

PS 175

Introduction to International Relations

Tues., Thurs., 3:30-4:45pm, Bolton Hall B95

Instructor: Jennifer Clemens

E-mail: jclemens@uwm.edu

Office Location: Bolton Hall, 6th Floor, Office 631

Office Hours: Tues. 5:00pm-7pm or by appointment

Course TA: Sean Rao

TA E-mail: seancrao@uwm.edu

TA Office Hours: Tues., and Thurs., 2-3pm. Office: 681

The Instructor and the University reserve the right to modify, amend, or change this syllabus (course requirements, grading policy, etc.) as the curriculum and/or program requires.

Course Description: The goal of this course is to introduce students to the concepts, themes, and challenges in the study of international relations (IR). Students will examine foundational IR theories, in both the historical and contemporary contexts, in order to conceptualize various phenomena and interactions within the international system. Using these theoretical frameworks, students will learn to identify (and differentiate between) the types and roles of different actors and institutions whose interactions establish the global political context. Over the semester special attention will be paid to contemporary challenges for global politics such war, peace, human rights, global trade, economic development, and the global environment.

Prerequisite(s): None.

Credits: 3

Required Text: *International Relations*, 2013-2014 Edition, Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse; **ISBN-10:** 978-0-205-97136-7. **Hereafter: GP.**

Note: *You may also use the previous, 2012-2013 edition, of this textbook for this course.*

Any additional readings and materials will be posted on 'D2L' and are noted in the syllabus.

The required books are available at the university bookstore. All students will be expected to have the materials in a timely fashion so to be able to read, discuss, and complete course assignments.

Students are also encouraged to keep-up with current events relevant to international politics that unfold during the semester. Not only will this provide opportunity for increasing knowledge of international politics, but also an opportunity for applying what they have learned to contemporary events. Students should read at least one national U.S. - based newspaper and one non-U.S. -based

newspaper daily. It is also useful for students to read journals and magazines such as Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, and/or The Economist. These magazines offer a number of free articles per week, and provide heavily discounted subscription rates for interested students. These materials are available online and in the library.

Course Objectives:

This class is designed to develop critical thinking skills through interaction with International Relations material. The class aims to introduce students to the social science research terminology as well as the theoretical frameworks and scholarly approaches common in IR. By completing the course, students will be better able to:

1. Understand and explain the various theoretical frameworks and approaches used by international relations scholars to describe and predict events and outcomes in IR
2. Recognize and provide examples of the actors and institutions critical to political outcomes in the contemporary global political environment.
3. Understand and explain influential periods of history and events that have impacted and shaped contemporary global politics.
4. Critically analyze and discuss the readings from the primary literature on international relations.

Grade Distribution:

4 Quizzes (3.75 points each)	15% (15 points)
First Exam	20% (20 points)
Second Exam	25% (25 points)
Individual Assignments	20% (20 points)
Team Grade	10% (10 points)
Peer-given Team-based Assessment	5% (5 points)
Class Discussion and Participation	5% (5 points)
Total	100 points

Minimal Workload Distribution:

In-class Lecture and Activities	37.5 hours
Individual Assignments	55 hours (5.5 hours per assignment)
Exam Preparation	16 hours (8 hours per exam)
Reading	40 hours
Total	148.5 hours

Letter Grade Distribution:

>= 94	A	93.9 - 90	A-
89.9 - 87	B +	86.9 - 84	B
83.9 - 80	B-	79.9 - 77	C +
76.9 - 74	C	73.9 - 70	C-
69.9 - 67	D +	66.9 - 64	D
63.9 - 60	D-		
<= 59.9	F		

The grading scale may be adjusted at the discretion of the instructor. “Incompletes” will not be given unless arranged with the instructor prior to the last week of class. Students taking the course

“Pass/Fail” must earn a semester grade of at least a 70% to “pass” the course.

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to complete all assigned readings, discuss the readings in class, and complete all writing and testing assignments. *All work and exams must be completed to pass the course.* Students may not “play the percentages,” leaving some items of required work undone in the hope that their grades on other assignments will allow them to pass. Any exam not taken not completed will result in a failing grade. In addition, as team work is a significant part of this class, ***all students are required to bring a functional wireless laptop or tablet to class.*** These technologies are available for registered students, free of charge, at the UWM Golda Meir Library.

