

**Political Science 370
International Conflict
Fridays 9:00-11:40 a.m.
Bolton B-92
Fall 2012**

Instructor: Dr. Kristin Trenholm

Office: Northwest Quadrant Building B Room 5575

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-11:50 a.m. and by appointment.

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Final exam: Friday, December 14, 2012, 10:00-12:00 noon. Final Paper (optional) is due December 7, 2012, at the beginning of class. I do not accept late papers.

Course Description

This course examines the conditions that make for war and peace in world politics. First, we examine historical patterns and trends in warfare. Then, we examine the causes of war, the morality and ethics of war, the outcomes and consequences of war, and solutions to help prevent or limit war.

Having completing this course, students should be familiar with many factors that seem to mitigate or exacerbate military conflict between states. Students should also be able to apply such factors to real-world scenarios—such as historical cases of war or conflicts in troubled areas of the world.

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) participate in class discussion. For this three-credit course, students are expected to devote six hours per week reading, studying, and working on assignments.

In assessing the various authors' works, students should be able to answer the following questions: 1) What does the writer 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) Are there counter-arguments that can be made? 6) What do you make of the author's overall argument?

Grades

Grades will be based on the best two of three short quizzes (worth 8.33% each), attendance and participation (8.33%), one midterm exam (worth 25%), and one final exam (worth 50%).

Interested students can choose to write a ten-page research paper on a topic approved by me. In this case, the research paper counts for 25% and the final exam 25%. Students will select a crisis or war from the past two centuries. The first section of the paper will discuss the events leading up to the crisis/war as well as a brief summary of the major events of the crisis. The second section of the paper allows students to analyze the causes of the crisis and to speculate on the prospects for renewed conflict. (See the PS 370 Research Paper Guide for more information.)

Each student must present on three 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 should never read

long statements written by others. 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 exams will be given without a medical excuse or an excused University absence. 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 an exam, get in touch with me immediately (beforehand if possible). If you miss the midterm or final 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.

The midterm and final exams are both non-cumulative exams. **The midterm exam will be given during the regular class period during the 7th week of class (Friday, October 19, 2012). The final exam will be given during the regularly scheduled final exam time (Friday, December 14, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.).***

*Please note that because this class meets on Fridays, there is a chance that the scheduled final exam period for PS 370 may conflict with a Monday and Wednesday morning course at 9:00 or 9:30 a.m. Please check your final exam schedule for all of your courses so that alternative arrangements can be made well before the final exam period.

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. 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 policies about academic misconduct, among other things.

Required Readings

The required textbooks are available in the bookstore:

Richard K. Betts (ed.), *Conflict after the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace*, fourth edition. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. 2013.

Michael Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars: A Moral Argument with Historical Illustrations*, Fourth edition. New York: Basic Books, 2000.

David W. Ziegler, *War, Peace, and International Politics*, eighth edition. New York: Addison Wesley Longman, 2000.

Other required readings are available on electronic reserve in Golda Meir Library, at: <https://millib.wisconsin.edu/cgiin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=rbSearch>

Thucydides, "The Peloponnesian War, Melian Dialogue (Book 5, Chapter17)."
Also available at: <http://www.wellesley.edu/ClassicalStudies/CLCV102/Thucydides--MelianDialogue.html>.

CNN.com (8/20/1998), "Most Lawmakers Support Clinton's Military Strikes."
Also available at: <http://www.cnn.com/ALLPOLITICS/1998/08/20/strike.react/>

BBC News, "From Scandal to Rocket Raids: Mixed Response from GOP." Also available at:
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/events/crisis_in_the_gulf/latest_news/236582.stm>

Cooley, John K., "The War over Water" *Foreign Policy* No. 54 (Spring 1984). Reprinted in Betts, third edition (pp. 596-606).

Huntington, Samuel P., "Arms Races: Prerequisites and Results." Reprinted in Betts, third edition (pp. 391-411).

Sherman, William T. Letter to the Mayor and Councilmen of Atlanta. Reprinted from *Memoirs of William T. Sherman* vol. 2 (New York, 1875) pp. 600-602.

Stephens, Bret. "How to Manage Savagery." *Commentary*, September 2008.

Daalder, Ivo and Lodel, Jan. "The Logic of Zero: Toward a World Without Nuclear Weapons." *Foreign Affairs* November/December 2008.

Joffe, Joseph and Davis, James W. "Less than Zero: Bursting the New Disarmament Bubble." *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2011.

Blair, Bruce, Brown, Matt, and Burt, Richard. "Can Disarmament Work? Debating the Benefits of Nuclear Weapons." *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2011

Waltz, Kenneth N. "Why Iran Should Get the Bomb." *Foreign Affairs* July/August 2012. pp.2-5.

