

***INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
GOVT-006***

***Fall 2013
Monday/Wednesday, 3:30-4:45pm
ICC Auditorium***

Professor: Matthew Kroenig
Office: 656 ICC
E-mail: mhk32@georgetown.edu
Office Hours: Monday 1-3pm

Teaching Assistants:

Fouad Pervez (Head TA)
Ariya Hagh
Jooeun Kim
Ji Yeon Park
Yu-Ming Liou

Course Objectives

This course has three objectives. First, the course provides an introduction to the major theories of international politics. We begin by asking what theories are and how they help us understand the world. Then, we will examine theories designed to answer the most important questions about international politics: Why do states go to war? What are the prospects for international cooperation? Are democratic states more peaceful than authoritarian regimes? What role do international institutions, such as the United Nations, play in managing international politics? How has globalization altered the nature of international politics and the international economy?

Second, the class provides a basic history of major international events of the twentieth century. In particular, we review the history of World War I, the interwar period, World War II, and the Cold War. Not only is this history intrinsically important, but it also provides empirical evidence with which to evaluate the validity of different theoretical approaches to international politics.

Finally, this class evaluates the implications of theory and history for contemporary international politics. This class is *not* a current events class, but a primary objective is to provide students with the tools to analyze current events in a rigorous, theoretically-informed manner.

Requirements

Attendance

Attendance at all class lectures is required.

Discussion Sections

Attendance and participation in TA-led section meetings is required. Discussion sections are an opportunity for group discussion and questions about the readings and lectures. They provide a valuable opportunity for you to sharpen your understanding of key concepts, theories, and events in international politics.

Readings

Required readings should be completed before the class for which they are assigned. The exams and review essay will require you to have a strong comprehension of the material covered in both the readings and the lectures.

Examinations

There will be an in-class midterm examination on **October 23** and a final examination on **Monday, December 16, from 9:00-11:00am** in a location to be announced.

Essay Assignment

There will be one 2000-word essay. The essay is due **in hard copy** at the beginning of class on **November 20**. The essay will ask you to work apply theories of international relations to contemporary international relations policy questions. More details on this assignment will be distributed in class.

Procedures

Office Hours

The teaching assistants and professor will hold office hours each week. Because this is a very large class, your first point of contact for organizational and administrative questions should be your teaching assistant. For substantive questions about readings, lectures, exams, and papers, you are encouraged to come to either the professor's office hours or your teaching assistant's office hours.

Late Essays

Deadlines are strict. No extensions will be granted in the absence of a genuine emergency or documented illness. Predictable events, such as a heavy workload or extracurricular activities, are not grounds for an extension. All appeals for extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for each day they are late.

Grading

Grades will be based on the absolute merit of your work, not in relation to others. In other words, there is no grading “curve” employed in this class. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Midterm Examination | 30% |
| Paper | 30% |
| Final Examination | 30% |
| Participation (Section) | 10% |

Grade Disputes

All written material in this class will be graded initially by your teaching assistant. Grades will then be reviewed by the professor. All submitted material will be returned to you within two weeks of its submission. Any questions regarding your grades should first be directed to your teaching assistant after a 48-hour waiting period. You are entitled to a satisfactory explanation for why you received the grade you received. If you are not satisfied with the explanation provided by your teaching assistant, you may submit a written explanation for why you believe you that your work was misgraded. The work will then be regraded by the teaching assistant with the understanding that the teaching assistant may ultimately issue a grade that is better, the same, or worse than the original grade. If you still believe that the work was misgraded, as a final appeal, the work will be regarded by the professor with the understanding that the professor may issue a grade that is better, the same, or worse than the original.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism or other acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. As defined by the Georgetown University Honor Council, plagiarism is “the act of passing off as one's own the ideas or writings of another.”

Blackboard

A Blackboard site has been created for this class. You can access the site at <http://campus.georgetown.edu>. On the site, you will find announcements, the syllabus, pdf copies of the readings, lecture slides, and information about assignments.

Reading Assignments

In addition to the books and articles below, you should read the international affairs section of a major national newspaper, such as the *New York Times* or *Washington Post*, on a daily basis. You might also consider reading the *Economist*, which is generally considered the best weekly news magazine available. Lectures will often include references to contemporary events, so it is critical that you are aware of important developments in international affairs.

The following required text is available at the Georgetown University Bookstore:

Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 11th Edition (New York: Prentice Hall, 2012)

All readings for this class are either located in the assigned text or available on Blackboard in the “Readings” section.

Introduction

August 28 Introduction

September 2 Labor Day Holiday

September 4 The Theory and Practice of International Relations

Alexander L. George, *Bridging the Gap: Theory and Practice in Foreign Policy* (Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 1993)

Chapter 1: The Two Cultures of Academia and Policymaking, pp. 3-18 (Bb)

Chapter 2: The Role of Knowledge in Policymaking, pp. 19-29 (Bb)

Theories of International Relations: Explaining Conflict and Cooperation

September 9 Setting the Stage: Actors and Anarchy

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Chapters 13-15 (Bb)

Kenneth N. Waltz, "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics" (A&J, pp. 35-56)

September 11 Realism, I: Power Politics and the Security Dilemma

Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue" in *History of the Peloponnesian War* (A&J, 8-13)

Hans J. Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism" (A&J, pp. 14-21)

September 16 Realism, II: State Strategies in an Anarchic World

Kenneth N. Waltz, "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 18, No. 4 (Spring 1988), pp. 615-628. (Bb)

Stephen M. Walt, "Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning," (A&J, pp. 125-131)

September 18 Guest Lecture. The Nuclear Nonproliferation Regime: Its History and Premises. Henry Sokolski. Executive Director of the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center

"The Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons." In *Reviewing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)*, 17-26. Edited by Henry Sokolski Carlisle, PA: Strategic Studies Institute, 2010. (Bb Under Sokolski Lecture_Required Readings)

Sokolski, Henry. "The NPT's Untapped Potential to Prevent Nuclear Proliferation," in *Reviewing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)*, 3-13. Edited by Henry Sokolski. Carlisle, PA: Strategic Studies Institute, 2010. (Bb Under Sokolski Lecture_Required Readings)

A supplemental reading list for this lecture is also available on Blackboard.

