

Introduction to International Relations

POSC 272

Professor Pete W. Moore

Office phone: 368-5265

e-mail: pete.moore@case.edu

Office hours: Mather House 219

Course Objectives:

This course aims to introduce major bodies of theory concerning cooperation and conflict in the international system. In a setting characterized by political heterogeneity and economic inequality, how can the actions of states be understood and compared? POSC 272 seeks to answer this question by exploring theory and applying it to historical and contemporary examples. The first half of the course focuses on issues related to war and peace. The second half covers international economic issues, and issues of the future.

Required texts:

International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues (IP), Robert J. Art and Robert J. Jervis, 10th Edition

Minimal subscription to *The New York Times*. (delivery and/or electronic, 3rd week in January to 3rd week of April)

<http://homedelivery.nytimes.com/HDS/CMHome.do?mode=CMHome>

Other readings are on KSL's electronic reserve

Grades:

Reviews/attendance	10
Debate paper	20
Short exam (2)	30
Final	40

Detailed Requirements:

1. Reviews: Though this is an introductory course, it is highly dependent upon student participation and keeping up with the readings. To facilitate participation, **a review of a selected weekly reading will be due on each Tuesday. You must do 10 reviews throughout the semester and no papers past Tuesday of that week are accepted.** The analysis should focus on one reading, be concise, **be one page**, and in your own words lay out the phenomenon discussed, the concepts deployed, and the arguments developed. These papers are not individually graded rather total completion of these papers along with class participation is 10 percent of the final grade.
2. Short Exams: Week 4 (2/7) and Week 8 (3/8) there will be an in class short answer exam.
3. Debate papers: **Weeks 10 (Globalization), 12 (Intervention), and 14 (Nuclear proliferation)** we will discuss debates surrounding current international issues. I will assign students to present papers on each of these debates. Your paper and presentation will due the Thursday of that week. Sources for the debate paper include the readings but also must draw on material from the *New York Times*.

Class Policies to Note:

Cell phones must be turned off during class time. If a phone rings once inadvertently, please turn it off immediately. Should a student answer a cell phone **for any reason** during class, he or she will be asked to leave and not to return

to that class. If personal circumstances require that a student be available to receive calls during class time, he or she should explain the circumstances to the professor and **not attend** class.

Any rescheduling and/or extensions of exams and/or papers that are not completed at the designed time must be discussed **before** the deadline to receive a rescheduling/extension. The professor designates late papers as Fs unless discussed prior to deadline. **Papers will not be accepted as a computer file through email.**

Plagiarism whether from digital or printed sources will not be tolerated. Failure to give credit in footnotes for other's ideas, failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another source, and/or failure to acknowledge another author's conclusions will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of university regulations.

Absence from class will be excused for up to 3 meetings, after which points will be deducted.

CLASS MEETINGS AND THEMES

Week 1

- 1/17 **Introduction**
- 1/19 IP, Introduction chapter, pp. 1-7
*Jack Synder, "One World, Rival Theories"

Week 2 Mapping the field I: The major theories of international relations come in four varieties: Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism (or critical theory), and Dependency (to be discussed week 7). This week we will continue the discussion of realism and move to forms of liberalism. Why do states behave the way they do?

- 1/24-26 *Thomas Hobbes, short selection from *Leviathan*
Hans Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism" pp. 16-23
Kenneth Waltz, "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics," pp. 37-58
John J. Mearsheimer, "Anarchy and the struggle for Power," pp. 59-70

Week 3 Mapping the field II: A major difference among the approaches is the question of cooperation and the extent of anarchy, its sources, and limits.

- 1/31-2/2 Michael Doyle, "Kant, Liberal Legacies and Foreign Affairs" pp. 114-126
Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is what states make of it" pp. 70-79
*Martha Finnemore, "Legitimacy, Hypocrisy, and the Social Structure of Unipolarity: Why Being a Unipole Isn't All It's Cracked Up to Be

Week 4 Balance of Power and Cooperation **SHORT EXAM I**

- 2/7-9 Robert Keohane, "International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?" pp.150-158
Robert Jervis, "Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma" pp. 93-113
Stephen Walt, "Alliance: Balancing and Bandwagoning" pp. 127-134

Week 5 Causes of War: The classic question in international politics revolves around war and its causes. The next sections focus on debates about war, its causes, and consequences. The documentary *Fog of War* explores the history of former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara and war in the 20th century. Please familiarize yourself with Secretary McNamara's history.

- 2/14-16 *Fog of War*
Robert Art, "The Four Functions of Force" pp. 163-170

- Week 6** Old Wars, New Wars, and State Building
- 2/21-23 *Charles Tilly, "How War Made States, and Vice Versa"
Mary Kaldor, "New and Old Wars" pp. 231-237
*William Reno, War, Markets, and Reconfiguration of West Africa's Weak States,"
- Week 7** International Political Economy
- 2/28-3/1 Robert Gilpin, "The Nature of Political Economy" pp. 265-281
*Lant Pritchett, "Divergence Big Time."
Bruce Scott, "The Great Divide in the Global Village" pp. 292-304.
- Week 8** The Market: Local and Global **SHORT EXAM II**
- 3/6-8 *Charles E. Lindblom, 1982. "The Market as Prison," *Journal of Politics* 44:2 (May), pp. 324-336
"Is Wal-mart Good for America?" Frontline Program
- Week 9** Spring Break
3/12-16
- Week 10** *Debating Globalization*
- 3/20-22 *Martin Wolf, "Why this Hatred of the Market?"
Dani Rodrik, "Trading in Illusions" pp. 339-347.
John Micklethwait and Adrian Woolridge, "Why the Globalization Backlash is Stupid" pp. 348-354
Robert Wade, "Financial Regime Change?" pp. 355-365.
- Week 11** Transnationalism and non-state actors
- 3/27-29 Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Activist Networks" pp.475-481.
Sebastian Mallaby, "NGOs: Fighting Poverty and Hurting the Poor" pp. 482-488
- Week 12** *Debating Intervention and Nation building*
- 4/3-5 Chain Kaufmann, "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars" pp. 424-444.
Alan Kuperman, "Humanitarian Intervention" pp. 412-423
*Jason Brownlee, "Can the US Nation Build?"
*Jon Western and Joshua Goldstein, "Humanitarian Intervention Comes of Age," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov-Dec. 2011
*Benjamin Valentino, "The true costs of Humanitarian Intervention," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov-Dec. 2011
*Claudia Gazzini, "Was the Libya Intervention Necessary?" Middle East Report
- Week 13** Terrorism, definitions, sources, and consequences
- 4/10-12 *Grenville Byford, "The Wrong War."
Robert Pape, "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism" pp. 213-230
*Bruce Hoffman, "The Myth of Grassroots Terrorism"
*John Mueller, "Simplicity and Spook: Terrorism and the Dynamics of Threat Exaggeration"

Week 14*Debating Iran and nukes*

4/17-19

Henry Sokolski, "Getting Ready for a Nuclear Armed Iran," pp. 238-241

Barry Posen, "A Nuclear-Armed Iran: A Difficult but Not Impossible Policy Problem," pp. 242-258

*Toby C. Jones, "Don't Stop at Iraq: Why the U.S. Should Withdraw From the Entire Persian Gulf," *The Atlantic*, December 22, 2011.

*Matthew Kroenig, "Time to Attack Iran: Why a Strike is the Least Bad Option"

Week 15**TBA**

4/24-26