- **Readings**

The readings listed for any particular day must be read **BEFORE** class on that day. Students are expected to read all assigned material and come to class prepared to contribute to discussion. *Either in hard copy or on a personal computer, students are expected to bring all assigned readings to class each day.* Detailed instructions for accessing the D2L website are available at: <http://uwmltc.org/?p=870>. If you experience problems, your first course of action is to contact the UWM Help Desk at 414.229.4040.

- **Quizzes**

There will be 6 short “pop” (unannounced) quizzes given during the semester. The quizzes are designed to assess how well students are understanding the assigned readings. Quizzes may take place on Tuesdays or Thursdays at the instructor’s discretion. Quizzes will not be announced beforehand. At the end of the semester, the two lowest quiz scores will be dropped, and grades will be calculated using the remaining scores. ***There will be absolutely no make-up quizzes given.*** If a student misses the day of a quiz, the student will take a zero for that quiz. If a student is late (by 10 minutes or more) on the day of a quiz, the student will take a zero for that quiz.

- **Individual Assignments**

Periodically, students will be expected to complete individual handouts that pertain to the course readings. Handouts will be posted and available to students on D2L. Students are expected to hand in these assignments in class, in hardcopy, on their respective due dates. ***If you are absent on a day when an individual assignment is due, it is YOUR responsibility to email the assignment to the Instructor and the TA by the START OF CLASS in order to receive full credit.*** Late work will be accepted, but will decline by one letter grade per day. While late work will not be eligible for credit after 7 days, YOU MUST STILL hand in ALL assignments in order to pass the class. Absolutely no work will be accepted after Dec. 15th at 3pm.

- **Team Work**

Students are required to complete and hand-in team-based assignments in class. All team-based assignments will be distributed and collected during class. Students will receive two grades for team-based work: (a) a peer-given grade based on the assessment of other teammates, and (b) a team grade based on the collaborative output of the group. An absence on the day of a team-based activity will result in a 0 for that activity. A maximum of two team-based assignments may be missed. Missing additional team-based work without prior written consent from the Instructor will result in the failure of the class. As all team work will take place in class, no make-up work will be accepted.

- **Exams**

There will be two multiple choice exams during the semester. Exams are mandatory, closed-book, and closed-note. A student may NOT be absent during an exam day unless the absence (a) has been pre-approved by the instructor at least two weeks in advance, or (b) is due to extraordinary and verifiable circumstances (i.e., hospitalization due to emergency surgery, etc.). Students are required to contact the instructor before the scheduled exam date and will be required to provide documentation. All make-up exams *MUST* be completed within 7 days of the original testing date. Failure to take the make-up exam within this time-frame will result in a zero on the exam. *Absolutely no exams, make-up exams, or coursework will be accepted after the final exam date (Monday, Dec. 15th, 3-5pm). The final exam is given in our classroom. The final exam date and time are not set by the instructor, but are determined by the University. No make-up final exams will be given.* Any questions about the exams are to be directed to the TA.

- **Attendance and Absences**

Attendance is expected and will be taken each class. Each student is allowed to miss **2** classes during the semester without penalty. Any further absences will result in point and/or grade deductions. Habitual tardiness (defined as arrival to class at or after 3:40pm) will also result in a deduction from the student's final grade. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, regardless of any absence. This includes any and all assignments, quizzes, or exams. It is the absentee's responsibility to get all missing notes or materials.

- **Class Participation**

Class participation is more than attendance. Students must keep in mind that active and thoughtful participation is dependent on reading the assigned material before coming to class. Students will be called upon and expected to respond, demonstrating that they have read and understood the material. Bringing assigned readings and a laptop or tablet to every team-based class is necessary for full participation credit.

- **Extra Credit**

Absolutely no extra credit will be available at any time this semester. However, the instructor reserves the right to curve exams and other grades depending on overall class performance.

Academic Honesty and Other Issues:

1. **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism.** The UWM Academic Integrity Policy is located in the student handbook. Violation of this policy, in any way, will result in the imposition of sanctions up to and including failure on the assignment/assessment and/or failure in the course and a record in your permanent academic file with the University. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If you have any questions or concerns please ask. More information on academic misconduct can be found at www4.uwm.edu academic affairs website.
2. **Plagiarism**, like other forms of cheating, will not be tolerated in this course. If you have questions about the whys and wherefores of scholarly citation, if you are uncertain about citation style, or if you have any other questions about how or when to attribute ideas and words to their originators, please feel free to consult me at any time. Additionally, any writing reference source, such as Kate Turabians Manual for Writers, the Everyday Writer, the MLA Style Manual are also useful references. If these guides do not make sense to you, either I or

writing tutors in the Writing Center can assist you. The super-secret phrase is: cumquats carry nunchucks. Memorize this phrase, it will be on your quiz. **Asserted ignorance of those rules will not excuse any student who subsequently violates them. Read all rules and review them prior to submitting writing assignments.**

