

Introduction to International Relations

POL 203

Fall 2019

Tuesday-Thursday
Whitten LC 140, 3.30-4.45 PM

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 2-3 pm, 1300 Campo Sano, Room 240 C

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Description:

This course provides tools for understanding international cooperation, competition, and war, as well as a series of specific issues in international politics. The first part of the course introduces students to the leading schools of International Relations theory – Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism. The second part surveys a broad set of central topics in contemporary international politics – including economic globalization, human rights, environmental issues, terrorism, the current dominance of the United States in world politics, the rise of China, and the future of international relations. Students are taught how to apply the concepts and theories so as to understand current events and formulate appropriate policy prescriptions.

Learning goals:

- Familiarizing students with the main schools of thought in International Relations
- Introducing students to key, ongoing debates in international affairs
- Sharpening students' analytical and critical thinking by discussing the deductive logic of theories, their empirical basis, and policy implications

Pre-requisites:

There is no pre-requisite for this class.

Requirements:

- 5 in-class, closed-book quizzes – 10% of the grade each, 50% total
- In-class, closed-book mid-term quiz – 20% of the grade
- In-class, closed-book examination – 30% of the grade

Students are expected to do all the readings before the lecture for which they are assigned to facilitate understanding and discussion. For all assignments, students are expected to demonstrate familiarity with the assigned readings, not just their class notes and lecture slides.

The final examination will consist of both a quiz and short identification questions. All information covered during the semester is fair game for the final examination.

Thoughtful class participation is strongly encouraged. There is no formal grade assigned to it, but in cases of exceptionally high-quality participation a student's grade in between two letter grades will be bumped up (e.g., a grade between B+ and A- would become an A-).

Readings:

The course requires reading and pondering about 100 pages of political science literature per week. All readings are on electronic reserve, divided by week (see "Readings" folder in the "Course Documents" folder on Blackboard), unless they are available through the UM's library website (<http://library.miami.edu/>) or freely online, which is indicated in the syllabus.

Many readings assigned for the course are from the following three texts. If you are the kind of person that likes to keep books for future reference and are especially interested in the topics covered in this course, you may want to purchase them:

- Robert Art and Robert Jervis, eds., *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 13th edn. (New York: Pearson Longman, 2016).
- Karen Mingst and Jack Snyder, eds., *Essential Readings in World Politics*, 5th edn. (New York: Norton, 2014).
- Richard Betts, ed., *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments of the Causes of War and Peace*, 4th edn. (New York: Pearson Longman, 2013).

Students are strongly encouraged to read the world news section of a major daily—e.g., *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, etc.—or their online equivalents.

Rules and procedures:

Phone and laptops. I strongly encourage you not to use laptops and phones while in class, so as to achieve the best possible learning experience for you and your classmates.

There is quite a bit of evidence indicating that taking notes with pen and paper, rather than typing, facilitates student learning; moreover, laptops and cellphones are a source of distraction for both the students using them and their peers sitting nearby when inappropriately employed to surf the internet, watch videos etc. (see, for example, Pam A. Mueller and Daniel M. Oppenheimer, "The Pen Is Mightier Than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand Over Laptop Note Taking," *Psychological Science*, 2014; Faria Sana et al., "Laptop Multitasking Hinders Classroom Learning for Both Users and Nearby Peers," *Computer & Education*, 2013; "Attention Students: Put Your Laptops Away," NPR, <http://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away>).

Email correspondence. I am happy to address any issue via email, but I prefer to meet in person during office hours or by appointment to discuss substantive course-related topics. Please allow 24/48 hours for me to respond.

Read your emails. From time to time, I will make announcements related to the course via email (in particular related to scheduling issues) and will assume you have read those emails.

Don't cheat. The standard caveats about academic honesty obtain. Cheating on any assignment will result in the matter being turned over immediately to the Dean's office, with a high risk of failing the class.

Please consult the UM's honor code at:

http://www.miami.edu/sa/index.php/policies_and_procedures/honor_code/

Don't miss assignments. Prompt (within 24 hours from missed assignment) written notes from doctors, deans, and coaches may excuse absences, as would prior consent of the instructor. Once a make-up date is scheduled, students will have to stick to it.

