

**International Affairs 3200: Introduction to International Relations
Summer 2009**

Instructor: Jun Taek Kwon

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Office: B03 Candler Hall

Office Hours:
Wednesdays from 2:00 to 4:00 or
By appointment

Call #: 06-595

Time: 09:15-11:30 AM
M to F

Place: Caldwell 203

Mission

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of international relations and provide them with foundation for more advanced study within that area. As such, this course will explore the fundamental concepts, theories, issues, and problems of international relations. This course consists of two parts by and large. The first half of the semester will be devoted to exploring major theoretical approaches to analyze international political issues such as realism, liberalism, constructivism, etc. In this part, we will attempt to address the question of how to explain states' behavior in response to external challenges. The second half of this course will deal with major issues of current international relations. In this part, we will explore states responses to the current hot issues. In this way, the ultimate goal of this course is that students cultivate their ability to understand current issues of international political and to analyze states' actions in response to them.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

Mid-term Exam: 35%

Final Exam: 35%

Debates: 10%

Class Participation: 20%

Final Grade Ranges:

A 93-100, A- 90-92.99, B+ 87-89.99,
B 83-86.99, B- 80-82.99, C+ 77-79.99,
C 73-76.99, C- 70-72.99, D 60-69.99,
F 0-59.99

Readings

- Art, Robert J. and Robert Jervis. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 9th edition. New York: Longman (A&J)
- Viotti, Paul R. and Mark V. Kauppi. *International Relations Theory: Realism, Pluralism, Globalism, and Beyond*, 3rd edition. University of Denver (V&K)
- Additional readings are available on the Webct

The students are required to read the materials before they come to class. Students are expected to answer questions and conduct discussions based on the assigned readings. Active participation is greatly encouraged. The class is mainly composed of three sections: discussion of the current events in international politics; lecture on the readings; class interaction (questions & answers, group discussions, etc.). In addition, each student should regularly read a newspaper (*The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* can be found on-line for no charge). Current events are a big part of the class discussions as well as of the exams and students will be expected to know about current political issues.

Mid-term (35%) & Final Exam (35%)

The exams will be based on the materials presented in class, the main text, other required readings. It will be mainly objective tests, including multiple choice questions, fill-in-the-blank short answers, and essays. The dates of the exams are contained in this syllabus. If you miss the final exam, you will fail the course. Note that there are no make-ups available for the final exam.

Debates (10%)

A series of debates will be scheduled throughout the semester in order to promote a student-centered learning experience. At the beginning of the semester, each student will need to make two choices: 1) choose another student as a partner for your debate team, 2) select the debate topic in which you and your teammate would like to engage. When you sign up for a debate, know that you can be assigned to either “yes (the pros)” or “no (the cons)” position for that debate. Each student engaged in the debate is expected to have sufficient familiarity with the subject, be able to answer any questions and be able to carry their argument in opposing the other team. The dates and topics of the debates are contained in this syllabus. The specific questions for each debate topic and the sign-up sheet will be handed out later.

Participation (20%)

Active participation is required for this course. Participation includes discussion of the assigned readings and other points raised in class. Keep in mind that the most interesting and exciting classes are a result of your willingness to share your own views! Your participation grade is based on the quality of your comments. You earn a “C” for basic description or summary of material, a “B” for showing an understanding of arguments and their implications, and an “A” for critically analyzing material on a regular basis. You are encouraged to bring stories to class to discuss, both as a means of keeping your classmates informed and of supplementing your participation grade. All students are expected to attend class, be on time. For each undocumented absence, you will lose 5 points off of your participation grade.

Disability Statement

If you have a physical, mental, emotional, learning or other disability that requires accommodation, please notify me and contact the Office for Disability Services within the first week of class. Disability Services will make appropriate arrangements with me based on your needs. All information regarding these matters will be kept confidential.

Academic Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

E-Mail Notifications

The students are expected to check their UGA e-mail frequently for class information and communicate with the instructor. I will be sending e-mail messages (including additional readings) to your UGA e-mail accounts. If you use another e-mail account as your primary e-mail address, please arrange to have your UGA e-mail forwarded.