There are also a number of **required films** (and/or sections of documentaries) that have been placed on media reserve as part of the course. These movies are listed both on the syllabus and are also briefly discussed on the PS 370 Media Reserve hand-out.

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

The following schedule is subject to modification. Try to finish each day's reading before class.

I. Introduction

Week#1 (September 7): Overview of the Course; Studying Conflict and War/Patterns of Conflict, Crisis, and War.

1. Ziegler: Studying Causes (pp. 125-127), Studying War (pp. 87-89), Recent Wars (pp. 69-79), Lessons of Intervention (pp. 97-104), German Reaction to Versailles and the Rise of Hitler (pp. 25-30), and the Manchurian Crisis (pp. 202-205).

II. Causes and Correlates of War

Week #2 (September 14): Individual and State Level Explanations: Human Nature and Realism.

1. Ziegler: Human Nature and "Troublemakers" (pp. 127-133).
2. Betts: Hobbes, Thomas. "The State of Nature and the State of War"(pp. 78-82).
3. E-reserve or web: Thucydides, "The Peloponnesian War, Melian Dialogue (Book 5, Chapter 17)." Available at:

< <http://www.wellesley.edu/Classical Studies/CLCV102/Thucydides—MelianDialogue.html>>.

4. Walzer: *Against Realism* (pp. 3-20).

Regime Types, Liberalism and Democratic Peace Theory.

1. Ziegler: *Democratic Peace* (pp.137-140).
2. Betts: Kant, Immanuel. "Perpetual Peace." (pp. 136-142); Doyle, Michael W., "Liberalism and World Politics (pp. 149-164) and Keohane, Robert O. and Nye, Joseph S., "Power and Interdependence."(pp. 164-171).

Week #3 (September 21): **QUIZ #1.** Nationalism and Civilizations.

1. Ziegler: *State and Non-State Actors* (pp. 105-115); *Nationalism* (pp. 133-135); *Terrorism* (pp.147-152); Re-read *Some Recent Wars* (pp. 69-79 and pp. 95-104).
2. Betts: Gellner, Ernest, "Nations and Nationalism." (pp. 368-379) and Kaufman, Chaim. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil War." (pp. 394-412).

Civilizations.

1. Betts: Huntington, Samuel P., "The Clash of Civilizations?" (pp. 35-54).
2. E-reserve: Stephens, Bret. "How to Manage Savagery." *Commentary*. September 2008. E-reserve.

Week #4 (September 28): Diversionary Theory and Transnational Tension.

1. Web or e-reserve: CNN.com (8/20/1998), "Most Lawmakers Support Clinton's Military Strikes." Available at:
<<http://www.cnn.com/ALLPOLITICS/1998/08/20/strike.react/>>
2. Web or e-reserve: BBC News, "From Scandal to Rocket Raids: Mixed Response from GOP." Available at:
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/events/crisis_in_the_gulf/latest_news/236582.stm>.
3. Media reserve: Just for fun, watch the movie "Wag the Dog." This comedy/drama is based upon the book *American Hero* by Larry Beinhart. The film is about a President caught in a sex scandal just before the election. The Administration decides to create a fictitious war to divert attention away from the scandal and top Hollywood producers are called to the White House to "produce" the war.

Transnational Tension.

1. E-reserve: Cooley, John K., "The War over Water." from Betts, third edition (pp. 596-606).
2. Betts: Homer Dixon, Thomas F. "Environmental Changes and Causes of Acute Conflict" (pp. 607-621) and De Soysa, Indra, "Ecoviolence" (pp. 629-640).

Week #5 (October 5): Territorial Claims.

1. Ziegler: Chapter 4, *Wars in the Middle East* (pp. 53-68).
2. Walzer: *The Rights of Political Communities* (pp.53-58).

Anarchy, the Security Dilemma, and Arms Races.

1. Ziegler: Sovereignty (pp. 108-110), Anarchy (pp. 115-118), Arms races (pp. 221-228).
2. E-reserve: Huntington, Samuel P., "Arms Races: Prerequisites and Results." from Betts, third edition (pp. 391-411).

Week #6 (October 12): Balance of Power Theory.

1. Betts: Blainey, Geoffrey, "Power, Culprits, and Arms" (pp.120-132).
2. Walzer: Preemptive War and The Balance of Power, Preemptive Strikes (pp. 76-85).

Intervention.

1. Walzer: Self-Determination and Self-Help (pp. 86-108).

Midterm: October 19, 2012

III. Methods and Ethics of War

Week #7 (October 19) Aggression and Neutrality and the **Midterm Exam**.

1. Walzer: Chapter 15 (pp. 233-250).
2. Media reserve: Hew Strachan's "The First World War." Disc 1. "To Arms" (also discussed Week #11) and "Under the Eagle" which shows the German invasion of Belgium and France.

