

INTL 3200: Introduction to International Relations

Spring 2004

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Prerequisite: INTL 1100 or POLS 1101.

This course explores the fundamental concepts, theories, practices, and problems of international politics, such as anarchy, power, causes of war, origins and roles of international organization and law, the nature of international economics, and emerging global issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading Materials

1. Kegley, Charles and Eugene Wittkopf. 2004. *World Politics: Trend & Transformation*. 9th edition. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth. (Note: abbreviated as **KW** in the course outline.)
2. A short course pack (abbreviated as **CP**), available for purchase from Bel-Jean, 163 E. Broad St.
3. UGA Library Electronic Reserves. Link: <http://gil.uga.edu>
4. Students are asked to subscribe (for free) to the daily e-mail editions of the Christian Science Monitor at http://www.csmonitor.com/aboutus/e_subscribe.html (see “Headline News Service”). Please read international news from the “Page One,” “World,” and “News in Brief” sections of the paper.
5. Students are encouraged to invest into a decent World Atlas to get a better sense of where events pertinent to the class are taking place.

Student Initiative

Students should be alerted to the obvious fact that it will not be easy to summarize the complexity of international relations in terms of a few concepts and theories. Students should acquire the habit of regularly reading news magazines and national newspapers. It is important that students **read assigned materials thoughtfully and thoroughly** and that they **attend classes regularly**, since class time will be primarily devoted to the exploration and integration of assigned readings.

Examinations

There will be two exams based on lectures, assigned readings, and class discussions. The exams will ask students to demonstrate a detailed grasp of the material covered. The description of the exam format will be given prior to the exam dates.

Term Paper

Guidelines, assignments, deadlines, and criteria of evaluation are outlined at the end of the syllabus.

Participation and Quizzes

Participation in the class is essential to the success of this course. Two aspects of participation are key. (1) Students must read the assigned class readings in advance critically and in depth, so that they are able to identify key points of the argument as well as find within them weaknesses and controversies. During a

typical class session, the students will be expected to clarify the readings and answer questions about them. To help ensure that the students are reading the assigned materials, there will be a series of short quizzes, some of which will be unannounced. (2) At the beginning of each class session, the students should bring up current international events. Be prepared to summarize and explain the relevance of news stories to class materials. Frequent and thoughtful participation will be rewarded when determining the final grade at the instructor's discretion.

Attendance

There is no separate grade for attendance. Instead, regular attendance is expected. Class absences beyond three will negatively affect the overall course grade. Use the three "freebees" wisely, for family affairs, job interviews, minor health problems, etc. but not on the days when assignments are due; an absence on the day of the assignment does not mean that you can make the assignment up. Once the freebees are exhausted, each subsequent unexcused absence will decrease the overall course grade by ½ %. Absences will be excused only in cases of serious health or family emergencies and appropriate documentation will be required. Note that excessive absences will also impair your ability to perform well on tests and other aspects of the course.

Extra Credit

Students can attend lectures that are determined to be pertinent to the course by the instructor. To receive the extra credit, please turn in one single-spaced, typewritten summary of the lecture. The instructor will announce the lectures and due dates in advance. Late assignments (up to one week) will count for ½ credit. There is a maximum of three extra credit assignments. The perfect extra credit score will boost the student's overall course grade by 3%; partial scores will be prorated.

COURSE RULES

Grading Policy

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Midterm Exam | 30% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Term Paper | 30% |
| Participation / Quizzes | 10% |

Class Policies

1. Students are expected to turn in the assignments at the beginning of class and take exams on the dates specified. Failure to meet a paper deadline does not exempt a student from fulfilling the requirements. Every assignment must be turned in within one week of the due date in order to pass the course. It is the student's responsibility to assure that the instructor has received the assignment.
2. Exceptions to the above rules are granted at the instructor's discretion, only under circumstances of extreme personal emergency or serious illness. In all instances, appropriate evidentiary documentation will be requested. The excuses must be submitted within one week of the original absence.
3. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Each student is responsible to inform themselves about these standards before performing any academic work. My policy for academic dishonesty is very simple: you will receive a failing grade for the class if you are found cheating on examinations, plagiarizing the work of others or attempting to turn in assignments used in previous classes, along with all other possible infractions noted in the University's policy on academic dishonesty. Moreover, disciplinary proceedings to dismiss you from the University may be initiated against you. I **will not** tolerate academic dishonesty and assure you that you **will** face the harshest punishment possible if you attempt it.

