Political Science 365
Theories and Methods of International Relations
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:45 a.m.
Physics 147
Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Kristin Trenholm
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Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00 p.m.-11:50 a.m. and by appointment.
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Final exam: The final exam is Thursday, December 19, 2013, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. The optional final paper is due Thursday, December 12, 2013 at the beginning of class. I do not accept late papers.

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to international relations theory. The readings for the course are varied. We will read some of the classic works on international relations, including Thucydides’ *Peloponnesian War*, Machiavelli’s *The Prince*, and Kant’s *Perpetual Peace*. The course material also includes more contemporary “classics” in the field (i.e. works by Morgenthau, Waltz, Keohane, and Wendt), as well as some recent research. We will also read other interesting but less well known authors in their historical context and assess their current significance. During this course we will consider the following topics: war, empire, trade, the balance of power, nationalism, international law, and world government.

Having completed this course, students should be familiar with a good number of classic works that theorize about relations among states. Furthermore, students should enhance their critical and analytical skills in the process and apply such skills to more current research in international relations. In short, students should take from this class the critical thinking skills that will enhance their discriminating consumption of professional research and journalistic arguments in the field.

Course Requirements

Regular attendance and participation: I expect you to come to class each session and to come prepared. Students are expected to: 1) finish the assigned readings before the class for which they are assigned, 2) attend class regularly, 3) show up to class on time, and 4) to participate in class discussion. For this three-credit course, students are expected to devote six hours per week reading, studying, and working on assignments.

Preparation: Students should be able to identify and assess the various authors’ arguments by applying the three-part critical thinking process presented below. Students should come to class prepared to answer the following questions:
• **Part I. Identify the author and the historical context:** 1) What is the historical context of the author’s argument? What might have motivated the author to consider the international relations topic that is discussed?

• **Part II. Understand the argument:** 1) What do the authors seek to explain? 2) What evidence does the author offer in support of the argument? 3) What are the key concepts? 4) From what theoretical perspective does each argument originate? 5) With whom are the authors engaged in debate? 6) With respect to more recent work in the field, what kind of research design is employed?

• **Part III. Overall assessment of the argument:** 1) Are there counter-arguments that can be made? 2) What is the significance or relevance of the author’s argument? 3) What do you make of the author’s argument overall?

**Grades**
Grades will be based on the best two of three short quizzes (worth 8.33% each), attendance and participation (8.34%), one midterm exam (worth 25%), and one final exam (worth 50%). Interested students may choose to write one six-page final analytical essay from a list of essays of my choosing. In which case, the final analytical essay is worth 25% of your grade and the final exam will be worth 25%.

Each student must present on four class discussion questions. Students presenting in a given week should talk to me after class the week before, in order to agree on what will be debated or discussed. Each student will prepare their own talking points, and presentation notes are due after class on the day that presentations are made.

There will be no make-up quizzes, although one quiz may be dropped. No make-up midterm or final exams will be given without a University accepted excuse. Students must produce the appropriate documentation stating why they were not able to be in class at the exact time of the exam. I do not accept late final exam papers unless there is a documented medical emergency.

*If you have a problem or miss an exam, please contact me immediately (beforehand if possible). If you miss the midterm exam without giving me prior notice, you MUST contact me within 24 hours of that exam or you will not be allowed to take a make-up exam under any circumstances.* For additional information about UWM University policies see <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf>. This web site contains a list of University policies regarding such issues as incompletes, grade appeal procedures, and University policy governing academic misconduct, among other things.

The midterm and final exams are both non-cumulative exams. The midterm exam will be given during the regular class period during the 8th week of class on **Thursday, October 24, 2013.** The final exam will be held on **Thursday, December 19, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.** The optional final papers are due **Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.**

Students with special needs are responsible for making their needs known in the first two weeks of the semester, especially if accommodations are needed in order to meet any of the requirements of this course.

**Required Readings**
The three required textbooks are available in the bookstore:

Chris Brown, Terry Nardin, and Nicholas Rengger, eds., *International Relations in Political Thought: Texts from the Ancient Greeks to the First World War*
(Cambridge, 2002).
Other assigned readings are available on electronic reserve in Golda Meir Library, at:
https://millib.wisconsin.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB+local&PAGE=rbSearch>

at the Library of Congress, Series 1, Reel 17.
Legro, Jeffrey W. and Moravcsik, Andrew. “Is Anybody Still a Realist?”
*International Security* 24 (Fall 1999), pp. 5-55.
Kupchan, Charles A. “Minor League, Major Problems: The Case Against a League of
Democracies.” *Foreign Affairs.* (Nov/Dec 2008)
Wendt, Alexander. “Anarchy is What States Make of It,” *International
Muller, Jerry Z. “Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism.”
Habyarimana, James etc.. “Is Ethnic Conflict Inevitable? Parting Ways Over
Nationalism and Separatism” *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2008.
*Foreign Affairs* (March/April 2010).

