

INTL 3200: Introduction to International Relations (Spring 2018)

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Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45pm, 301 Baldwin Hall

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2pm-4pm Baldwin 212, or by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

Why do countries go to war, and when are they likely to do so? Why do countries experience civil wars and insurgencies? How does international trade affect how countries, groups, and organizations interact with each other? International relations scholars try to answer questions like these to help us understand why we observe certain outcomes in the international arena. This class is an introduction to the scientific study of international politics, and no prior knowledge of international relations theory is assumed. After this class, you will know who the important international actors are, their preferences, and how they interact with each other and institutions. Further, you will be familiar with current international relations scholarship on a range of issues, including international and civil war, terrorism, international trade, human rights, and global environmental concerns. Most importantly, you will understand how political scientists use the scientific method to build knowledge about important international phenomena—how we know what we know.

This course has 4 sections: Foundations, War and Peace, International Political Economy, and Emerging Areas in International Relations. After this class, you will be prepared for upper level courses on each of these major topics, or you could use your knowledge to gain entry-level positions with various government and international organizations.

Grading

Your course grade is calculated as follows:

- 30% Midterm Exam, March 1st
- 30% Final Exam, date TBA
- 20% Pop Quizzes
- 10% Geography Quiz, February 6th
- 10% Attendance and Participation

Grade Distribution

A	93.00-100.00	C	73.00-76.99
A-	90.00-92.99	C-	70.00-72.99
B+	87.00-89.99	D	60.00-69.99
B	83.00-86.99	F	Below 60.00
B-	80.00-82.99		
C+	77.00-79.99		

NOTE: Any student that does not attend the first two course meetings may be administrative dropped from the course to make room for students that wish to enroll.

Academic Dishonesty

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to follow the University's academic honesty policy ("A Culture of Honesty") and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty" (including policies that cover plagiarism and unauthorized assistance; for more information, see <http://www.uga.edu/honesty>). Students are responsible for informing themselves about these standards before performing and submitting any academic work and may direct specific questions they have regarding the policy (or its application to course assignments) to the instructor. Please note that all suspected violations of this policy will be handled according to the guidelines set forth within the policy.

Course Guidelines

The following guidelines govern the requirements for this course:

1. Students are expected to read the assigned course material, attend all class meetings, and participate actively within in-class activities and discussions. There is no "extra credit" to make up for low participation. Students who are unable to attend a class meeting are responsible for obtaining the notes for that meeting from another student. The instructor will not provide lecture slides or notes for class meetings.
2. Assignments and papers are due on the dates given at the *beginning* of the regular class period. A late paper will be penalized one full letter grade (10 percentage points) for the first day it is late, as well as an additional letter grade (10 percentage points) for each additional day it is late. After 5 days, assignments can be turned in for half-credit until the final class meeting (April 24 at 12:30pm). After this final deadline, the instructor will assign a score of 0 for any outstanding assignments. Note that I will not accept excuses (for example, broken printers) to justify missing deadlines. It is also not appropriate to come to class significantly late on the dates on which papers are due; papers turned in after the beginning of class may be penalized.
3. Students are advised to keep class notes, graded papers, and copies of submitted work until final grades are distributed. Every effort will be made to ensure that assignments and exams are graded timely, fairly, and objectively. If during the course of the semester, you believe that you received an inaccurate grade, you may submit a written memo to the instructor, along with the graded paper in question. This memo must be submitted within two weeks of receiving the graded assignment. The instructor will then read the memo, re-read the paper, and assign

a new grade. The new grade may be lower, the same as, or higher than the original grade and will not be subject to additional appeal under this policy.

4. It is the policy and practice of the University of Georgia to create an inclusive learning environment. Students requiring accommodations should discuss such matters with the instructor at the outset of the course. Students requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center on campus (706-542-8719, <http://www.drc.uga.edu>).
5. I do not offer makeup exams except in cases of emergencies, for which you must provide adequate documentation before being allowed to make up an exam.