September 23 Liberalism, I: International Institutions and Interdependence
Robert O. Keohane, "International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work" (A&J, pp. 151-158)

Kenneth A. Oye, "The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics" (A&J, pp. 76-89)

September 25 Liberalism, II: The Liberal Peace

Michael W. Doyle, "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs" (A&J, pp. 111-124)

Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Democratization and War," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 74, No. 3 (May-June 1995), pp. 79-97. (Bb)

September 30 Constructivism: Ideas and Identities in International Relations

Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," (A&J, pp. 65-72)

Ian Hurd, "Legitimacy in International Politics," (A&J, pp. 73-75)

October 2 Bureaucratic, Organizational, and Individual Approaches

Graham T. Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 63, No. 3 (September 1969), pp. 689-718. (Bb)

Daniel Kahneman and Jonathan Renshon, "Why Hawks Win," *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2007). (Bb)

Evaluating Contending Theories

October 7 The 19th Century in Europe: Prelude to World War I

David Stevenson, *Cataclysm: The First World War as Political Tragedy* (New York: Basic Books, 2004) Chapter 1: The Destruction of Peace, pp. 3-35 (Bb)

October 9 The Interwar Period and the Outbreak of World War II

Woodrow Wilson, "The Fourteen Points," Address to the U.S. Congress, January 8, 1918. (Bb)

Gerhard L. Weinberg, *A World at Arms: A Global History of World War II* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994)

Chapter 1: From One War to Another, pp. 6-47 (Bb)

October 14 Columbus Day Holiday

October 16 The Cold War

George F. Kennan, "The Long Telegram," February 22, 1946. (Bb)

John Lewis Gaddis, "The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International System," *International Security*, Vol. 10, No. 4 (Spring 1986), pp. 99-142. (Bb)

October 21 The Second Gulf War

Kenneth M. Pollack, "Next Stop Baghdad?," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 81, No. 2 (March/April 2002), pp. 32-47. (Bb)

John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, "An Unnecessary War," *Foreign Policy*, No. 134 (January/February 2003), pp. 51-59. (Bb)

October 23 Midterm Examination

Ethics and International Politics

October 28 Ethics and International Politics

Rhoda E. Howard and Jack Donnelly, "Human Rights in World Politics" (A&J, pp.437-449)

Michael Walzer, "The Triumph of Just War Theory (and the Dangers of Success)," *Social Research*, Vol. 69, No. 4 (Winter 2002), pp. 925-944. (Bb)

International Political Economy

October 30 The International Economic System

Robert Gilpin, "The Nature of Political Economy," (A&J, pp. 265-281)

Helen Milner, "International Political Economy: Beyond Hegemonic Stability," *Foreign Policy*, No. 110 (Spring 1998), pp. (Bb)

November 4 Globalization and Economic Development

Jeffrey Frankel, "Globalization of the Economy" (A&J, pp. 305-320)

Pankaj Ghemawat, "Why the World Isn't Flat" (A&J, pp. 321-326)

Moises Naim, "What Globalization Is and Is Not" (A&J, pp. 327-331)

November 6 Economic Instruments of Foreign Policy

Robert Pape, "Why Economic Sanctions Do Not Work," *International Security*, Vol. 22, No. 2 (Autumn 1997), pp. 90-110. (Bb)

Kimberly Ann Elliott, "The Sanctions Glass: Half Full or Completely Empty?" *International Security*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (Summer 1998), pp. 50-65. (Bb)

International Security

November 11 The Elements and Utility of Military Force

Robert J. Art, "The Four Functions of Force" (A&J, pp. 164-171)

Thomas C. Schelling, "The Diplomacy of Violence" (A&J, pp. 172-185)

November 13 The Nuclear Revolution and the Effects of Nuclear Proliferation

Matthew Kroenig, "Think Again: American Nuclear Disarmament," *Foreign Policy* (September/October 2013) (Bb).

Matthew Kroenig, "The History of Proliferation Optimism: Does it Have a Future?" *Nonproliferation Policy Education Center*, pp. 25-35. Available at <http://www.npolicy.org/article.php?aid=1182&tid=30>.

November 18 Ethnic Conflict, Civil War, and Insurgency

Samantha Power, "Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen," *The Atlantic Monthly* (September 2001), pp. 84-108. (Bb)

Richard Betts, "The Delusion of Impartial Intervention," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 73, No. 6 (November-December 1994), pp. 20-33. (Bb)

November 20 TBD (*Paper Due at the Beginning of Class*)

Transnational Threats

November 25 International Environmental Politics and Global Public Health

Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons" (A&J, pp. 501-506)

David G. Victor, "International Cooperation on Climate Change" (A&J, pp. 507-514)

Alan Dupont, "The Strategic Implications of Climate Change" (A&J, pp. 560-569)

November 27 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2 Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Robert Pape, "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism" (A&J, pp. 214-231)

Audrey Kurth Cronin, "Ending Terrorism" (A&J, pp. 402-415)

December 4 Conclusion: The Future of International Politics

The U.S. National Intelligence Council, "Global Trends 2025," (A&J, pp. 544-552)

Arvind Subramanian, "The Inevitable Superpower: Why China's Dominance Is A Sure Thing" (A&J 578-585)