**Course Schedule and Reading Assignments**
The following schedule is subject to modification. Be sure to try to finish each days reading
before class.

**Week #1 (9/3 Tuesday and 9/5 Thursday):** Overview of the Course and Introduction to
International Relations among the Greeks
Brown, pp.1-15 (Introduction) and pp. 34-60 (Thucydides from the Peloponnesian War—
Dialogue).

**Week #2 (9/10 Tuesday and 9/12 Thursday):** International Relations among the Greeks and the
Emergence of Cosmopolitanism
Brown, pp. 34-60 (Thucydides from the *History of the Peloponnesian War—
Dialogue*).
The Emergence of Cosmopolitanism. Ancient Political Thought
Brown, pp. 17-33, 61-82 (Aristotle).

**Week #3 (9/17 Tuesday and 9/19 Thursday):** The Emergence of Cosmopolitanism. Ancient
Political Thought Continued
Week #4 (9/24 Tuesday and 9/26 Thursday): **QUIZ #1 on Tuesday, 9/24.** International Relations in Medieval Christendom and Just War Theory
   Brown, pp. 177-241 (John of Paris, Dante, Luther, Aquinas, Erasmus, de Vitoria)

Week #5 (10/1 Tuesday and 10/3 Thursday): The Modern European State and System of States
   Brown, pp.243-250, 257-275 (Machiavelli, Bodin), pp. 250-256, 276-310 (Callieres, Bynkershoek, Hamilton, Burke, Jefferson (E-reserve), Fenelon, Gentz)

Weeks #6 and #7 (10/8 Tuesday, 10/10 Thursday, and 10/15 Tuesday): The Emergence of International Law
   Brown, pp. 311-378 (Grotius, Hobbes, Pufendorf, Rachel, Wolff, Vattel)

Weeks #7 and #8 (10/17 Thursday and 10/22 Tuesday): Peace through Confederation and The Enlightenment
   Brown, pp. 379-455 (St.-Pierre, Montesquieu, Smith, Hume, Rousseau, Kant)

Week #8 **Midterm Exam** (Thursday, October 24, 2013)

Week #9 (10/29 Tuesday and 10/31 Thursday): States and Nations
   Brown, pp.457-517 (Hegel, Mazzini, Mill, Treitschke, Bosanquet)

Week #10 (11/5 Tuesday and 11/7 Thursday): Contemporary Realism
   1. Vasquez: (Chapter 1) Niebuhr, Reinhold. “The War and American Churches” (pp. 20-23); Morgenthau, Hans J. “A Realist Theory of International Relations” (pp. 25-27); and Kennan, George F. “Diplomacy in the Modern World” (pp. 28-31).
   2. Re-read Brown: Thucydides, “The Melian Dialogue” (pp. 53-60); and Machiavelli, “The Prince” (pp. 257-261).

Week #11 (11/12 Tuesday and 11/14 Thursday): **QUIZ #2 on Thursday, 11/14.** Realism Continued. (Kaplan, Organski, Waltz, Legro and Moravscvik)
   1. Vasquez: (Chapter 10) Kaplan, Morton A. “Some Problems of International Systems Research” (pp. 297-302); Organski, A.F.K. “The Power Transition” (pp. 303-306); Waltz, Kenneth N. from “Theory of International Relations” (pp. 307-313).

   1. Vasquez: (Chapter 13) Deutsch, Karl W. et al. from Political Community and the North Atlantic Area (pp. 377-380); Babst, Dean V. “Elective Governments—A Force for Peace” (pp.381-385) and Maoz, Zeev and Russett, Bruce, “Normative and Structural Causes of Democratic Peace, 1946-1986” (pp. 386-400).

Thanksgiving Recess: November 27-December 1, 2013

Weeks #13-#14 (11/26 Tuesday and 12/3 Tuesday): Quiz #3 on Tuesday, 11/26.
Constructivism: Culture, Norms and Identity

Week #14 (12/5 Thursday): Global Leadership, World Order, and the World Political Economy

Week #15 (12/10 Tuesday): Ethnic Conflict

Optional Final Papers are due Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.


The final exam is Thursday, December 19, 2013, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.