Course Schedule

Below you will find a schedule of topics and readings for the semester. The schedule is as follows.

Week One (July 6 – July 10)

July 06 (M): **Welcome! & Introductions (No Reading)**

July 07 (T): **Anarchy**

- Waltz, Kenneth. “Explaining War” in V&K (p. 130)
- Waltz, Kenneth. “The Anarchic Structure of World Politics” in A&J (p. 29)
- Mearsheimer, John. “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power” in A&J (p. 50)

July 08 (W): **Mitigation of Anarchy**

- Oye, Kenneth. “The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics” in A&J (69)
- Nau, Henry. 2007. *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. Chapter One (On Webct)
- Keohane, Robert O. “International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?” in A&J (p. 119)
- Keohane, Robert O. and Joseph S. Nye. “Realism and Complex Interdependence” in V&K (p. 307)

July 09 (R): **Ideas and Beliefs**

- Wendt, Alexander. “Anarchy is What States Make of It” in V&K (p. 434)
- Checkel, JT. 1998. “The Constructivist Turn in International Relations Theory.” *World Politics*: 324-48. (On Webct)
- Jackson, Robert H. and Georg Sørensen. 2007. *Introduction to International Relations: theories and approaches*. 3rd ed. Oxford ; New York: Oxford University Press. Chapter Six (On Webct)

July 10 (F): **Democratic Peace & Debate 1**

- Nau, Henry. 2007. *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. Conclusion Chapter (On Webct)
- Daalder, Ivo and James Lindsay. "Democracies of the World, Unite" in A&J (p. 567)
- Roberts, Adam. "The UN and International Security" in A&J (p. 539)
- Ikenberry, John. "Rising Powers and Global Institutions" in A&J (p. 560)

Week Two (July 13 – July 17)

July 13 (M): **Liberalism & Two-level game**

- Moravcsik, Andrew. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics" in V&K (p. 246)
- Putnam, Robert. 1988. "Diplomacy and domestic politics: the logic of two level games." *International Organization* 42(3) (On Webct)

July 14 (T): **Decision-Making**

- Jervis, Robert. "Hypotheses on Misperception in International Politics" in V&K (p. 257)
- George, Alexander. "The Operational Code: A Neglected Approach to the Study of Political Leaders and Decision-Making," *International Studies Quarterly* 13 (1969): 190-222. (On Webct)
- Levy, Jack. 1994. "An introduction to prospect theory," in *Avoiding losses/taking risks: Prospect theory and international conflict* (On Webct)

July 15 (W): **Groups and Group Dynamics**

- Garrison, Jean. "Foreign Policymaking and Group Dynamics: Where We've Been and Where We're Going," *International Studies Review* 5 (2003) (On Webct: read only pp. **177-183**)
- Holsti, Ole. "Crisis Decision Making" in V&K (p. 269)
- Allison, Graham. "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis" in V&K (p. 280)

July 16 (R): **Alliance and Polarity & Debate 2**

- Walt, Stephen M. "Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning." in A&J (p. 96)
- Mearsheimer, John. 1990. "Why we will soon miss the Cold War." *The Atlantic Monthly* 266 (2):35-50 (On Webct)
- Wohlforth, William C. 1999. "The Stability of a Unipolar World." *International Security* 24(1): 5-41 (On Webct)

July 17 (F): **World War I and II & Debate 3 and 4**

- Nau, Henry. 2007. *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. Chapter Three (On Webct)
- Nau, Chapter Four (On Webct)

Week Three (July 20 – July 24)

July 20 (M): **Mid-term Exam**

July 21 (T): **International Political Economy**

- Robert Gilpin, "The Nature of Political Economy" in A&J (p. 263)
- Chapter Four in V&K (pp. 341-354)
- Hobson, J.A. "The Economic Taproot of Imperialism" in V&K (p. 365)
- Wallerstein, Immanuel. "Patterns and Perspectives of the Capitalist World-Economy" in V&K (p. 369)

