

POLITICAL SCIENCE 240: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Instructor: Michele Leiby

Office: SSCI 2068

Phone: 277-6767

Email: mleiby@unm.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2-4, or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces some of the main theoretical approaches to the study of international relations, including realism, liberalism, Marxism, feminism, and constructivism. We will review key concepts such as nationalism, balance of power, deterrence, sovereignty and collective goods. We will then apply these key terms and concepts to substantive areas of study in the IR field, such as international conflict and peace, international law and organizations, and international political economy

REQUIRED TEXT:

All required reading is available on e-reserves.

CLASSROOM POLICIES AND COURSEWORK:

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN CLASS DISCUSSION: Students are expected to attend all lectures, and come prepared to discuss the readings or other materials. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions, comment on the day's topics, and otherwise participate constructively in the class discussion. Active engagement with the material is critical to your success in this class. A sign-in sheet will be passed around the class; it is your responsibility to sign in each session. Grades for class participation will be allocated as follows:

- F- You sleep in class, are disruptive, miss more than three classes and/or fail to meet the requirements stated under "Attendance and Participation" listed above.
- D- You come to class but are inattentive and/or miss more than three classes.
- C- You have consistent attendance, are consistently prepared and consistently attentive.
- B- You satisfy all of the requirements for a "C" *and* you consistently volunteer substantive questions and substantive comments that reflect time spent reading and thinking about the course.
- A- You satisfy all of the requirements for a "B" *and* you consistently share observations, introduce new insights or thoughts that raise the discussion to a superior level of inquiry.

CLASS PREPARATION AND COMPLETION OF ASSIGNMENTS: Students are expected to have completed all the assigned readings and assignments **before** coming to class. In addition to the readings and other assignments, students are expected to monitor current events as related to the course or to the weekly topic(s). Two reliable sources you may access online are: The New York Times at <http://www.nytimes.com> or the BBC World Service at <http://www.bbc.co.uk>



AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact me as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met in a timely manner. Handouts are available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

GRADING POLICIES:

MAKE-UP EXAMS: Make-up exams will only be given with a UNM approved excuse, and at the discretion of the instructor. Any absences from exams must be documented. Make-up exams must be arranged with the instructor.

INCOMPLETES: Incomplete grades and withdrawals from the course will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.

MISSING AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS: Students may turn in assignments late only if they have already spoken with and received approval from the instructor. Assignments turned in late will be docked by one letter grade. Missing assignments will be recorded as a zero.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY: *Students are expected to comply with all University policies regarding academic honesty and integrity. Please consult the UNM Student Code of Conduct 2.4 (outlined in the UNM Pathfinder) if you are unfamiliar with these policies. Ignorance of the University's policies is not sufficient defense for academic dishonesty. Cheating, plagiarism, or academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated, and may result in the student(s) failure in the course or expulsion from the University and will automatically be reported to the UNM Dean of Students*

GRADES: Students will be evaluated through their performance on quizzes, exams, and written assignments as well as class participation and attendance.

GRADING SCALE AND BREAKDOWN:

Quizzes (2)	10%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Video Essays (2)	10%
IR Analysis Assignment	20%
Class Participation	10%

EXAMS AND QUIZZES: There will be two exams and two quizzes. The quizzes are designed as a preview of the material and types of questions you can expect on the midterm and final exam. The exams are designed to test your familiarity with the lecture material *and* reading assignments and your independent ability to apply what you have learned. The exams will be some combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, definition and essay or short answer questions. There will be map questions on the midterm and final exam. You can explore <http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/> to help familiarize yourself with the states around the world.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: In the course of the semester we will watch three documentaries pertaining to issues of relevance to international politics. Students are expected to write an essay of the TWO videos of their choice. For the final writing assignment students will *critically analyze* the interstate relations of two countries (will be assigned the first day of class). Students absent the first day of class will be responsible for contacting the instructor for country assignments. Precise guidelines for these assignments and tips for effective writing will be posted on e-reserves.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND LECTURES:

WEEK 1 OVERVIEW OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND SYLLABUS INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WORLD HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS 1500-PRESENT

Goldstein, Joshua and Jon Pevehouse. 2009. *International Relations* 9th edition. New York: Pearson. p24-51.

KEY CONCEPTS AND ACTORS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Goldstein, Joshua and Jon Pevehouse. 2009. *International Relations* 9th edition. New York: Pearson. p3-24.

Reinalda, B. 2001. *Private in Form, Public in Purpose: NGOs in International Relations Theory*. New York: Ashgate. pTBA.

WEEK 2 REALISM AND NEOREALISM

Waltz, Kenneth. 1988. "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory" *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18(4):615-628.

