

# POSC 172 Fall 2016 Syllabus: Introduction to International Relations

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Dr. Paul E. Schroeder

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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2. **Paper Two Due November 14, 2016** (5-8 pages) via [pes15@case.edu](mailto:pes15@case.edu). Discuss American foreign policy during the Cole 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

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*, 13th Edition, Longman, 2015.
4. **Joseph Nye & David A Welch:** *Understanding International Conflicts & Cooperation*, 9th Edition, Longman, 2012.
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.

**I can be reached at** [pes15@case.edu](mailto: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.*
- Reading*     \***Geoffrey Blainey**: *The Causes of War*, 3rd Edition, Ch 3.  
                  **Kenneth Waltz**: “The Anarchic Structure of World Politics” A & J, pp 48-70.  
                  **Joseph Nye**: *Understanding International Conflicts & Cooperation*, Ch. 2  
                  \***Paul Schroeder**: “A Life, Wasted” in *The Washington Post*, January 6, 2006.
- Week Two**     *Understanding: What is the struggle for power in international relations theories?*
- Reading*     **Joseph Nye**: “What is Power in Global Affairs”  
                  **John J. Mearsheimer**, “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power” A & J, pp 70-78  
                  \***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?*
- Reading*     **Robert, A Jervis**: “Offense, Defense, and The Security Dilemma A & J, pp 104-124.  
                  **Robert Jervis**: “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma” in A & J 125-139  
                  \***Kenneth Waltz**: “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory” in *The Origin and Prevention of Major Wars*, Rotberg & Rabb, eds.
- Week Four**     *Understanding: What are the Constructivist Critiques of Neorealism?*
- Reading*     **Alexander Wendt**, “Anarchy is What States Make of It” A & J, pp 78-87.

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**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.  
\***Christopher Layne:** “Kant or Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace” in *International Security*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (Autumn 1994).

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

*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*.  
**Robert G. Sutter:** *Chinese Foreign Relations*, Chapter 7  
\***Bruce Jentleson:** “Coercive Diplomacy: Scope and Limits in the Contemporary World” in *Policy Analysis Brief*, The Stanley Foundation, December 2006.

**October 7**        **Paper #1 due via [pes15@case.edu](mailto:pes15@case.edu)**

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

*Reading*        **Joseph S. Nye, Jr.:** “The Balance of Power and World War I” in *Understanding International Conflicts & Cooperation*, 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.

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

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

**October 24 Fall Break**

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## **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.  
\* **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 & 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.  
\***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.  
**Azam Ahmed & Julie Davis:** “U.S. and Cuba Reopen Long-Closed Embassies” in *The New York Times*, July 20, 2015.

## **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*     \***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.

## **Week 12**     *Understanding: How primacy has changed America*

\***Stephen M. Walt:** The Problem of American Power in *Taming American Power*, pp. 13-62.  
\***Andrew Bacevich:** *The New American Militarism*, “Wilsonians Under Arms.”  
\***James Fallows:** “The Tragedy of the American Military” in *The Atlantic*, January/February 2015.  
\***Barry Posen:** “The Case for Restraint” in *The National Interest*, November/December 2007.

**November 18 Second paper due via pes15@case.edu**

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**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*      \***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.  
\***Editorial** “Obama Takes on Opponents of the Iran Deal” in *The New York Times*, August 5, 2015.

**November 24 & 24**    **Thanksgiving**

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

*Reading*      \***Seth Jones & Martin Libicki:** *How Terrorist Groups End*, Chapter 2, Rand Corporation, 2008.  
\***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.  
\***Paul Schroeder & Norman Robbins:** “Alternatives With American Withdrawal, *Families of the Fallen for Change*, October 8, 2006.  
\***Andrew Bacevich:** “War Without Exits” in *The Limits of Power: The End of American Exceptionalism*,” 2008.

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

*Reading*      **Joseph Nye:** *Understanding International Conflicts & Cooperation*, Chapter 7.  
\***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.**