Cell Phones

All cell phones (and other devices that make noise) must be turned off or put on silent (silent, not vibrate) upon entering the classroom. Repeated unnecessary disruptions of class caused by such devices may negatively affect a student's grade. Laptops and tablets are permitted, but only for notes. Facebook and other social media are not appropriate uses of phones and computers during class, as they distract those around you.

Communicating with the Instructor

My primary method of communicating with you outside of class time/office hours will be thorough email. You have each been assigned an email address by the university and will be held responsible for regularly checking this account. Assignment changes, important dates, and other valuable information may be sent to this account over the course of the semester. Please check it regularly.

Changes to the Syllabus may occur

The following is from <https://curriculumsystems.uga.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus>:

“The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.” If anything in the syllabus changes, I will notify you with enough time to ensure that you do not do unnecessary work and have enough time to complete new reading/assignments.

Disability Services

The following is taken verbatim from <https://drc.uga.edu/faculty/sample-access-statements>:

“If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center. They can be reached by visiting Clark Howell Hall, calling 706-542-8719 (voice) or 706-542-8778 (TTY), or by visiting <http://drc.uga.edu>.”

The following is taken verbatim from <https://online.uga.edu/documents/ugasyllabusguidelines.pdf>:

“Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.”

Useful Campus Resources

There are many campus resources that can help you with your academic performance and assist you during the semester. I urge you to check out the Division of Academic Enhancement and the Writing Center.

Class Schedule

January 4th: Introduction to Course

Readings: Lake, David A. (2011) “Why “isms” are Evil: Theory, Epistemology, and Academic Sects as Impediments to Understanding and Progress.” *International Studies Quarterly* 55(2): 465-480.

Part I: Foundations of International Relations

January 9th: The Scientific Method’s Role in IR Theory

Readings: pages xx-xxxiii

January 11th: Historical Background

Readings: pages 2-39

January 16th: The Framework—Interests, Interactions, Institutions

Readings: pages 42-81

Part II: War and Peace

January 18th: Rational Wars

Readings: pages 88-135

January 23rd: Domestic Interests and War

Readings: pages 136-183

January 25th: Alliances, Collective Security, and Peacekeeping

Readings: pages 184-233

January 30th: The Issues Approach

Readings: ELC

February 1st: Interstate Rivalry

Readings: ELC

February 6th: Civil War (**Geography Quiz!**)

Readings: pages 234-264

February 8th: Ethnicity and Civil War

Readings: ELC

February 13th: The Intersection of International and Civil Conflict

Readings: ELC

February 15th: Terrorism (Introduction)

Readings: pages 264-289

February 20th: Terrorism (History and Strategy)

Readings: none

February 22nd: Terrorism (Counterterrorism and Counterinsurgency)

Readings: ELC

February 27th: Review for Exam 1

March 1st: **MIDTERM EXAM**

Part III: International Political Economy

March 6th: International Trade (Introduction)

Readings: pages 290-313, 334-339

March 8th: International Trade (continued)

Readings: pages 313-333

SPRING BREAK

March 20th: International Financial Relations

Readings: pages 340-377

March 22nd: International Monetary Relations

Readings: pages 380-419

Part IV: Emerging Areas in International Relations

March 27th: International Law and Norms

Readings: pages 456-489

March 29th: Human Rights

Readings: pages 490-531

April 3rd: The Dissent-Repression Nexus

Readings: ELC

April 5th: Away at Conference (Video Assignment)

Readings: none

April 10th: Environmental Concerns on a Global Scale

Readings: pages 532-575

April 12th: Future Trends in International Politics

Readings: pages 576-627

April 17th: Future Trends (continued)

Readings: none

April 19th: Putting it all Together

Readings: ELC

April 24th: Class Review for Final Exam

Readings: none

April 26th: Reading Day (No Class)

FINAL EXAM: TBA