

## **Introduction to International Relations**

Prof. Green  
POSC 172  
Fall 2015

Office hours: MW 10-11:30  
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*Note: I reserve the right to change the readings*

### **Course description**

This course is a survey of international relations. It will address the major questions about the ways that states interact: what is anarchy, and what are its consequences? Can we mitigate its effects, and if so how? Has globalization—the increasing flows of goods, people and knowledge across borders—changed the nature of the way states relate to each other? Has the rise of non-state actors diminished the authority of the state? This course will take up these large questions by examining the nature of anarchy and sovereignty and their effects in world politics. It will also ask under what conditions can international cooperation—through treaties, laws and less formal arrangements—help provide peace, security and prosperity. The course will cover the fundamentals of the discipline, including a review of the theoretical approaches and major questions in contemporary international relations. We will also look at specific issues in contemporary world politics such as development, human rights and environmental protection.

### **Course Goals**

By the end of this class, you should have an understanding of the major approaches to international relations. You should be familiar with the major issues in contemporary politics, and the political difficulties that surround them. You should be able to discuss these issues in written and oral forms.

### **Course Materials**

Robert Art and Robert Jervis. 2012. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*. Boston: Longman. Eleventh Edition.

The textbook is available at the bookstore, but can also be purchased used online. Please note: *If you choose to buy online, please check the edition. Note that not all readings are the same across editions (though there is substantial overlap with recent editions).*

### **How to read for this class**

There is a fair amount of reading for this class. Reading efficiently will be an important skill. After finishing each reading, you should be able to characterize the author's main argument. Details are less important than the "big picture," though the former should not be ignored.

*You are expected to do all of the reading for each class.* However, do not let the perfect be the enemy of the good; if you cannot complete all of the reading, try to do as much as you can.

### **Course Assignments and Evaluation**

Class Participation: 15%

Mid-Term: 20%

Final Exam: 30%

In-class presentation: 15%  
Response paper: 20%

Class Participation: The best way to improve your grade is to come to class **and participate**. I will take attendance on an unannounced basis. Class participation will be evaluated on your participation ***and your professionalism***. Professionalism means that you come to class prepared – with **hard copies of the readings** – and that you act in a respectful manner toward me and your classmates: this means arriving promptly, refraining from texting and from conducting side conversations during class.

Exams: There will two review exams on **4 March**, and on **20 April**. Both will cover basic concepts and readings. The format will be a mix of short answers and essay questions. You will be expected to summarize arguments from the readings, and make your own arguments, based on the concepts we have discussed.

Papers: You will be expected to write one short paper during the course of the semester. Due dates will be staggered. You will randomly be assigned a number, which will be associated with a due date. The due dates are: **2 Mar, 9 Mar, 16 Mar, 23 Mar** and **30 Mar**. You are welcome to switch dates with someone, so long as you notify me of the switch. You may also turn your papers in early.

Using two to three readings from the syllabus, the paper should describe a key problem in world politics, and at least two different ways that IR theory can explain it. The paper should be no longer than three pages, and should be submitted to me **VIA EMAIL**. The subject of the email should contain your last name and POSC 172. I will post an example of an A paper on BB.

Re-writes: You may opt to re-write your papers. I will average the two grades; rewriting will also count positively toward your participation grade. I encourage you to do this, particularly if you are a first year student. If you would like to re-write your paper, you must discuss it with me first – either in office hours or by email. Re-writes must be submitted no later than two weeks after receiving the initial grade.

In-class presentations: Each student will give a presentation on either **6 or 8 April**. These will be group assignments. Each presentation will describe a contemporary problem in modern politics, the major interest groups, some or all of the institutions involved in addressing the issue, and potential solutions to the problem. We will discuss presentations further as the class progresses. I will post a rubric for evaluation on BB.

Legal:

1. **All deadlines are final.** For each day an assignment is late, a half grade will be deducted. This means if an A- paper is one day late, it will be a B+. If a B paper is two days late, it will be a C. THE ONLY exception to this rule is if you have a note from the Dean. Unless you have a note from the Dean, no extensions will be granted.
2. **Please read the policy on academic honesty and plagiarism.** (<http://www.case.edu/provost/ugstudies/acintegrity.htm>). **Academic dishonesty** (plagiarism, cheating on examinations, etc.) **is a serious offense that can result in loss**

**of credit, suspension, and possibly expulsion from the university.** All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

- a. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please feel free to ask me.
3. An unexcused absence for an exam will result in a failing grade for that exam.
4. I reserve the right to consider extraordinary or unforeseen circumstances on a case-by-case basis.
5. Re-grade requests for exams will be honored only if accompanied by a comprehensive written explanation of why you deserve a higher grade. Note that if accepted, a request for re-grading may result in the raising *or lowering* of your grade.