Disabilities. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS, <http://umarc.miami.edu/arc/ODS.html>) to obtain appropriate academic accommodations and support.

If you have read this far, please email me a picture of a superhero.

INTRODUCTION

Lecture 1: Overview and Social Science Basics (August 20)

27 pages of readings

- Jack L. Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories,” *Foreign Policy*, 2004. (10 pages)
- Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (NY: Random House, 1979), pp. 1-13. (13 pages)
- Stephen Van Evera, *Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1997), pp. 27-30 (4 pages).

Lecture 2: Social Science Basics (cont’d) and Levels of Analysis (August 22)

61 pages of readings

- Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, “The Science in Social Science” in *Designing Social Inquiry* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), chap. 1 (31 pages).
- Kenneth Waltz, *Man, the State and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959), pp. 1-15, 224-238. (30 pages)

REALISM

Lecture 3: Classical Realism (August 27)

35 pages of readings

- Thucydides, “The Melian Dialogue,” in Richard Betts, ed., *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace* (Boston: Pearson, 2013). (5 pages)
- Niccolo Machiavelli, “Doing Evil in Order to Do Good,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*, pp. 42-46. (5 pages)
- Thomas Hobbes, “The State of Nature and the State of War,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War* (4 pages)
- Edward Hallett Carr, “Realism and Idealism,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War* (18 pages).
- Hans Morgenthau, *Politics among Nations* (New York: Knopf, 1948), excerpts from chaps 1 and 3. (3 pages)

Lecture 4: Neo-realism (August 29)

44 pages of readings

- Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (NY: McGraw-Hill, 1979), pp. 116-128 and 161-176. (29 pages)
- John Mearsheimer, “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power,” in Mingst and Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*. (15 pages)

Lecture 5: Miscalculation, Coercion, and Nukes (September 5 and September 10)

50 pages of readings

- Geoffrey Blainey, “Power, Culprits, and Arms,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (14 pages)
- Thomas Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence,” in Mingst and Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*. (8 pages)
- Kenneth N. Waltz, “The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: More May Be Better,” in Betts,

- *Conflict After the Cold War*, pp. 451-61. (11 pages)
- Scott Sagan, “Why Nuclear Spread is Dangerous,” in Robert Art and Kenneth Waltz, *The Use of Force* (Oxford: Roman & Littlefield Publishers, 1999). (13 pages)
- Robert Jervis, “Losing Control in Crises,” in Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (4 pages)

Lecture 6: Psychology, Perception, and the Security Dilemma (September 12)

Quiz #1 (in-class)

44 pages of readings

- Stephen M. Walt, “Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning,” in Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (9 pages).
- Robert Jervis, “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (18 pages)
- Robert Jervis, “War and Misperception,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (17 pages)

Lecture 7: Great Power Transitions and Preventive War (September 17)

43 pages of readings

- Robert Gilpin, “Hegemonic War and International Change,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*, pp. 47-50. (12 pages)
- Dale Copeland, *The Origins of Major War* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2000), pp. 11-27 (electronic copy available at <http://library.miami.edu/>). (17 pages)
- Dale Copeland, “A Tragic Choice: Japanese Preventive Motivations and the Origins of the Pacific War,” *International Interactions*, 2011. (10 pages)
- Michael Crowley, “Why the White House Is Reading Greek History,” *Politico*, 2017. (4 pages)

LIBERALISM

Lecture 8: Classical Liberalism and Interdependence (September 19)

44 pages of readings

- Immanuel Kant, “Perpetual Peace,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (8 pages)
- Normal Angell, “The Great Illusion,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (3 pages)
- Woodrow Wilson, “Fourteen Points,” 1918 (available at http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/wilson14.asp). (2 pages)
- V.I. Lenin, “Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (7 pages)
- Joseph Schumpeter, “Imperialism and Capitalism,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (9 pages)
- Richard Rosecrance, “Trade and Power,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (15 pages)

Lecture 9: Realist Critiques of Interdependence (September 24)

46 pages of readings

- Geoffrey Blainey, “Paradise is a Bazaar,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (9 pages)
- Dale Copeland, “Economic Interdependence and War: A Theory of Trade Expectations,”

International Security, 1996. (37 pp.)