Thucydides. 431BC. *History of the Peloponnesian War*
<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/melian.htm>

REALISM CONTINUED – ANARCHY, THE SECURITY DILEMMA AND BALANCE OF POWER THEORY

Nye, Joseph. 2006. "Balance of Power and World War I" p58-77.

WEEK 3 CLASSICAL AND NEOLIBERALISM

Axelrod, Robert. 1984. *The Evolution of Cooperation* New York: Basic Books. http://www-personal.umich.edu/~axe/Axelrod_Evol_of_Coop_excerpts.pdf

DEMOCRATIC PEACE THEORY

Owen, John. 1994. "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace" *International Security* 19(2):87-125.

WEEK 4 FEMINIST AND MARXIST APPLICATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Tickner, J. Ann. "A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism" in Art, Robert and Robert Jervis, eds. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* 7th edition. p15-25.

Sjoberg, Laura. 2009. "Security Studies: Feminist Contributions" *Security Studies* 18(2): 183-213.

Gill, Stephen, ed. 1993. *Gramsci, Historical Materialism and International Relations* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. p49-93.

REVIEW OF THEORIES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Singer, J. David. 1961. "The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations" *World Politics* 14(1):77-92.

WEEK 5 FOREIGN POLICY, DECISION-MAKING AND SUB-STATE ACTORS

Holsti, K. J. 2009. *International Politics: A Framework for Analysis* Prentice Hall Publishers. p160-169.

Allison p178-205

Documentary: *Truth, War, and Consequences*

QUIZ #1: THEORIES OF IR

WEEK 6 INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

Nacos, Brigitte. 2006. *Terrorism and Counterterrorism: Understanding Threats and Responses in the Post-9/11 World* New York: Longman. p1-10, 16-32, 85-102, 165-190.

CIVIL WAR AND ETHNIC CONFLICT

Sambanis, Nicholas. 2002. "A Review of Recent Advances and Future Directions in the Quantitative Literature on Civil War" *Defence and Peace Economics* 13(3):215-243.

VIDEO RESPONSE ESSAY #1 DUE

WEEK 7 MILITARY FORCE AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Sagan, Scott. "Nuclear Instability in South Asia" p251-262.

Waltz, Kenneth. "Nuclear Stability in South Asia" p263-272.

STUDY SESSION FOR MIDTERM EXAM

WEEK 8 MIDTERM EXAM

WEEK 9 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Goldstein, Joshua and Jon Pevehouse. 2009. *International Relations* 9th edition. New York: Pearson. p.251-264.

INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING AND THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Masci and Standen p93-112.

Taras p97-107.

WEEK 10 INTERNATIONAL LAW

Jost p49-67.

HUMAN RIGHTS, WAR CRIMES AND INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Brown, Seyom. 2006. *Human Rights in World Politics* New York: Longman Publishers. p3-14, skim p72-92, 109-148.

Cassese, Antonio. 1998. "On the Current Trends Towards Criminal Prosecution and Punishment of Breaches of International Humanitarian Law" *European Journal of International Law* 9(1):1-17.

Documentary: *The Reckoning*

WEEK 11 THE EUROPEAN UNION

Stiles, Kendall. 2006. "Europe Uniting" in *Case Histories in International Politics* p324-346.

Smith, Karen. 2008. *European Union Foreign Policy in a Changing World* New York: Blackwell Publishers.

WEEK 12 INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY, TRADE AND INTEGRATION

Goldstein, Joshua and Jon Pevehouse. 2009. *International Relations* 9th edition. New York: Pearson. p297-323.

Oatley. 2006. "The World Trade Organization and the World Trade System" p18-41.

GLOBALIZATION AND PROTECTIONISM

Stiglitz, Joseph. 2006. "Democratizing the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank: Governance and Accountability" p313-321.

Oatley. 2006 "Globalization: Consequences and Controversies" in *The Globalizing World Economy* p358-383.

VIDEO ESSAY #2 DUE

WEEK 13 DEVELOPMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND WORLD POVERTY

Goldstein, Joshua and Jon Pevehouse. 2009. *International Relations* 9th edition. New York: Pearson. p413-485.

Ekins, Paul. 2000. *Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability: The Prospects for Green Growth*. New York: Routeledge. pTBA.

Documentary: *Finding Balance – Forests and Family Planning in Madagascar*

QUIZ #2: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND DEBATS IN IR

RESEARCH PAPER DUE

WEEKS 14-15 TRANSNATIONAL ACTIVISM

Della Porta, Donatella and Sidney Tarrow. 2008. *Transnational Protest and Global Activism*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield. pTBA.

WEEK 16 STUDY SESSION FOR FINAL EXAM

VIDEO RESPONSE ESSAY #3 DUE

WEEK 17 FINAL EXAM