

INTL 1100: Introduction to Global Issues (Honors)

Spring Semester 2018

Candler Hall 115

Instructor: Doug Atkinson

E-mail: doug74@uga.edu

Office: Candler B02

Office Hours: MW 8-9am, or by appointment

Course Objectives:

Welcome to the Department of International Affairs!! As this is your first class in the department, this class is designed to spark an interest in various pressing issues in global politics. I will be introducing you to the problems vex and puzzle scholars and have been the source of longstanding debates. In order to do this, I have designed this course so that it is heavily dependent upon your effort. We will be reading 5 books (Don't worry, they are fun and interesting), listening to a number of podcasts, and having daily in class discussions and debates based upon what you have read and outside information I will bring to the classroom. The topics covered in this class include war, development, international trade, human rights, and terrorism. In class, I will be introducing you to the theories and methods scholars of international relations and comparative politics use to answer these questions. Ultimately, if you put the requisite effort into this class, you will have the basic knowledge of the major issues, theories, and methods you need to successfully carry you forward in your career in the Department of International Affairs.

Required Texts:

War

- Ian Morris (2014). *War! What Is It Good For*, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, New York.

Development

- Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson (2013). *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*. Crown Business, New York.

International Trade

- Stiglitz, Joseph E (2007). *Making Globalization Work*. W.W. Norton and Company, New York.

Human Rights

- Lynn Hunt (2007). *Inventing Human Rights: A History*. W. W. Norton & Company, New York

Terrorism

- Michael Burleigh (2010). *Blood and Rage: A Cultural History of Terrorism*. Harper Perennial, New York.

Assignments (30%):

There is one semester long assignment in this class. Specifically, you are required to keep a reading diary wherein, you will write down questions that arise during the reading as well as providing a number of points you can make in the upcoming class discussion.. You are required to submit your new journal entries every week. For each week, you will be assigned either a check minus, a check, or a check plus. If you receive a check minus, please come and see me and we can talk about strategies for improvement. On the other hand, if you receive a check or a check plus you are on the right track.

Quizzes (50%):

There will be six unannounced quizzes throughout the semester, (you can drop your lowest score) each counted quiz will make up 10 percent of your grade. These quizzes will be based upon the reading. (The quizzes will be hard so be prepared and take them very seriously)

Daily Participation (15%):

You are required to come to class and participate in discussions. Part of the reading journal assignment is to prepare comments or points you would like to raise in our discussions--take advantage of this opportunity. Your participation will be noted daily and the score you are assigned will be dependent on both the quality and quantity of your contribution. Additionally, a majority of the score for participation will be determined based upon your performance in our weekly debates. Please note, for most weeks there are extra readings I have specifically assigned for the debate.

Simulation Participation (5%)

We will be doing a simulation. In this simulation, I will put you in a hypothetical situation where there are four teams of 5. Each team represents a country which belongs to the African Union. In this scenario, you will decide how to best deal with a spike in piracy along the eastern coast of Africa. This is a multifaceted issue and will require you to bring in thinking from all of the sections of our class in order for you and your classmates to devise a policy solution for this vexing problem.

Contacting the Instructor:

The best way to contact me is via e-mail, doug74@uga.edu, or during office hours. If you contact me through e-mail, you can usually expect a response within the same day. However, remember that some questions are better asked and answered in person. I love seeing you at my office hours, do not hesitate to come by.

Academic Honesty:

All students at the University of Georgia, have signed and agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. In line with this agreement, your work is expected to meet all requirements outlined in these documents, which can be found at www.uga.edu/honesty. If you were unaware of breaking the honor code, I will still hold you accountable for the violation. Violations of the Honor Code will result in the student receiving a failing grade and the offense being reported to the University. If you have any questions or concerns about the academic honesty policy, please direct them to me.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and need special accommodation, inform your instructor during the first week of the semester. We will work with the Disability Resource Center to accommodate your needs.

***Please note that the dates on this syllabus represent a general plan for the course. Changes can be made at the instructor's discretion.**

Week 1- January 5

Introduction

Listen to the following Freakonomics podcasts: <http://freakonomics.com/podcast/peak/>, <http://freakonomics.com/podcast/jane-austen-game-theorist-a-new-freakonomics-radio-podcast/>, <http://freakonomics.com/podcast/how-to-think-like-a-freak-and-other-freak-quently-asked-questions-a-new-freakonomics-radio-podcast/>

Week 2- January 8, 10, and 12

-Read chapters 1-3 of *War*

Week 3- January 15, 17, and 19

-Read Chapters 4 and 5 of *War*

Week 4- January 22, 24, and 26

-Read Chapters 6 and 7 of *War*

-Reading for debate: Chapters 4, 5, and 16 of *Fiasco*, Chapter 8 of *Decision Points*

Week 5- January 29, 31, and February 2

-Reach chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 of *Why Nations Fail*

-Listen to the Planet Money podcast found at the following link

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2014/05/14/312488659/episode-337-the-secret-document-that-transformed-china>

-Reading for debate: Chapter 3 of *Controversies of Globalization*

Week 6- February 5, 7, and 9

-Read Chapters 5, 6, and Conclusion of *Why Nations Fail*.

-Listen to the Planet Money podcast found at the following link:

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2014/12/03/368059325/episode-271-a-city-on-the-moon>

-Reading for debate: Chapter 13 of *Controversies in Globalization*

Week 7- February 12, 14 and 16

-Read Chapters 1-4 of *Making Globalization Work*

-Listen to the Freakonomics podcast found at the following link:

<http://freakonomics.com/podcast/no-hollywood-ending-visual-effects-industry/>

-Reading for debate: Chapter 3 of *Controversies in Globalization*

Week 8- February 19, 21, and 23

-Read Chapters 6-9 of *Making Globalization Work*

-Reading for debate: Chapter 1 in *Controversies in Globalization*

Week 9- February 26, 28, and March 2

-Read Chapters 10-12 of *Making Globalization Work*

-Listen to the Planet Money podcast found at the following link:

<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2015/08/26/434988401/episode-502-the-afterlife-of-a-t-shirt>

Week 10- March 5, 7, and 9

-Read first half of inventing human rights

-Reading for debate: Chapter 7 from *Controversies in Globalization*

Week 11- March 12, 14, and 16

-Spring Break (Have fun and be safe!)

Week 12-March 19, 21, and 23

-Read second half of *Inventing Human Rights*

-Reading for debate: Chapter 11 from *Controversies in Globalization*

Week 13-March 26, 28, and 29

-Read chapters 1 through 3 and 5 of *Blood and Rage*

Week 14-April 2, 4, and 6

-Read chapters 6 through 8 of *Blood and Rage*

Week 15- April 9, 11, and 13

-In class simulation

Week 16- April 16, 18, and 20

-In class simulation

Week 17- April 23, 25, and 27

-In class simulation