Main Idea: Diplomacy, War & the Fates of Nations

Enduring Understandings:

Traditional issues of state-to-state relations and the causes of war, along with issues of sustainability in terms of the environment, globalization and development.

Learning Objectives: Assessment of your work will depend on how well you prepare in advance of class.

Understand: Wednesdays and Fridays are comprised of an explanation and discussion of topics concerning international relations.

Analyze: Each Monday (or Wednesday if Monday is a day off) will consist of small group discussions examining sample issues covered in the previous two class sessions. One member of each group will offer a two-minute synopsis of the issue and the group’s discussion of it. Success in these exercises depends on attending class regularly and doing assigned readings.

Apply: After a few weeks, group sessions will consist of discussions examining a sample problem covered in the entire course up to that point. One member of each group will offer a two-minute synopsis of the problem and the group’s discussion of it. Success in these exercises depends on attending class regularly, doing assigned readings, and thinking deeply about solving the problem based on what you learned in the course.

Assessment Tasks:

- Attendance plus three one-page papers worth 10% of the final grade. These papers ask what you think when you hear the words international relations. Write your answer in no more than one page and return it to me at pes15@case.edu within 24 hours of being notified it is due.

- Group Discussion sessions are worth 30% of the final grade.

- Two five to eight (5-8) page papers (each worth 15%) and one 10-15-page paper (worth 30%) of the grade (use outside resources as well as course reading)

1. Paper One Due October 7, 2016 (5-8 pages) via pes15@case.edu. Discuss each of the main theories covered in class and give an example of how they are used in American foreign policy. This assesses your understanding of the material.
2. **Paper Two Due November 14, 2016 (5-8 pages) via pes15@case.edu.** Discuss American foreign policy during the Cold War, analyzing how it might have been different. This assesses your analyzing the material.

3. **Paper Three Due December 16, 2016 (Final Exam paper 10-15 pages).** Discuss American primacy after the Cold War, its role in fighting terrorism, in handling other global issues, along with possible new directions for American foreign policy. This assesses applying your knowledge of international relations in a discussion of America’s future in a globalized world.

**Books to Purchase**


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

**I can be reached at** pes15@case.edu or at my office, room 315 Mather House

Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m.

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

Day One  Our first enduring understanding is to consider the anarchic environment in international relations and the key international relations theories leaders consider to end it.

Week One  Our second long-term understanding is the level of analysis you are using to consider an event and to 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.

Joseph Nye: Understanding International Conflicts & Cooperation, Ch. 2

Week Two  Understanding: What is the struggle for power in international relations theories?

Reading  Joseph Nye: “What is Power in Global Affairs”
*Stephen Walt: “International Relations: One World, Many Theories” in Foreign Policy, Spring 1998.

Week Three  Understanding: What is Realism and Neorealism and how do they differ?


Week Four  Understanding: What are the Constructivist Critiques of Neorealism?

Week Five  
*Understanding: What is Democratic Peace Theory and what is a result of pursuing that?*

**Reading**  
Michael W. Doyle: “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs” A & J.  

Week Six  
*Understanding: What is coercive diplomacy and how is it used?*

**Reading**  
Robert G. Sutter: *Chinese Foreign Relations*, Chapter 7  

October 7  
Paper #1 due via pes15@case.edu

Week Seven  
*Understanding: How theories are applied in discovering how events occurred in the past.*

**Reading**  

Week Eight  
*Understanding: The Failure of Collective Security & the run-up to World War II*

**Reading**  

October 24 Fall Break
Week Nine  Understanding:  Start of the Cold War and its Lasting Strategy

Reading
* X (George Kennan): “The Sources of Soviet Conduct” in Foreign Affairs, July 1947.
Joseph S. Nye, Jr.: Understanding International Conflicts & Cooperation: Ch. 5.

Week Ten  Understanding: Missed opportunities in Cuba

Reading
Michael Dobbs: One Minute to Midnight, Chs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 14.
*Graham Allison: "The Cuban Missile Crisis at 50" in Foreign Affairs, July/August 2012.

Week 11  Understanding: American Primacy after the Cold War.  What opportunities are there long period of peace?  What opportunities have been squandered?  How could the only superpower operate in this new world?

Reading
Joseph Nye: Understanding International Conflicts, Chapter 6

Week 12  Understanding: How primacy has changed America


November 18 Second paper due via pes15@case.edu
Week 13 Understanding: The 9/11 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.

Reading
* Joseph S. Nye, Jr.: Soft Power, Chapter 1.

November 24 & 24 Thanksgiving

Week 14 Understanding: The pursuit of policy contrary to self-interest

Reading
* Charles Lewis: 935 Lies, Prologue.

Week 15 Understanding: How to deal with issues that cross national borders, including globalization and the environment.

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

Week 16 Understanding: 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.

December 16 Final Paper Due via pes15@case.edu.