No class September 26 (I am attending a conference)

Lecture 10: Neo-Liberalism, Rational Cooperation, and Institutions I (October 1)

63 pages of readings

- Mancur Olson, *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971), pp. 1-22, 33-36, 46-52, 60-65. (39 pages)
- Kenneth Oye, “Explaining Cooperation Under Anarchy: Hypotheses and Strategies,” *World Politics*, 1985. (24 pages)

Lecture 11: Neo-Liberalism, Rational Cooperation, and Institutions II (October 3)

Quiz #2 (in-class)

47 pages of readings

- Robert Keohane, “Neo-liberal Institutionalism,” in Christopher W. Hughes, and Yew Meng Lai, *Security Studies: A Reader* (New York: Routledge, 2011). (20 pages)
- Bruce Russett, John R. Oneal, and David R. Davis “The Third Leg of the Kantian Tripod for Peace: International Organizations and Militarized Disputes, 1950–85,” *International Organization*, 1994. (27 pages)

Lecture 12: Neo-Liberalism, Rational Cooperation, and Institutions III (October 8)

23 pages of readings

- Daniel Y. Kono, “Making Anarchy Work: International Legal Institutions and Trade Cooperation,” *Journal of Politics* 9 (3), 2007. (14 pages)
- Page Fortna, “From Does Peacekeeping Work?” in Mingst and Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*. (9 pages)

Lecture 13: Realism and Institutions (October 10)

49 pages of readings

- Stephen D. Krasner, “Global Communications and National Power: Life on the Pareto Frontier,” *World Politics*, 1991, pp. 336-344 and 360-366 only. (16 pages)
- John J. Mearsheimer, “The False Promise of International Institutions,” *International Security*, 1994-95, pp. 5-33 only. (33 pages)

Lecture 14: Democracy, Democratization, and Peace I (October 15)

52 pages of readings

- Michael Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics,” in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (16 pages)
- Bruce Russett, *Grasping the Democratic Peace* (Princeton University Press, 1993), ch. 1. (14 pages)
- Fareed Zakaria, “The Rise of Illiberal Democracy,” *Foreign Affairs*, 1997. (22 pages)

Fall Recess, No Class October 17

Lecture 15: Democracy, Democratization, and Peace II (October 22)

55 pages of readings

- Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and War," in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (14 pages)
- Alexander Downes and Jonathan Monten, "Forced to Be Free: Why Foreign-Imposed Regime Change Rarely Leads to Democratization," *International Security*, 2013. (41 pages).

CONSTRUCTIVISM

Lecture 16: Norms, Ideas, and Identities I (October 24)

Quiz #3 (in-class)

58 pages of readings

- Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy Is What States Make of It," in Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (9 pages)
- John E. Mueller, "The Obsolescence of Major War," in Betts, *Conflict After the Cold War*. (13 pages)
- Nina Tannenwald, "The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use," *International Organization*, 1999. (36 pages)

Lecture 17: Norms, Ideas, and Identities II (October 29)

39 pages of readings

- Scott Sagan and Benjamin Valentino, "Revisiting Hiroshima in Iran: What Americans Really Think about Using Nuclear Weapons and Killing Noncombatants," *International Security*, 2017. (39 pages)

Lecture 18: Norms, Ideas, and Identities II (October 31)

56 pages of readings

- Ann Tickner, "A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism," Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (13 pages)
- Valerie M. Hudson, Mary Caprioli, Bonnie Ballif-Spanvill, Rose McDermott, and Chad F. Emmett, "The Heart of the Matter: The Security of Women and the Security of States," *International Security*, 2009 (43 pages)

In-class Midterm Quiz, November 5

SPECIAL TOPICS

Lecture 19: Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention (November 7)

53 pages of readings

- Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Activist Networks," in Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (8 pages)

- Alan Kuperman, “Rethinking the Responsibility to Protect,” *Whitehead Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations*, 2009. (11 pages)
- Chaim Kaufmann and Robert Pape, “Explaining Costly International Moral Action: Britain’s Sixty Year Campaign Against the Atlantic Slave Trade,” *International Organization*, 1999. (34 pages).

