

INTL 3200 May/Summer 2017

INTL 3200 Introduction to International Relations

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Objectives: This class is intended to lay the analytic foundation for a study of international politics. The course is anchored to questions like: Why war? What are the goals of states? When is international cooperation possible? What is the role of governments in shaping the global economy? Together we will explore proposed answers to these questions (and many others). With a critical eye, we will compare and contrast competing explanations.

Requirements: There will be four unannounced in-class quizzes. Each will be worth 40 points. **Exam Format:** Students will write analytical essays on the lecture material. The reading material will be examined using multiple choice tests.

There will be no make-up quizzes without medical documentation explaining the absence.

Cheating or plagiarism constitute grounds for course failure. Students failing the class at the time they request a withdrawal will receive a WF.

A	100-93
A-	92-90
B+	89-87
B	86- 83
B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D	69-60
F	59 and below

Readings: There are two texts for this class. The first is International Relations by Goldstein (10th). While a standard introductory text in most respects, it is unique in that the focus is upon the relationship between a state's strategic environment and its ability

to pursue foreign policy objectives. It thus serves as a good complement to material presented in class. The second text is International Relations Theory by Viotti and Kauppi (5th edition.). This is a text combined with “selected readings” at the end of each chapter. It emphasizes the current theoretical debates in international relations from competing perspectives.

The purpose in assigning both texts is NOT to have you memorize the material. Instead, you will be asked to critically assess the logical grounding of the authors’ comments against the ideas and arguments presented in class. Both texts are available at the bookstore for your purchase.

Below outlines a timetable for the completion of the assigned readings. These are intended as groundwork for the material presented in class. The lectures will introduce new material, but the order of topics will generally coincide with the readings. Also, the reading burden for this course is not heavy. I intend this deliberately. There are no excuses for not completing the readings in a timely fashion. That is my ‘carrot’, the incentive for you to stay current with the readings. The ‘stick’ rests both in the fact that a careful and considered completion of the assigned readings is essential for success in this course, and that the examinations are structured to ensure this.

Readings/Topical Outline

May 9 Introduction

May 10 Theorizing about International Politics

- G. Ch.1
- V&K. Ch.1 (including the selected readings for that chapter)

May 11 Important Actors

- G. Ch.7

May 12 Anarchy & States Goals

- V&K Ch.2 and from selected readings
- Thucydides, Machiavelli, Thomas Hobbes, Rousseau

May 15 Power

- G. Ch.2 & 6
- V&K Ch. 2 selected readings
- Joseph Nye, Kenneth Waltz

May 16 Power (continued)

- G. Ch.3
- V&K. Ch.3

Decision Making

- G. Ch.4

May 18 Strategic Games

- (No readings)

May 19 Cooperation/Integration

- G. Ch.10

May 22 Domestic Influences

- V&K Ch.4 (including the selected readings for that chapter)

May 23 War

- G. Ch.5

May 24 War (continued)

- V&K Ch.9 pp.391-412

May 25 Trade

- G. Ch.8

May 26 Trade (continued)

- G. Ch.9

May 29 (Memorial Day – UGA Holiday)

May 30 Nuclear Deterrence and Proliferation/Environment/Development

- G Ch.11, 13