4. Students may request that the instructor to re-read exam answers or papers that they feel have been unfairly evaluated. Requests for re-evaluation must be submitted to the instructor in typewritten form, along with the assignment, within a week after it has been returned to the class. The written statement must explain specifically why the student thinks that the grade should be reconsidered and what grade the assignment deserves. The assignment will be re-graded and a new grade assigned. Please be aware that the new grade may be higher, the same, or lower than the original grade.

5. The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

6. All students are expected to complete assigned readings before they are discussed in class and they are expected to discuss and respond to random questioning by the instructor.

TOPICS, READINGS, AND APPROXIMATE TIMELINE

I. Introduction (weeks 1-4)

- A. Key Concepts in the Study of IR: states, power, anarchy, levels of analysis
 - KW: Chapter 1
- B. Major Threats to the State
 - KW: Chapter 8
 - Reserve: Ra'anan, Uri. "The Nation-State Fallacy," in *Conflict and Peacemaking in Multiethnic Societies*," ed. J.V. Montville (Lexington: Lexington Books, 1990), pp. 5-20.
 - CP: Barber (in Betts, pp. 558-567)
- C. Foreign Policy Decision-making
 - KW: Chapter 3
 - Reserve: Shepsle, Kenneth A. and Mark S. Bonchek, "Rationality: The Model of Choice," in *Analyzing Politics* (New York: Norton, 1997), pp. 15-35.

II. The Main Theoretical Approaches (weeks 5-9)

- A. Realism
 - KW: pp. 35-43
 - CP: Hobbes (in Betts, pp. 47-50)
 - CP: Thucydides (in Viotti and Kauppi, pp. 100-105)
- B. Liberalism
 - CP: Pease, pp. 56-61
 - CP: Moravcsik (in Viotti and Kauppi, pp. 246-255)
- C. Marxism
 - CP: Pease, pp. 70-79

III. Theoretical Approaches and Key Topics in IR (weeks 10-14)

- A. Origins of Armed Conflict and War
 - KW: Chapters 11 and 12
 - Reserve: Clausewitz, Carl von. *On War* (translated by O. J. M. Jolles). (Washington, DC: Combat Forces Press, 1953), pp. 3-10, 596-601.
 - CP: Carr (in Betts, pp. 58-60)
 - CP: Mearsheimer (in Betts, pp. 17-32)
 - CP: Lenin (in Betts, pp. 242-248)

B. War Prevention

- KW: Chapters 13, 14, and 15
- Reserve: Morgan, Patrick M. *Deterrence: A Conceptual Analysis* (Beverly Hills: Sage, 1983, 2d), pp. 11-26.
- Reserve: Ziegler, David. *War, Peace, and International Politics*. (8th ed. New York: Longman, 2000), pp. 199-213 (collective security), 228-241 (disarmament).
- Reserve: Russett, Bruce, "The Fact of Democratic Peace," in *Grasping the Democratic Peace* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993), pp. 58-81.
- Reserve: Layne, Christopher, "Kant of Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace," *International Security*, 19: No. 2 (Fall 1994), 190-201.

C. International Political Economy

- KW: Chapter 9
- CP: Frieden and Lake, pp. 9-16
- CP: Tarzi (in Frieden and Lake, pp. 156-166)
- CP: Coughlin et al. (in Frieden and Lake, pp. 303-317)
- Reserve: Hamilton, Alexander. "Report on the Manufacturers," in *The Reports of Alexander Hamilton*, ed. Jacob E. Cooke (New York: Harper & Row, 1964).
- Reserve: Cohn, Theodore H. *Global Political Economy: Theory and Practice*. (1st ed. New York: Longman, 2000), pp. 112-117.

