globalization and Its Limits*, p. 106
- Barber, *Jihad vs. McWorld*, pp. pp. 3-32 (separate handout)

PART V **CONSIDERING THE FUTURE**

Mar 4 Wed EVALUATING DANGER AND THREAT

- (Case study readings....handouts)

Mar 6 Fri INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN A CHANGING WORLD

- Goldstein, *International Relations*, Ch. 14 ("Postscript") pp. 506-507
- Kagan, *On the Origins of War* (separate handout)
- Bull, *Does Order Exist in World Politics?*

➔ **Essay #4 Due**