

Political Science 172
Introduction to International Relations
Syllabus for Autumn 2015

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday by appointment.

(Note: There is another Paul Schroeder on campus so do not confuse our e-mails. Use the one above.)

Traditionally, the study of International Relations considers patterns of behavior between states, largely issues pertaining to or avoiding war. While war continues to be a concern of the field, issues regarding sustainability have become equally paramount. This course considers traditional issues of state-to-state relations and the causes of war, but also examines sustainability in terms of the environment, globalization, and development issues. The course also examines the role of state-less actors as variables in determining behavior of international actors.

The course examines two *overlapping* issues. **The first** is international relations theory, e.g. realism, and how this has been used and redefined. We will also examine the *End of History*, the *Clash of Civilizations*, Democratic Peace Theory, and neo-conservatism. We will examine the nature of conflict that inform our understanding of these, including the two World Wars, the Cold War, and the Iraq/Afghanistan wars.

The Second issue looks at international relations that cross state boundaries, including stateless actors and terrorism, globalization, environmental degradation, climate change, and the rise of new states, e.g. China, as a potential global power.

Books to Purchase

1. Barbara Tuchman: *The March of Folly*, Galantine Books, 1984.
2. Michael Dobbs: *One Minute to Midnight*, Vintage Books, 2008.
3. Robert Art & Robert Jervis: *International Politics*, 12th Edition, Longman, 2011.
4. Joseph Nye: *Understanding International Conflicts*, 7th Edition, Longman, 2009.
5. Alexander George: *Forceful Persuasion*, United States Institute of Peace, 1991.

Art & Jervis is indicated in the reading assignments as A & J. Additional readings marked with an asterisk below are available on Blackboard.

Course Requirements

Do you want an “A” in this course? The **key** is to have done the required reading ***prior to*** each class session to score well on quizzes and to be prepared to participate in class discussions. Grades in both categories do affect your grade.

Your grade will be determined by the following:

1. **Weekly Tuesday Quizzes – 10 percent of the grade.** I drop the lowest grade. No quizzes after Thanksgiving. ***I do not give make-up quizzes.***
2. **Attendance and participation – 10 percent of the grade.** I take attendance and note participation.
3. **An in-class midterm – 25 percent of the grade.** Format is either multiple choice, true/false, short answer or a combination of these.
4. **An in-class final – 35 percent of the grade.** Same format as midterm. ***The final covers the entire course.***
5. **A 8-10 page paper – 20 percent of the grade.** Write a 8-10 page paper, New Times Roman 12-point font with one inch margins. A proper bibliography and citations must be included (but do not count as the 8-10 pages). The paper is on an aspect of American foreign policy or international relations. Students will select a topic by draw. Paper due date is December 3 via e-mail to pes15@case.edu. There is a 5% deduction of grade ***per day*** for late papers.

Electronics

I do not permit the use of electronic devices in class. This includes computers, laptops, tablets, and cell phones. These are wonderful devices but they moderate are ability to learn how to listen.

A note on success.

If you come to class but do not do the readings, your likely grade will be 50%.
If you do the readings but do not come to class, your likely grade will be 50%.
If you do the readings ***and*** come to class, your likely grade will be much higher.

Some students who scored “A” on all work earned a B in the course because they did not attend class regularly or did not participate in discussions. ***I do take attendance each class. I also note participation.*** I call students by name when asking questions. Sitting quietly and saying nothing when questions are posed to you indicates you are not prepared. ***Do not be afraid of making a mistake*** because the one who never makes a mistake never makes anything.

Course Schedule Tentative, Subject to Change

August 25 Course Introduction

Reading **Neil Postman:** *Amusing Ourselves to Death*, Introduction by Andrew Postman, 2005.
Eric Weiner: "Paper Notebooks as Relevant as Ever" on *National Public Radio*, May 27, 2015.

August 27 & September 1: Anarchy & Levels of Analysis

This section considers how you are looking at something, i.e. what level of analysis are you using to consider an event and make policy choices based on that. The issue is critical: if you consider policy options based on an international systems level of analysis and your opponent considers only a state-centric level, fruitful negotiations may be impossible.

Reading ***Geoffrey Blainey:** *The Causes of War*, 3rd Edition, Ch 3.
Joseph Nye: *Understanding International Conflicts*, Ch. 2
John J. Mearsheimer, "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power" A & J.
***Paul Schroeder:** "A Life, Wasted" in *The Washington Post*, January 6, 2006.

September 3, 8, 10, 15, 17 & 24: The Struggle for Power & International Relations Theories

Scholars and practitioners of international relations try to do two things: understand why an unwanted event occurred and come up with some predictive theory to determine how such an event could be avoided in the future. Accordingly, they use a variety of theories they believe determine when such events occur.

September 3 The Struggle for Power & International Relations Theories

Reading **Kenneth Waltz:** "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics" A & J.
***Stephen Walt:** "International Relations: One World, Many Theories" in *Foreign Policy*, Spring 1998.

