

INTL 3200
Introduction to International Relations
Fall 2009 Syllabus
MWF 11:15-12:05

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Office Hours MW 2-3

Or by Appointment

Course Overview: This course is meant as an introduction into the advanced study of International Relations. As such, students should expect to be exposed to a number of facets of International Relations that have either been explored cursorily or not at all in previous courses. First and foremost, this course is an introduction into the theoretical components of IR. Students will begin to associate different approaches to IR to various theoretical schools of thought, and perhaps, will begin to affiliate themselves with certain schools. Secondly, students will be expected to conduct IR research at a more advanced level than required in earlier classes with the goal of composing a final paper, which will be the largest grade in the class. Pursuant to this, we will study political science methodology as well as composition. Finally, this class will provide an overview of some of the fields of international relations scholarship, such as International Political Economy, International Conflict, and Decision Making.

Grading:

Research Paper: 45%

- Paper Proposal 10%
- Literature Review 15%
- Final Version 20%

Exam 1: 25%

Exam 2: 30%

Research Paper: The paper will be broken into three sections. The first section is a paper proposal. The proposal will be around 3 pages in length and contain the following; an introduction to your topic, your research hypothesis, and at least two alternative explanations to your hypothesis. Students are strongly suggested to meet with me ASAP regarding getting a topic cleared. Clearing your topic is MANDATORY! The literature review will be ~5 pages. This is the most self-explanatory of the three sections. Here, you will simply review the relevant THEORETICAL literature on your topic. It will be citation heavy and draw from literature supporting your hypothesis, as well as your alternative explanations. The final version of your paper will contain revised versions of your Proposal (now the Introduction) and the Lit Review as well as your own research and your conclusions. It should be 5-7 pages long for a total length of ~15 pages.

Participation: This is a class for majors only. Therefore I expect that you treat this class like a job. For all intents and purposes you are political scientists now. Accordingly, I

expect the reading to be completed and for you all to participate in the classroom discussions. While I do not assign a grade for classroom participation, your performance in class will determine whether or not leniency is granted to you should you need extra credit.

Exams: The Exams will take up the remaining 55% of your final average. They are non cumulative and are designed to take 50 minutes a piece. Studying for the exam will be eased by methodical and detailed notes.

Conversations I Will Not Have: I refuse to discuss the following subjects...

- My Assessment of your Participation (Yes, it is subjective! So is life. Sorry.)
- Your Hope Standing (I don't see the award as being lost... but merely moved!)
- Your Eligibility for Sports and/or Extra-Curricular Activities (I deplore those in better physical shape than myself and look to make the lives of such people miserable at every turn!)
- Your Need of an A to get into Med/Law School (These things are simply going to stress you out and make you miserable. I want to make you happy.)
- Where your Grade Stands Relative to Another Student. (Seriously, I'll get mad.)

The Structure of the Course: The course is laid out in "Weeks". Each "week" represents a certain section of the outline. Please do not take this to mean a literal week. That is simply the way I have chosen to organize the course in order to maximize our flexibility. To the greatest extent possible we will try to conform to a weekly schedule and complete each lecture/seminar subject on Friday and begin the next on Monday. However, I anticipate that some sections will take longer than others and we will have to modify the syllabus somewhat. Thus, it is incumbent upon you all to make sure that if you miss a class you ask others if the schedule has changed for the next meeting, and if you did come to class, please make sure you pay attention.

Extra Credit: There is no formal extra credit organized for the class. That is not to say that a student making a good effort won't be able to come up with something to bring his/her grade up. If you are looking to improve your score (even if it's for a reason I won't discuss) come see me. You may not like the assignment, but it might help in the end. Only one exception applies... do not wait until the last week of class. That is the busiest time of the year for me and I won't have the time to grade anything extra.