3. **Disabilities/Academic Accommodation.** Students with disabilities who may need accommodations or any student considering obtaining documentation should contact the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) immediately and then follow up with me. ARC can be reached at x5822.
4. **Classroom Decorum.** Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave class immediately. Disruptive behavior consists of, among other things, frequent talking with other students during lectures and presentations, eating, doing homework or reading for other classes while in class, reading or browsing non-assigned material on the internet, and electronic noises. The use of computers in the classroom is required, subject to the decision of the instructor, so long as they are being used consistent with the course objective and are not disruptive to the classroom environment.

Discussion is an important component of this course and students are to be courteous and respectful to others. This means listening and not interrupting, even if you disagree with the ideas or opinions being expressed. While the exchange of ideas and perspectives is important to the overall goals of the course, no hateful speech, offensive language, or inappropriate comments will be tolerated.

Course Outline

Weekly coverage is subject to change, depending on the progress of the class.

Day	Content
Sept. 2	Course introduction, syllabus distribution
Sept. 4	An Introduction to Politics and International Relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Syllabus: read it word for word, all the way through. • GP: Chapter 1, p. 3-26. • Singer (1961) The Level-of-Analysis Problem in IR
	<i>Theories in IR</i>
Sept. 9	Understanding Realism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snyder (2004) One World, Rival Theories • GP: Chapter 2 • Morgenthau (2005) Chapter 1: A Realist Theory of International Politics in <i>Politics Among Nations</i>. • Waltz (1979) The Anarchic Structure of World Politics in <i>The Consequences of Anarchy</i>, p. 29-48.

Sept. 11	Exercise in Realist Theory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
Sept. 16	Liberalism and Social Theories in IR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 3 • Kant (1917) Perpetual Peace, p. 107 "First Section" - 142 • Drezner (2011) p. 47-60; p. 67-76
Sept. 18	Exercise in Liberal Theory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
	<i>Defining and Applying Concepts</i>
Sept. 23	States and Statehood: What is a state? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weber (1919) p. 77-81 • Poggi (1990) p. 19-32 • Krasner (2001) "Sovereignty"
Sept. 25	Exercise in Defining Concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
Sept. 30	Foreign Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 4 • Excerpt from Miller and McAuliffe (1994) • Hermann (1978) p. 25-36
Oct. 2	Exercise in Foreign Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i> • Readings TBA
	<i>War</i>
Oct. 7	What is War? Is all War Equal? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 5 • Sambanis (2001)
Oct. 9	Exercise in the Analysis of War <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i> • Brown et al. (2001)

Oct. 14	A "Case" Study in Genocide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinton (1998)
Oct. 16	****Midterm Exam Review****
Oct. 21	****MIDTERM EXAM****
	History, War, and the Use of Force
Oct. 23	Military Force and Terrorism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 6 • Mueller and Stewart (2012) • Stern (2010)
Oct. 28	Exercise: Understanding Terrorism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
Oct. 30	Nuclear Weapons and Non-proliferation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lieber pp. 153-163 • Ross (2008)
Nov. 4	Exercise in Non-proliferation: Incentives and Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
	International Institutions
Nov. 6	International Organization, Law, and Human Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 7 • Readings TBA
Nov. 11	Exercise in Protecting Human Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
	International Trade
Nov. 13	Trade Theories and Regimes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 8 • Lieber (2001) Chapter 14
Nov. 18	Currency and Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 9 • Ikenberry (2011)

Nov. 20	Exercise in Trade and Conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i>
	International Development
Nov. 25	The North-South Gap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 12 • Reading TBA
Nov. 27	****NO CLASS! Thanksgiving Break!****
Dec. 2	Exercise in International Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individual Assignment Due</i> • GP: Chapter 13
	Policies and Problems
Dec. 4	Environment and Population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP: Chapter 11 • Readings TBA
Dec. 9	Topic Selected By Class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings TBA
Dec. 11	****Final Exam Review****
Dec. 15	**** Mon, Dec. 15th FINAL EXAM, 3:00 - 5:00pm ****