D. International Institutions and Law

- KW: Chapter 5
- CP: Pease, 45-49, 51-52, 61-67, 79-85
- Reserve: Akenhurst, Michael. *A Modern Introduction to International Law* (New York: HarperCollins, 1987, 6th ed.), pp. 1-11, 23-42.

IV. 21st Century Issues (weeks 14-15)

A. Demographic Pressure and Resource Depletion

- KW: Chapter 10
- Additional readings TBA

B. Human Rights

- KW: Chapter 7

Midterm Exam: Around the midterm date (March 2), exact date TBA

Final Exam: Friday, May 7, 8 am

TERM PAPER ASSIGNMENT

Selecting an Appropriate Topic

Choose an international event in which the US is **NOT** a key player (ask the instructor if you are uncertain whether your event qualifies). The event must be international, that is it concerns more than one country or involves an international organization (e.g. IMF, UN, Red Cross, etc.). The event may be of economic (e.g. signing of a trade pact, financing of a development project, bailout of a collapsed economy), security (e.g. a war, alliance expansion, arms race), or legal (e.g. war crimes prosecution, human rights abuses, female circumcision) nature. Finally, the event must have occurred since 1945. Paper topics not meeting these criteria will receive the grade of zero.

Project Rules

Students are required to complete two interlocking assignments, meaning that the successful completion of the second assignment depends, in large part, on competent performance on the first assignment. Each assignment must receive a passing grade in order for the student to receive a passing grade on the term paper project. Previously graded first assignment with the comment sheet must be turned in along with

the second assignment; failure to do so will result in a 10% penalty. Failure to turn in a copy of the second assignment by the beginning of class on the due date results in a 10% a day penalty. Please note that the due dates are known well in advance, so you need to plan accordingly. Students should note all other rules pertaining to the writing assignments noted on the syllabus.

ASSIGNMENT #1: TOPIC AND ACTOR IDENTIFICATION

1 typewritten, single-spaced page, **due Monday, February 16**

Please use this format:

- (1) Briefly describe the event and note when it occurred.
- (2) Identify the two most relevant actors that are on the opposite side of the issue.
- (3) Cite the source of your information.

Important note: The second assignment will receive the grade of zero unless you receive an OK on the first assignment. If your topic is not approved or was not turned in on time, your second assignment will be penalized by 10 points (out of 100). To receive the topic approval, you will need to resubmit the first assignment until it is approved. For each week that passes beyond the date when the first assignment was returned to the students, your second assignment will be penalized by 10 more points. **Keep** the approved assignment and turn it in along with the second assignment.

ASSIGNMENT #2: ANALYSIS

5-6 typewritten, double-spaced pages, **due Monday, April 26**

You are not asked to write a traditional essay-style paper; instead, write an “executive report” that summarizes the main ideas.

- (1) Analyze the event by using insights from two out of the three major IR theories we have encountered, namely realism, liberalism, and Marxism. Specifically, organize your paper by the theory: using each theory explain both why the event took place (i.e. what motivated each side to behave the way it did) and whether the school of thought views the event in favorable or unfavorable light. Devote about 2-2 ½ pages per school of thought.
- (2) In lieu of a conclusion, briefly (up to a page) explain which theory seems more applicable and why.
- (3) Reference all facts/ideas (please use a parenthetical referencing style such as MLA) and include a bibliography (not counted in the page length requirement) with at least three academic sources (other than the assigned readings).
- (4) Include the graded Assignment #1 along with the comments (10 point penalty if not included).

Grading criteria for the assignments:

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|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. objectivity | 4. organization |
| 2. quality of research | 5. writing style and clarity |
| 3. quality of analysis | 6. mechanics and grammar |

Students who have difficulties with rhetoric are encouraged to use the University’s resources to help them write better and purchase a writer’s manual such as Strunk and White’s *Elements of Style*.