

**Political Science 361: History of International Political Thought**  
**Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30-10:45 a.m.**  
**Lubar N-116**  
**Spring 2016**

**Instructor: Dr. Kristin Trenholm**

Office: Bolton Hall Room 630

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00-2:50 p.m. and by appointment.

E-mail: [trenholm@uwm.edu](mailto:trenholm@uwm.edu)

The research paper is due **Thursday, May 12, 2016, 10:00 a.m.** I do not accept late papers.

**Course Description**

This course offers an introduction to the history of international political thought. 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 and contemporary 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 11% each), attendance and participation (8%), one midterm exam (worth 35%), and one research paper (worth 35%).

Students will write a seven-page research paper analyzing the theoretical antecedents and logical development of various authors' arguments regarding key topics in international political thought. For example, students will select from topics such as, just war theory, empire, nationalism, trade, balance of power, international law, and world government. Students will write a theoretical summary of the various authors' theories concerning their selected topic, and then advance an argument about their logical and empirical strengths and weaknesses. More specifically, students will discuss the rival explanations considered in the course readings and lectures, evaluate the logical development of the arguments, and carefully consider the evidence that the authors' marshal in support of their positions. Students are expected to cite the assigned readings for the course, as well as five other additional sources from published books and articles from refereed academic journals. Finally, students must also prepare a PowerPoint summary of their research question, theoretical arguments considered, and evidence or research findings. Students will either present a brief summary of their research in-class with a PowerPoint-based oral presentation, or will provide an electronic summary of their research on the course D21 site. (The process for student presentations of their research findings will depend upon the number of students writing on the various selected topics.)

Regarding participation and attendance, each student must present on two class discussion questions. Students presenting in a given week should talk to me after class (on Wednesday 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. Students may not miss more than two class periods without it negatively affecting their attendance grade.

There will be no make-up quizzes, although one quiz may be dropped. No make-up midterm 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.

*If you have a problem or miss the midterm exam, please contact me immediately. 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 research paper is due **Thursday, May 12, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.** I do not accept late papers unless there is a documented emergency.

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 online from UWM's virtual bookstore <<http://uwm.ecampus.com/>>:

- 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). ISBN: 978-0-521-57570-6.
- John A. Vasquez, ed., *Classics of International Relations* (Prentice Hall, 1996). Third Edition. ISBN: 0-13-146648-8.
- Daniel W. Drezner. *Theories of International Politics and Zombies* (Princeton, 2011). ISBN: 9780691163703.

A copy of each required textbook is on two-hour reserve in the UWM library.

Other assigned readings are available on the course D2L site (under "content").

- Jefferson, Thomas. "Letter to William Short." (3 January 1793) Thomas Jefferson Papers at the Library of Congress, Series 1, Reel 17.
- Legro, Jeffrey W. and Moravcsvik, Andrew. 1999. "Is Anybody Still a Realist?" *International Security* 24 (Fall):5-55.
- Kupchan, Charles A. 2008. "Minor League, Major Problems: The Case Against a League of Democracies." *Foreign Affairs* (Nov/Dec).
- Wendt, Alexander. 1992. "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization* 46:2 (Spring):391-425.
- Katzenstein, Peter J., ed. 1996. *The Culture of National Security*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2.
- Muller, Jerry Z. 2008. "Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism." *Foreign Affairs* (March/April).
- Habyarimana, James etc. 2008. "Is Ethnic Conflict Inevitable? Parting Ways Over Nationalism and Separatism." *Foreign Affairs* (July/August).
- Ferguson, Niall. 2010. "Complexity and Collapse: Empires on the Edge of Chaos." *Foreign Affairs* (March/April).

## Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

The following schedule is subject to modification. Be sure to try to finish each days reading before class.

### Weeks #1 and #2 (1/25 Monday, 1/27 Wednesday, 2/1 Monday, and 2/3 Wednesday):

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—Pericles' Funeral Oration, The Plague, The Mytilenian Debate, and The Melian Dialogue).

The Emergence of Cosmopolitanism. Ancient Political Thought  
Brown, pp. 17-33, 61-82 (Aristotle).

**Week #3 (2/8 Monday and 2/10 Wednesday):** The Emergence of Cosmopolitanism. Ancient Political Thought Continued

Brown, pp. 17-33, 61-93 (Aristotle, Cicero, Marcus Aurelius, Plato).

**Week #4 (2/15 Monday and 2/17 Wednesday): QUIZ #1 on Monday, 2/15.** International Relations in Medieval Christendom and Just War Theory

Brown, pp. 177-241 (John of Paris, Dante, Luther, Aquinas, Erasmus, de Vitoria)

**Week #5 (2/22 Monday and 2/24 Wednesday):** 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 (D2L), Fenelon, Gentz)

**Weeks #6 and #7 (2/29 Monday, 3/2 Wednesday, and 3/7 Monday):** The Emergence of International Law

Brown, pp. 311-378 (Grotius, Hobbes, Pufendorf, Rachel, Wolff, Vattel)

**Week #7 Midterm Exam (Wednesday, March 9, 2016)**  
**(UWM Spring Recess March 13-20, 2016)**

**Week #8 (3/21 Monday and 3/23 Wednesday):** Peace through Confederation and The Enlightenment

Brown, pp. 379-455 (St.-Pierre, Montesquieu, Smith, Hume, Rousseau, Kant)

**Week #9 (3/28 Monday and 3/30 Wednesday):** States and Nations

Brown, pp.457-517 (Hegel, Mazzini, Mill, Treitschke, Bosanquet)

**Week #10 (4/4 Monday and 4/6 Wednesday):** 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 (4/11 Monday and 4/13 Wednesday): QUIZ #2 on Wednesday, 4/13.** 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).
2. D2L: Legro, Jeffrey W. and Andrew Moravscvik, Andrew, 1992. "Is Anybody Still a Realist?" *International Security* 24 (Fall):5-55.

**Week #12 (4/18 Monday and 4/20 Wednesday):** Liberalism/Democratic Security Community (Deutsch, Babst, Maoz and Russett, and Kupchan).

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).
2. D2L: Kupchan, Charles A. 2008. "Minor League, Major Problems: The Case Against a League of Democracies." *Foreign Affairs* (Nov/Dec).
3. Re-read Kant, Immanuel. "Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch" (Vasquez p. 368 or Brown p. 432).

**Weeks #13 (4/25 Monday and 4/27 Wednesday): Quiz #3 on Wednesday, 4/27.**

Constructivism: Culture, Norms and Identity

1. D2L: Wendt, Alexander. 1992 "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization* 46:2 (Spring): 391-425.
2. D2L: Katzenstein, Peter J. ed., 1996. From "The Culture of National Security." (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). Chapter 2.

**Week #14 (5/2 Monday and 5/4 Wednesday):** Global Leadership, World Order, and the World Political Economy

1. Vasquez: (Chapter 12) Rosecrance, Richard. "A New Concert of Powers" (pp. 340-349); Claude, Inis L., Jr. "A Critique of Collective Security" (pp. 350-352).
2. Vasquez: Keohane, Robert O. from *After Hegemony* (pp.353-361); and Wallerstein, Immanuel. "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System: Concepts for Comparative Analysis" (pp. 362-367).

**Week #15 (5/9 Monday):** International Relations Theory and Zombies. Wrapping Things Up.

1. D2L: Ferguson, Niall. 2010. "Complexity and Collapse: Empires on the Edge of Chaos." *Foreign Affairs* (March/April).
2. Drezner, Daniel W. 2011. *Theories of International Politics and Zombies*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (pp.1-60, 67-76, and 109-114).

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