September 8 Realism and Neorealism

Reading **Robert, A Jervis:** "Offense, Defense, and The Security Dilemma" A & J.
***Kenneth Waltz:** "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory" in *The Origin and Prevention of Major Wars*, Rotberg & Rabb, eds.

September 8 Quiz Number One on Postman, Weiner, Nye, Mearsheimer, Waltz and Walt

September 10 The Constructivist Critique of Neorealism

Reading **Alexander Wendt**, “Anarchy is What States Make of It” A & J.

September 15: Democratic Peace Theory

Reading ***Bruce Russett**: “*Grasping the Democratic Peace*, Princeton University Press, 1993, pp. 24-42.
Michael W. Doyle: “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs” A & J.
***Christopher Layne**: “Kant or Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace” in *International Security*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (Autumn 1994).

September 15: Quiz Number Two on Jervis, Waltz and Wendt

September 17 & 22: Coercive Diplomacy

Reading **Alexander George**: *Forceful Persuasion*. Entire book.
Robert J. Art: “The Four Functions of Force” in A & J.
***Robert Art and Patrick Cronin**: “Coercive Diplomacy against Iraq, 1990-1998” in *The United States and Coercive Diplomacy*.
***Bruce Jentleson**: “Coercive Diplomacy: Scope and Limits in the Contemporary World” in *Policy Analysis Brief*, The Stanley Foundation, December 2006.

September 22: Quiz Number Three on Russett, Doyle and Layne

September 24, 29, October 1, 6, & 8: Using Theories

How are these theories applied in discovering how events occurred in the past?

September 24 State-Level Causes: Balance of Power and the First World War

Reading **Joseph S. Nye, Jr.**: “The Balance of Power and World War I” in *Understanding International Conflicts*, Ch. 3.
***Marc Trachtenberg**: “The Meaning of Mobilization in 1914” in *International Security* 15 (3) (winter 1990/91), pp 120-150.
***Scott Sagan**: “1914 Revisited: Allies, Offense, and Instability,” *International Security* 11 (2) (Autumn 1986) pp. 151-175.

September 29 Quiz Number Four on Nye, Trachtenberg and Sagan

September 29 Failure of Collective Security & World War II

Reading **Joseph S. Nye, Jr.** *Understanding International Conflicts*, Ch. 4.

October 1 Cold War & Containment

Reading ***X (George Kennan)**: “The Sources of Soviet Conduct” in *Foreign Affairs*, July 1947.
* **Edward Judge & John Langdon**, “The Truman Doctrine, The Marshall Plan, and Containment” in *A Hard and Bitter Peace*.
Joseph S. Nye, Jr.: *Understanding International Conflicts*: Ch. 5.

October 6 Cuba

Reading **Michael Dobbs**: *One Minute to Midnight*, Chs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 14.
***Michael Dobbs**: “The Price of a 50-Year Myth” in *The New York Times*, October 15, 2012.
***Graham Allison**: “The Cuban Missile Crisis at 50” in *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2012.
***Benjamin Schwartz**: “The Real Cuban Missile Crisis” in *The Atlantic*, Jan/February 2013.
Azam Ahmed & Julie Davis: “U.S. and Cuba Reopen Long-Closed Embassies” in *The New York Times*, July 20, 2015.

October 6 Quiz Number Five on Nye and Judge/Langdon

October 8: Proxy Wars, China, and a Stand-off.

Reading ***Andrew Mumford**: *Proxy Warfare*, Polity Press, 2013. Introduction, Chap 3, & Conclusion.

October 13 Review for the Midterm

October 13 Quiz Number Six on Dobbs (both), Allison and Schwartz

October 15 In-Class Midterm

October 20 Fall Break

October 20 No Quiz

October 22, 28 & 29 American Primacy

After the Cold-War American found itself the only superpower remaining. What opportunities did it have to usher in a long period of peace? What opportunities were squandered. How could the only superpower operate in this new world? This section looks at key issues from the end of the Cold War to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. We will consider what the new world looked like, how American power was viewed by others, and the use of coercive diplomacy.

October 22, 27 & 29 American Primacy After the Cold War

Reading ***Francis Fukuyama**: "The End of History," *The National Interest*, 1989..
 ***Samuel P. Huntington**, "The Clash of Civilizations" in *Foreign Affairs*, Summer 1993.
 ***Joseph Nye**: *Understanding International Conflicts*, Chapter 6
 ***G. John Ikenberry**: "The Myth of Post-Cold War Order," in *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 1996.
 ***Stephen M. Walt**: The Problem of American Power in *Taming American Power*, pp. 13-62.
 ***Andrew Bacevich**: *The New American Militarism*, "Wilsonians Under Arms."

October 27 Quiz Number Seven on Fukuyama and Huntington

November 3, 5, 10, 12, & 17 The Post 9/11 World

The terrorist attacks on 9/11 was a watershed event, not only for the United States but for the rest of the world as well. The attacks gave policy primacy to the Neo-Conservatives, who advocate war as a diplomatic tool; unleashed American military power in the Middle East, and brought down upon the United States international opprobrium. This section considers these issues.