July 22 (W): **Ethnic and Civilizational Conflict & Debate 5**

- Nau, Henry. 2007. *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. Chapter Thirteen (On Webct)
- Kaufmann, Chaim. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars." in A&J (p. 435)
- Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations," in A&J (p. 395)

July 23 (R): **Human Rights and Intervention & Debate 6**

- Howard, Rhoda and Jack Donnelly. "Human Rights in World Politics" in A&J (p. 504)
- Annan, Kofi. "Reflections on Intervention." In A&J (p. 517)
- Ratner, Steven. "International Law: The Trials of Global Norms" in A&J (p. 523)
- Kritz, Neil. "The Dilemmas of Transnational Justice." In A&J (p. 529)

July 24 (F): **Terrorism**

- Hoffman, Bruce. "What is Terrorism?" in A&J (p. 174)
- Pape, Robert A. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." in A&J (p. 198)
- Gause III, Gregory. "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?" in A&J (p. 411)
- Gordon, Philip. "Can the War on Terror Be Won?" in A&J (p. 419)

Week Four (July 27 – July 31)

July 27 (M): **United States vs China & Debate 7**

- Friedberg, Aaron. "The Future of U.S.-China Relations: Is Conflict Inevitable?" *International Security*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (Fall 2005) pp. 7-45. (On Webct)

July 28 (T): **Spread of Nuclear Weapons & Debate 8**

- Sagan, Scott. "Nuclear Instability in South Asia" in A&J (p. 217)
- Waltz, Kenneth. "Nuclear Stability in South Asia" in A&J (p. 28)
- Posen, Barry. "A Nuclear-Armed Iran: A Difficult but Not Impossible Policy Problem." in A&J (p. 239)

July 29 (W): **The Middle East & Debate 9**

- Haass, RN. 2006. "The New Middle East." *Foreign Affairs* 85 (6):2-11. (On Webct)
- Mearsheimer, John and Stephen Walt. 2006. "The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy." *Middle East Policy* 13 (3):29-87. (On Webct)

July 30 (R): **Obama Administration's Foreign Policy and Wrap-up & Debate 10**

-- Walt, Stephen. 1998. "International Relations: One World, Many Theories." *Foreign Policy* (110):29-46 (On Webct)

-- Snyder, Jack. 2004. "One World, Rival Theories." *Foreign Policy* (145):52-62 (On Webct)

-- Walt, Stephen. 2005. "The relationship between theory and policy in international relations." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 8:23-48 (On Webct)

July 31 (F): **Final Exam**

Note: This course syllabus is a general plan for the course: deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Debate Topics and Dates

Instruction: 10 debates will be scheduled throughout the semester. The debates are designed to promote a student-centered learning experience. Each debate needs four students: two on “yes” side and two on “no” side. At the beginning of the semester, each student will need to make two choices: 1) choose another student as a partner for your debate team, 2) select the debate topic in which you and your teammate would like to engage. When you sign up for a debate, know that you can be assigned to either “yes (the pros)” or “no (the cons)” position for that debate. Each student engaged in the debate is expected to have sufficient familiarity with the subject, be able to answer any questions and be able to carry their argument in opposing the other team.

Topic 1 -- July 10 (F)

Has U.S. Hegemony Rendered the United Nations Irrelevant?

Topic 2 -- July 16 (R)

Is American Hegemony Good for the United States and the World?

Topic 3 -- July 17 (F)

Were German Militarism and Diplomacy Responsible for World War I?

Topic 4 -- July 17 (F)

Was the Treaty of Versailles Responsible for World War II?

Topic 5 -- July 22 (W)

Are Cultural and Ethnic Wars the Defining Dimensions of Twenty-First Century Conflict?

Topic 6 -- July 23 (R)

Can Humanitarian Intervention Be Justified?

Topic 7 -- July 27 (M)

Is China’s Rise Threatening to the United States?

Topic 8 -- July 28 (T)

Should the United States Preemptively Attack Iranian & North Korean Nuclear Facilities?

Topic 9 -- July 29 (W)

Would It Be an Error to Establish a Palestinian State?

Topic 10 -- July 30 (R)

Is Obama’s foreign policy very much a continuation of the Bush policies?