Week #8 (October 26) Noncombatant Immunity and Military Necessity, and War Against Civilians: Sieges and Blockades.

1. Walzer: Chapter 9 (pp.138-159).
2. Media reserve: (recommended) "Saving Private Ryan" (1998).
3. Walzer: Chapter 10 (pp.160-175).
4. Media reserve: Hew Strachan's "The First World War." Disc 3 "Blockade 1916-1917." Also "The Battle for Russia." From the "Why We Fight" series (1943). The second part of the film shows footage of the siege of Leningrad and the battle of Stalingrad.

Week #9 (November 2): Guerrilla War, Terrorism and Unconventional War.

1. Walzer: Chapter 11 (pp.176-196).
2. Betts: Bin Laden, Osama, "Speech to the American People" (pp. 511-516), Tse-Tong, Mao. "On Guerrilla Warfare" (pp. 539-549), and Sageman, Marc, "Jihadi Networks of Terror." (pp. 516-530).

Supreme Emergency: The Decision to Bomb German Cities and Japan.

1. Walzer: Chapter 16 (pp. 251-268).
2. Media reserve: "The Battle for Britain." (1943) And from Ken Burns PBS documentary series, "The War" (2007).
 - a. War: Episode One: "A Necessary War." Go to main menu and choose "scene selection." Chose "Pearl Harbor" and also "We Haven't Got a Chance."
 - b. War: Episode Six: "The Ghost Front." Go to the main menu and choose "scene selection." Choose "Our Boys." This section discusses the American and British bombing of the German cities and the American fire-bombing campaign against Tokyo.

- c. War: Episode Seven: "It Happened in an Instant."
3. Media reserve: (recommended) "Letters From Iwo Jima" (2006).

IV. Outcomes and Consequences of War

Week #10 (November 9): **QUIZ #2** Costs of War; Winners and Losers.

1. Ziegler: Iran-Iraq War (pp. 79-84).
2. Walzer: The Tyranny of War (pp. 29-33); War's End and the Importance of Winning (pp. 109-124).
3. E-reserve: Sherman, William T. "Letter to the Mayor and Councilmen of Atlanta." Re-printed from *Memoirs of William T. Sherman* vol. 2 (New York, 1875).

Week #11 (November 16): Recurrent Conflict and Rivalry.

1. Ziegler: Chapters 1 and 2, France-Germany Rivalry (pp. 5-31).
2. Media reserve: review Hew Strachan's "The First World War." Disc 1. "To Arms." The film discusses the origins of the Great War.
3. Ziegler: Chapter 3 (pp. 35-49) and pp. 89-95 (US-Soviet Cold War).

Thanksgiving Recess: November 21-25, 2012. No class on Friday, November 23, 2012

V. Prevention or Limitation of War

Week #13 (November 30): **QUIZ #3** Nuclear Proliferation and Deterrence I: General Principles.

1. Ziegler: Allies and Extended Deterrence (pp. 141-143).
2. Walzer: Reprisals (pp. 207-222).

Proliferation & Deterrence II: Weapons of Mass Destruction.

1. Ziegler: Proliferation (pp. 140-141, 143-147).
2. Betts: Waltz, Kenneth N., "The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: More May Be Better" (pp. 465- 476). E-reserve: Waltz, Kenneth. "Why Iran Should Get the Bomb." *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2012.
3. E-reserve: Daalder, Ivo and Lodel, Jan. "The Logic of Zero: Toward a World Without Nuclear Weapons." *Foreign Affairs* November/December 2008.
4. E-reserve: Blair, Bruce, Brown, Matt, and Burt, Richard. "Can Disarmament Work? Debating the Benefits of Nuclear Weapons." *Foreign Affairs*. July/August 2011
5. E-reserve: Joffe, Joseph and Davis, James W. "Less than Zero: Bursting the New Disarmament Bubble." *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2011.

Week #14 (December 7): Collective Security and Peacekeeping, Wrapping Things Up.

Optional Research Papers Due.

1. Ziegler: Chapter 13, Collective Security (pp. 199-220) and Chapter 17, The United Nations (pp. 267-281).
2. Ziegler: Chapter 18, United Nations Peace Keeping (pp. 283-291).
3. Media reserve: "Black Hawk Down" (2001). This film discusses the 1993 U.S.-U.N. mission gone wrong in Somalia. The film incorporates actual images taken by a reconnaissance plane that hovered over Mogadishu during the battle.

Is Major War Obsolete? Wrapping Things Up.

1. Ziegler: (Mueller) pp.137-138.
2. Betts: Mueller, John. "The Obsolescence of Major War" (pp. 249-261) and Mearsheimer, John, "Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War" (pp. 18-35).
3. Ziegler: Chapter 20, Conclusions (pp. 303-305).

Final Exam: Friday, December 14, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.