#### Other Class Policies

1. Please save paper; submit everything to me electronically VIA EMAIL. Your name and POSC 172 should be in the title of the email.
2. **Please turn off your cell phones. Please PUT YOUR CELL PHONES AWAY. TEXTING IS NOT PERMITTED.** If I observe you texting, you will be considered absent for that class session.
3. Unless you have permission from ESS, **laptops are not permitted.** (The exception is the days we have negotiations or you are working on group projects.) Here's why:

“Experimental tests of immediate retention of class material have also found that Internet browsing impairs performance. Moreover, recent research suggests that even when laptops are used solely to take notes, they may still be impairing learning because their use results in shallower processing.” Pam Mueller and Daniel Oppenheimer, “The Pen is Mightier than the Keyboard.” *Psychological Science*, Forthcoming. DOI: 10.1177/0956797614524581.

4. During the semester I am prepared to meet by appointment with any and all students enrolled in this course. I would like especially to meet with students with disabilities who are registered with the Coordinator of Disability Services (368-5230) and who may need individual arrangements.

Week 1: Introduction

12 Jan: Big questions in World Politics

14 Jan: **NO CLASS**

Week 2: Theories of International Relations

19 Jan: **NO CLASS**. MLK Day

21 Jan: Power or Principle? Realist theories of IR

1. Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue" Art and Jervis, pp. 8-13.
2. Hans Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism" Art and Jervis, pp. 14-21.
3. Kenneth Waltz, "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics" Art and Jervis, pp. 35-56.

Week 3: Theories of IR and Mitigating Anarchy

26 Jan: Explaining state behavior: Other theoretical approaches

1. Doyle, Michael W. "Kant, Liberal Legacies and Foreign Affairs" Art and Jervis, pp. 111-24.
2. Harvey, David. *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Introduction and Excerpts. **On BB**.
3. Wendt, Alexander. "Anarchy is what states make of it" Art and Jervis, pp. 65-72.
4. Hurd, Ian. "Legitimacy in International Politics" Art and Jervis, pp. 73-75.
5. Drezner, Daniel. 2010. "Night of the Living Wonks" *Foreign Policy*. Available at [http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/06/21/night\\_of\\_the\\_living\\_wonks](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/06/21/night_of_the_living_wonks)

28 Jan: Alliances: Old and New

1. Jervis, Robert. "Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma" Art and Jervis, pp. 90-110.
2. Walt, Stephen M. "Alliance: Balancing and Bandwagoning" Art and Jervis, pp. 125-131.
3. "A short history of NATO", available at <http://www.nato.int/history/nato-history.html>.

Week 4: From International Cooperation to Making War

2 Feb: International Cooperation and International Institutions

1. Oye, Kenneth A. "The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics" Art and Jervis, pp. 76-89.
2. Keohane, Robert O. "International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?" Art and Jervis, pp. 151-58.

4 Feb: When and why do states fight?

1. Art, Robert J. "The Four Functions of Force." Art and Jervis, pp. 164-71.
2. Schelling, Thomas. "The Diplomacy of Violence." Art and Jervis, pp. 172-85.
3. World Bank. "The Shape of Violence Today." Art and Jervis, pp. 232-38.

Week 5: Use of force and peacekeeping

9 Feb: The use of force

1. UN Charter, Chaps 5-6. Available at <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/chapter5.shtml>.
2. Kennedy, Paul. 2006. *The Parliament of Man: The Past, Present and Future of the United Nations*. New York: Random House. Chap 2. **On BB**

11 Feb: Peacekeeping

1. Annan, Kofi. "Reflections on Intervention." Art and Jervis, pp. 416-21.
2. Michael N. Barnett and Jack Snyder, "The Grand Strategies of Humanitarianism." Art and Jervis, pp.422-29.
3. International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty. "The Responsibility to Protect." Ottawa: International Development Research Centre, 2001. Read synopsis and Chapter 2. Accessible at <http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICISS%20Report.pdf>

Week 6: The use of force

16 Feb: Nuclear deterrence and MAD

1. Tannenwald, Nina. 1999. The nuclear taboo: the United States and the normative basis of nuclear non-use. *International Organization*. 53 (3): 433-468. **On BB**
2. Thomas Schelling. 1966. "The Manipulation of Risk," *Arms and Influence*, pp. 92-105. **On BB**

18 Feb: NO CLASS. I suggest you use this time to meet with your groups

Week 7: Can YOU Avoid War?