Lecture 20: The Environment and International Politics (November 12)

Quiz #4 (in class)

53 pages of readings

- Garrett Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons,” in Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (6 pages)
- Scott Barrett, “Collective Action to Avoid Catastrophe: When Countries Succeed, When They Fail, and Why,” *Global Policy* 7:1, 2016. (11 pages)
- David G. Victor, M. Granger Morgan, Jay Apt, and John Steinbrune, “The Truth about Geoengineering,” *Foreign Affairs*, 2013. (4 pages)
- “What if geoengineering goes rogue?”, *Economist*, 2019. (4 pages)
- Joshua Busby, “Warming World: Why Climate Change Matters More Than Anything Else,” *Foreign Affairs*, 2018. (10 pages)
- Ted Nordhaus, “The Two-Degree Delusion: The Dangers of an Unrealistic Climate Change Target,” *Foreign Affairs*, 2018. (10 pages)
- Johannes Urpelainen, “Here’s what political science can tell us about the Paris climate deal,” *Washington Post*, 2015 (https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2015/12/14/heres-what-political-science-can-tell-us-about-the-paris-climate-deal/?utm_term=.e76817b65e5f). (4 pages)
- Johannes Urpelainen, “The Paris agreement’s emissions goals may be in trouble with or without US participation,” *Washington Post*, 2018 (https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/06/01/the-paris-agreements-emissions-goals-may-be-in-trouble-with-or-without-u-s-participation/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.5a7ffc6a6c3f). (4 pages)

Lecture 21: Terrorism (November 14)

46 pages of readings.

- Richard Betts, “The Soft Underbelly of American Primacy,” *Political Science Quarterly*, 2002. (17 pages)
- Osama Bin Laden’s “Letter to America,” 2002. (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2002/nov/24/theobserver>). (8 pages)
- Ayman Al-Zawahiri letter to Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi, 2005 <https://ctc.usma.edu/app/uploads/2013/10/Zawahiris-Letter-to-Zarqawi-Translation.pdf>. (13 pages)
- John Mueller and Mark G. Stewart, “Why are Americans still so afraid of Islamist terrorism?” *Washington Post*, 2018. (4 pages)
- Richard J. McAlexander, “Terrorism does increase with immigration — but only homegrown, right-wing terrorism,” *Washington Post*, 2019. (4 pages)

Lecture 22: Globalization, the World Economy, and International Economic Institutions

I (November 19)

46 pages of readings

- Jeffrey Frankel, “Globalization and the Economy,” in Art and Jervis, *International Politics*. (16 pages)
- Alan V. Deardorff and Robert M. Stern, “What You Should Know about Globalization and the World Trade Organization,” *Review of International Economics* 10 (3), 2002 (15 pages, stop reading after page 418).
- Gemma Tetlow, “Blame technology not globalisation for rising inequality, says IMF,” (<https://www.ft.com/content/cfbd0af6-1e0b-11e7-b7d3-163f5a7f229c>). (3 pages)
- Douglas A. Irwin, “The Truth about Trade: What Critics Get Wrong about the Global Economy,” *Foreign Affairs*, 2016. (4 pages)
- François Bourguignon, “Inequality and Globalization: How the Rich Get Richer as the Poor Catch Up,” *Foreign Affairs*, 2015. (4 pages)

Lecture 23: Globalization, the World Economy, and International Economic Institutions

II (November 21)

32 pages of readings

- Chad P. Bown “Trump's Fall 2019 China Tariff Plan: Five Things You Need to Know,” Trade and Investment Policy Watch, Peterson Institute for International Economics. (9 pages)
- Robert J. Barro, “Trump Is Slowing US Economic Growth,” Project Syndicate (3 pages)
- Yotam Margalit, “Lost in Globalization: International Economic Integration and the Sources of Popular Discontent,” Mingst and Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*. (20 pages)

Thanksgiving Recess, No class November 26 and 28

THE FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Lecture 24: Unipolarity: Long-lasting or Short-lived? (December 3)

Quiz #5 (in class)

48 pages of readings

- Michael Beckley, “China’s Century? Why America’s Edge Will Endure,” *International Security*, 2011-12. (38 pages)
- John Mearsheimer, “Can China Rise Peacefully?” *The National Interest* (available at <http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/can-china-rise-peacefully-10204>). (20 pages)

In-class final exam, date and time TBD