Text: Classic Readings and Contemporary Debates in International Relations 3rd Edition. This is available at bn.com at <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/Classic-Readings-and-Contemporary-Debates-in-International-Relations/Phil-Williams/e/9780534631895/?itm=1>

Assignments:

Week One: The Building Blocks of IR Theories; Power, Anarchy, and the State

- IV:24 “International Conflict and International Anarchy: The Third Image” Waltz.
- III:18 “The Level of Analysis Problem in International Relations” Singer
- IV:28 “Balance of Power” Morgenthau

Week Two: Theories in IR: Classical Realism

- I:5 “The Peloponnesian War: The Melian Debate” Thucydides
- I:6 “Relations Among Sovereigns” Hobbes
- I:7 “A Realist Critique of the Limitations of Realism” Carr
- I:8 “Six Principles of Political Realism” Morgenthau

Week Three: Theories in IR: Neo-Realism

- I:9 “The Origins of War in Neo-Realist Theory” Waltz
- IV:27 “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma” Jervis
- IV:25 “The Theory of Hegemonic War” Gilpin

Week Four: Theories in IR: Liberalism

- I:1 “The Rights of War and Peace” Grotius
- I:2 “Kant’s Perpetual Peace” Doyle
- I:3 “The Fourteen Points” Wilson
- I:4 “The Idea of International Society” Bull
- **Labor Day, No Class on Monday**

Week Five: Theories in IR: Neo-Liberalism

- IV:31 “International Law and Assumptions about the State System” Coplin
- IV:32 “Cooperation and International Regimes” Koehane
- IV:33 “The Evolution of Cooperation” Axelrod

Week Six: Theories in IR: Other Voices... Constructivism and Feminism

- IV:35 “Anarchy is What States Make of It” Wendt
- WEBCT “The Promise of Constructivism in International Relations Theory” Hopf
- IV:36 “A Gendered Perspective on National Security” Tickner

Week Seven: Theories in IR: Theoretical Debate

- IV:37 “Anarchy and the Limits to Cooperation” Grieco
- IV:38 “Critique of Critical Theory” Mearsheimer
- IV:39 “One World, Rival Theories” Snyder

Exam 1

Week Eight: Fields of IR: International Political Economy

- I:10 “The Economic Taproots of Imperialism” Hobson
- I:11 “Two Alternative Perspectives: Marxism and Liberalism” Krasner
- I:12 “The Structure of Dependence” Dos Santos

Week Nine: Fields of IR: International Conflict

- V:45 “War as an Instrument of Policy” Von Clausewitz
- V:46 “Motives and Perceptions Underlying Entry into War” Pruitt and Snyder
- V:47 “War and Misperception” Jervis

Paper Proposal Due

Week Ten: Trends in IR: Globalization

- VI:49 “The Pentagon’s New Map” Barnett
- VI:50 “The Globalization Debate” Held et al
- VI:51 “Governance in Fragmegrative Space” Rosenau

Week Eleven: Trends in IR: Terrorism

- VI:55 “Terrorism Today and Tomorrow” Hoffman
- VI:56 “The Globalization of Informal Violence” Keohane
- VI:58 “The Rise of Complex Terrorism” Homer-Dixon

Lit Review Due

Week Twelve: Trends in IR: Is the Future of IR Chaos, or Cosmopolitanism?

- VI:52 “The Clash of Civilizations” Huntington
- VI:53 “The Coming Anarchy” Kaplan
- VI:54 “The Myth of Global Chaos” Sadowski

Week Thirteen: Trends in IR: International Intervention (Human Rights vs. Sovereignty)

- VI:60 “The Debate About Intervention” Hoffmann
- VI: 61 “Preemptive Action; When, How, and to What Effect?” Bunn
- VI:62 “An Unnecessary War” Mearsheimer and Walt

Week Fourteen: Post Cold-War Security... Uni-polarity and American Power

- VI:63 “American Primacy in Perspective” Brooks and Wohlforth
- VI:64 “The Limits of American Power” Nye Jr.

Final Draft Due Last Day of Class

FINAL EXAM: Thurs., Dec. 10th 12:00 - 3:00 pm