23 Feb: Negotiations

1. Sokolski, Henry. "Getting Ready for a Nuclear-Ready Iran" Art and Jervis, pp. 239-42.
2. Posen, Barry, "Dealing with a Nuclear-Armed Iran." Art and Jervis, p. 242-58.
3. Brzezinski, Zbigniew. 2009. "An Agenda for NATO" *Foreign Affairs* 88(5): 2-20. **On BB**
4. BBC, "Q&A: Iran Sanctions". Available at <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-15983302>.
5. The Economist. "Shackled". 1 November 2014. Available at <http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21628601-story-worlds-most-elaborate-sanctions-regime-shackled>.
6. Jervis, Robert. 2013. "Getting to Yes with Iran" *Foreign Affairs* (92)1. **On BB.**
7. Additional readings TBA, depending on progress on current talks.

25 Feb: Negotiations and discussion

Week 8: Review and Midterm

2 Mar: Review

4 Mar: EXAM

Week 9: SPRING BREAK

Week 10: Non-state actors in world politics

16 Mar: Non-governmental organizations and Transnational Advocacy Networks

1. Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Activist Networks." Art and Jervis, pp. 456-62.
2. Avant, Deborah, Martha Finnemore and Susan K. Sell. *Who Governs the Globe?* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 2009. Pp. 1-25. **On BB**

18 Mar: Terrorism

1. Hoffman, Bruce. "What is Terrorism?" Art and Jervis, pp. 186-96.
2. Pape, Robert. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism" Art and Jervis, pp. 214-32.
3. Audrey Cronin, "Ending Terrorism" Art and Jervis, pp. 402-15.
4. Al-Maliki, Nouri. 2014. A Comprehensive Strategy Against Terrorism. *Foreign Policy*. Available at: <http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/02/18/a-comprehensive-strategy-against-terrorism/>
5. The Economist. 2014. The Next War Against Global Jihadism. Available at <http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21617113-america-gathering-allies-long-campaign-against-extremists-iraq-and?zid=312&ah=da4ed4425e74339883d473adf5773841>.

Week 11: Globalization and the Economy

23 Mar: Institutions

1. Read about the WTO: [http://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/fact2\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact2_e.htm).
2. Frankel, Jeffrey. "Globalization of the Economy" Art and Jervis, pp. 305-21.
3. Naim, Moises. "What Globalization is and is not". Art and Jervis, pp. 327-32.
4. Stiglitz, Joseph E. 2002. *Globalization and its Discontents*. Chapter 1. **On BB**

25 Mar: Implications of a globalizing economy

1. Ghemawat, Pankaj. "Why the World Isn't Flat" Art and Jervis, pp. 321-27.
2. Rodrik, Dani. "Trading in Illusions" Art and Jervis, pp. 344-52.
3. Bhagwati, Jagdish. 1993. "The Case for Free Trade." *Scientific American* 269(5): 42-49  
**On BB**

Week 12: Development

30 Mar: Why is it so hard to develop?

1. Collier, Paul. 2007. *The Bottom Billion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 1.  
**On BB**
2. Stiglitz, Joseph E. 2006. *Making Globalization Work*. Chapter 5. New York: Norton.  
**On BB**
3. Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson. *Why Nations Fail*. New York: Random House. Preface and Excerpts from Chapter 1. **On BB.**

1 Apr: Institutions

1. Collier, Paul. 2007. *The Bottom Billion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 7.
2. Easterly, William. *The White Man's Burden*. New York: Penguin. Chapter 1, pp. 3-30.  
**On BB.**
3. Sachs, Jeffrey D. *The End of Poverty*. New York: Penguin. Chaps 12-13. **On BB.**
4. Peruse World Bank data on foreign direct investment  
<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.KLT.DINV.CD.WD>

Week 13: Class Presentations

6-8 Apr: Presentations and discussion

Week 14:

13 Apr: Whither Globalization

1. US National Intelligence Council, "Global Trends 2025" in Art and Jervis, pp. 544-552.
2. Held, David. 2004. "Democratic Accountability and Political Effectiveness from a Cosmopolitan Perspective." *Government and Opposition* 39(2): 364-391, pp. 368-76; 382-91. **Note: you need not read the whole thing, only the pages indicated.**
3. Dahl, Robert A 1999. "Can international organizations be democratic?" In Shapiro and Hacker-Cordón. *Democracy's Edges*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 19-36.

**On BB.**

15 Apr: Review

Week 15:

20 Apr: EXAM

22 Apr: Readings TBA

Week 16:

27 Apr: Wrap up