Introduction to International Relations

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323 White Hall
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Fall 2008
T/Th 8:55-9:55*
Ives 305

Objectives: This course offers an introduction to the study of international relations. It considers examples from history and addresses contemporary issues, while introducing and evaluating the political theories that have been used by scholars to explain those events. The principal goal of the course is to develop a general set of analytical approaches that can be used to gain insight into the nature of world politics – past, present and future.

Teaching Assistants/Section Instructors: Danielle Cohen (dfc27) (head TA); Jamie Bleck (jg462); Gaurav Kampani (gk58); Don Leonard (drl43); Melissa Mistretta (mm768). The TA for 182 Writing in the Majors is Richard Bownas (rab56). Lectures and reading assignments are designed to complement – not duplicate – each other. Students are expected to attend sections prepared to discuss the relevant readings.

Reading Assignments: A number of books have been made available for purchase at the campus store. The following five books contain required reading:

Jeffry Frieden, Global Capitalism (2006)

Six additional books have also been ordered at the campus store. For a short paper assignment you will be required to read one, and only one, of the following books:

Steven David, Catastrophic Consequences: Civil Wars and American Interests (2008)

All of these books are also on 2 hour reserve at Uris Library.

Course Requirements and Grading: The course has three principal requirements:

An in-class midterm Tuesday, October 7 (25%)
A short paper, due by noon, Friday, December 5 (25%)
A final exam, (Exam period, date TBA by the college) (50%)

*A note on meeting times: Lectures are scheduled into a 75-minute slot, but will run 50-55+ minutes (but never more than 60), so we will always finish by 9:45-9:55. The longer period affords greater flexibility, while overall class time remains consistent with a three-credit course. Starting at 8:55 hopefully will take some of the sting out of the early class time; in exchange, please arrive to class on time.
Course Schedule

Weeks 0-1: August 28; September 2-4
   Thursday: Introduction, Course Overview, and Some Key Concepts
   Tuesday: Explaining International Relations
   Thursday: Afghanistan, Iraq, Unipolarity, and IR Theory

Readings:
   Kagan, *Origins of War*, pp. 81-144
   Gordon, “Can the War on Terror be Won?”, in A&J

Week 2: September 9-11
   Tuesday: Crime of the Century? The First World War
   Thursday: Too Many Suspects – The Causes of World War I

Readings:

Week 3: September 16-18
   Tuesday: The Inevitably Bloodier Summer Sequel – World War II
   Thursday: Force of Evil? Explaining World War II

Readings:
   Doyle, “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs”, in A&J
   Walt, “Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning”, in A&J

Week 4: September 23-25
   Tuesday: The Origins and Course of the Cold War
   Thursday: Explaining the Cold War

Readings:
   Stern, *The Week the World Stood Still*, pp. 11-76
   Waltz, “The Anarchic Structure of World Politics”, in A&J
   Wendt, “Anarchy is What States Make of It”, in A&J

Week 5: October 1-2 [Note Dates – Wednesday Room TBA]
   Wednesday: Who Knew? The End of the Cold War
   Thursday: Strategy and Games

Readings:
   Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence”, in A&J
   Art, “The Four Functions of Force”, in A&J
   Art, “The Fungibility of Force”, in A&J
Week 6: October 7

**Tuesday: In Class Midterm**
**Thursday: No Class**

**Readings:**
- Sagan, “Nuclear Instability in South Asia”, in A&J
- Waltz, “Nuclear Stability in South Asia”, in A&J
- Posen, “A Nuclear Armed Iran”, in A&J

Week 7: October 16

**Tuesday: Fall Break**
**Thursday: Nuclear Weapons in World Politics**

**Readings:**
- Keohane, “Hegemony in the World Economy”, in A&J

Week 8: October 21-23

**Tuesday: Theories of Cooperation**
**Thursday: The Expansion of the International Economy**

**Readings:**
- Frankel, “Globalization of the Economy” in A&J
- Abdelal & Segal, “Has Globalization Passed its Peak?” in A&J

Week 9: October 28-30

**Tuesday: International Political Economy: Liberalism and its Discontents**
**Thursday: The Rise and Fall and Rise of International Trade**

**Readings:**
- Frieden, *Global Capitalism*, 253-300.
- Rodrik, “Trading in Illusions”, in A&J

Week 10: November 4-6

**Tuesday: International Money: What is it Good For?**
**Thursday: Politics and the International Monetary System**

**Readings:**
- Frieden, *Global Capitalism*, pp. 339-412
Week 11: November 11-13
Tuesday: Explaining Choices about Money
Thursday: The Weak Do As They Must?

Readings:
Frieden, *Global Capitalism*, pp. 302-20, 412-34
Scott, “The Great Divide in the Global Village”, in A&J
Rothberg, “Failed States, Collapsed States, Weak States”, in A&J
Kahl, “Demography, Environment, and Civil Strife”, in A&J
Kaufmann, “Possible/Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars”, in A&J

Week 12: November 18-20
Tuesday: Globalization and National Security
Thursday: Economic Sanctions and Economic Statecraft

Readings:
Avant, “The Marketization of Security”, in GNS
Lynch, “Globalization and Arab Security”, in GNS
Cooley, “Globalization and National Security After Empire”, in GNS
Williams, “Transnational Organized Crime and the State”, in A&J
Pape, “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism”, in A&J

Week 13: November 25
Tuesday: Crises Without Borders
Thursday: Thanksgiving Break

Readings:
Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons”, in A&J
Victor, “International Cooperation on Climate Change”, in A&J
Mankiw, “One Answer to Global Warming”, in A&J
Frieden, *Global Capitalism*, pp. 435-76

Week 14: December 2-4
Tuesday: Unipolarity and the Rise of China
Thursday: Explaining Behavior in World Politics

Readings:
Mueller, “The Paradox of Liberal Hegemony”, in GNS
Kirshner, “Globalization, Power, and Prospect”, in GNS
Ikenberry, “Rising Powers and Global Institutions”, in A&J

Papers due by noon on Friday, December 5