November 3 The Neo-Conservatives

Reading ***Stefan Halper & Jonathan Clarke**: "Neoconservatives: A New Political Interest Group," pp. 9-39.
 ***Joshua Muravchik & Stephen Walt**: "The Great Debate: the Neocons vs. The Realists" in *The National Interest*, No. 27, September/October 2008
 ***Joseph S. Nye, Jr.**: *Soft Power*, Chapter 1.
 ***Frederick Kagan**: "Choosing Victory" in *AEI Online*, December 14, 2006.

November 3 Quiz Number Eight on Ikenberry, Walt and Bacevich

November 5: Terrorism

- Reading* ***Bruce Hoffman**: "What is Terrorism?" in A & J pp. 185-195.
***Seth Jones & Martin Libicki**: *How Terrorist Groups End*, Chapter 2, Rand Corporation, 2008.
***Barry Posen**: "The Struggle Against Terrorism: Grand Strategy, Strategy, and Tactics" in *International Security*, 26 (3) winter 2001-02) pp. 39-55
***Barry Rosen**: "The Case for Restraint" in *The National Interest*, November/December 2007.
- Suggested* ***The Foundation of the New Terrorism, 9/11 Commission Report**, pp. 47-70. On-line at <http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/911Report.pdf>.

November 10: Decision to Invade Iraq

- Reading* ***Kenneth M. Pollack**: "Next Stop Baghdad?" *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 81, Issue 2 (March/April 2002).
***Stephen Walt & John Mearsheimer**: "An Unnecessary War," *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2003).
Barbara Tuchman: "Pursuit of Policy Contrary to Self-Interest" in *The March of Folly, From Troy to Vietnam*, Ballantine Books, 1985.
Charles Lewis: *935 Lies*, Prologue.

November 10 Quiz Number Nine on Halper & Clarke, Muravchik & Walt, Kagan, Jones & Libicki, and Posen

November 12: The Occupation of Iraq

- Reading* ***Kenneth M. Pollack**: "Spies, Lies, and Weapons: What Went Wrong," *The Atlantic Monthly*, Vol. 293, Issue 1 (January/February 2004).
***Stephen Biddle, Michael O'Hanlon, and Kenneth Pollack**, "How to Leave a Stable Iraq," *Foreign Affairs*, (September/October 2008).
***Marc Lynch**. "Politics First," *Foreign Affairs* (November/December 2008).
***Jonathan Pollack**: "The Battle for Baghdad" in *National Interest*, September/October 2009.
***Paul Schroeder & Norman Robbins**: "Alternatives With American Withdrawal," *Families of the Fallen for Change*, October 8, 2006.

November 17: ISIS & Iran

Reading

***David Welna:** “What, Exactly, Are U.S. Interests in Iraq’s Turmoil, *National Public Radio*, June 17, 2014

* **Whitt Flora:** “It’s time to put U.S. boots on the ground in Iraq” in *The Deseret News*, August 24, 2014

***James Jay Carafano:** “Leave ground fighting to the Kurds” in *The Deseret News*, August 24, 2014.

***Andrew Bacevich:** “What the U.S. Should do in Iraq” in *The Los Angeles Times*, August 9, 2014.

***Andrew Bacevich:** “War Without Exits” in *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism*, 2008.

“Back to Iraq” in *The Economist*, August 16, 2014

“Engaging the Enemy” in *The Economist*, August 16, 2014

Thomas Friedman: “Backing Up Our Wager With Iran” in *The New York Times*, July 22, 2015.

November 17 Quiz Number 10 on Pollack (all), Walt & Mearsheimer, Biddle et al. and Lynch

November 19, 24, December 1 Global Issues –

Numerous issues confront the world today that go beyond a state’s domestic affairs. The world now is globalized and interdependent. Is this good or bad? The so-called Third world is developing rapidly. How does the developed world help? How does it compete? In the midst of development comes severe pollution, and with that, the growth of a new civil society wanting to tackle global problems one village at a time. This section considers some of these issues.

November 19: Globalization

Reading

Joseph Nye: *Understanding International Conflicts*, Chapter 7.

***Joseph Stiglitz:** *Globalization and Its Discontents*, Chapter 4.

November 24 Tragedy of the Commons

Reading

Garrett Hardin: “The Tragedy of the Commons” A & J.

***Elizabeth Economy:** *The River is Black*, Cornell University, 2004, Chapters 1, 3, 5 & 6.

November 24 Quiz Number Eleven on Bacevich (“War Without Exits”), Nye and Stiglitz.

November 26 & 27 **Thanksgiving**

December 1 **The Rise of China**

Reading **G. John Ikenberry:** “the Rise of China, the U.S., and the Future of the Liberal International Order” in David Shambaugh: *Tangled Titans*.

December 1 **No Quiz**

December 3 **Review for the final**

December 3 **Research Paper Due via pes15@case.edu**

December 10 **December 15 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.**