

INTL 3200 (CRN: 25936) / Spring 2021

Introduction to International Relations

Dr. Ryan Powers

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Office: Rm. 310, 202 Herty Drive

Office hours: On Zoom by appointment (<https://ryanpowers.youcanbook.me/>).

Class meetings: 9:35–10:50 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday in Chapel 0101.

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COVID-19 Considerations

Because of the ongoing risks to health and safety presented by COVID-19, this course will adopt a “hyflex” model. For our purposes, this means that lecture will be given in person and via Zoom simultaneously and that no part of your grade depends on how you choose to “attend” lecture. I anticipate that many—if not all—students will choose to do so. A link to a password protected Zoom session will be distributed via university email and posted on ELC.

If attending in person, **you must wear a face mask and comply with all social distancing guidelines**. If any student fails to do so, I will immediately terminate the in-person session and notify the appropriate campus authorities.

Course Description

This course is an undergraduate-level introduction to international politics. The course is designed with two objectives in mind. First, this course will introduce students to the nuts and bolts of the international system. By the end of the course, students will be able to answer the following questions: Who are the important actors in the international system? What are their interests? And how do they pursue them? Second, this course will introduce students to the *study* of international politics. We will review and critique the dominant explanations for international conflict and cooperation across a wide range of issue areas (security, human rights, trade, environment, and more). By the end of this course, students will have practice identifying the strengths and weaknesses of both theoretical arguments and empirical applications in international relations scholarship.

Course Materials

There is one required textbook for this course: *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions* (Fourth Edition) by Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz.

I have not requested the campus bookstore to stock it because the book is almost always less costly used, online, or as an ebook. You could also get by with the third edition if you find that for a good price. All other readings will be posted to the course website.

Grading and Expectations

Grades

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Reading quizzes: 10%
- *Dr. Strangelove* response: 15%
- Midterm 1: 25%
- Midterm 2: 25 %
- Final exam: 25%

Attendance

Attendance (either online or in person) is vital to your success this semester. You should come to lecture having read the assigned work closely enough to actively participate in a detailed and critical discussion of the arguments and evidence presented by the authors. I also expect you to come to class already familiar with the major international news stories of the day. You get access to both *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* as part of your student activities fees. Other great international affairs coverage is available from *The Economist*, *The Financial Times*, and *BBC World News*.

Note that brown M&M's are strictly prohibited from all class meetings. Send me an email by January 22, 2021 explaining why both Van Halen and I have such particular tastes when it comes to M&M's and you will receive a 5 point bonus on your participation grade (Hint: goo.gl/ThqEAm).

All noise-making electronics should be silenced and, where possible, set to "Do Not Disturb" for the duration of our class meetings. If attending via Zoom, please mute your audio when not asking a question.

Assignments

Assignments should be submitted online to the eLearning Commons. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of one-half letter grade per day. Exams will be completed on ELC.

- **Reading Quizzes.** Over the course of the semester, you will complete a series of reading quizzes on ELC. They will ask substantive questions about the assigned readings.

- **Dr. Strangelove Response.** You will write a three-page, double spaced response to *Dr. Strangelove*. An assignment sheet with detailed instructions will be distributed via eLC, but in broad terms, the response paper will ask you to identify concepts from our discussion of inter-state war and explain how they were illustrated in the movie. This response paper is due **February 11, 2021**.
- **Midterm exams.** There will be two midterm exams. They will be administered on ELC during our normal class meetings on **March 11, 2021** and **April 13, 2021**. I expect them to take the entire class meeting. The exams will be comprised of a number of multiple choice questions, several short answer questions, and one short essay. The first exam will cover all material between the first class meeting and the first exam, while the second exam will cover all material covered since the first exam. I will grade the first exam and return it to you prior to the withdrawal deadline.
- **Final exam.** The final exam will be cumulative, but will emphasize material covered since the second midterm. It will be administered during our university-assigned final exam period: **8:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. on May 11, 2021** in our normal classroom.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be calculated on the following scale:

- 94–100: A
- 90–93: A-
- 87–89: B+
- 84–87: B
- 80–83: B-
- 77–79: C+
- 74–77: C
- 70–73: C-
- 67–69: D+
- 64–67: D
- 60–63: D-
- Less than 59: F

Course Policies

In the absence of written authorization from the UGA Disability Resource Center, students may not make a visual or audio recording of any aspect of this course. Students who have a recording accommodation agree in writing that they:

- Will use the records only for personal academic use during the specific course.
- Understand that faculty members have copyright interest in their class lectures and that they agree not to infringe on this right in any way.
- Understand that the faculty member and students in the class have privacy rights and agree not to violate those rights by using recordings for any reason other than their own personal study.
- Will not release, digitally upload, broadcast, transcribe, or otherwise share all or any part of the recordings. They also agree that they will not profit financially and will not allow others to benefit personally or financially from lecture recordings or other course materials.
- Will erase/delete all recordings at the end of the semester.
- Understand that violation of these terms may subject them to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct or subject them to liability under copyright laws.

The language above was drafted by SPIA Dean Matt Auer.

University Policies

Accommodations

In accordance with UGA policy, “[s]tudents 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.” More information about accommodations that are available to students with disabilities is available from the [Disability Resource Center](#).

Academic Integrity and Professional Conduct

I expect you to do your own work and to abide by all university policies on academic integrity and professional conduct. In part, these policies state:

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University’s academic honesty policy, “A Culture of Honesty,” and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in “A Culture of Honesty” found at: <https://honesty.uga.edu/Academic-Honesty-Policy/>. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

University Policies on COVID-19

Face Coverings

As a reminder, the University of Georgia—along with all University System of Georgia (USG) institutions—requires all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area. Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons. Students seeking an accommodation related to face coverings should contact Disability Services at <https://drc.uga.edu/>.

DawgCheck

Please perform a quick symptom check each weekday on DawgCheck—on the UGA app or website—whether you feel sick or not. It will help health providers monitor the health situation on campus: <https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/>

What do I do if I have symptoms?

Students showing symptoms should self-isolate and schedule an appointment with the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.). Please DO NOT walk-in. For emergencies and after-hours care, [visit the UHS website](#).

What do I do if I am notified that I have been exposed?

Effective Jan. 4, 2021, students who learn they have been directly exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms should self-quarantine for 10 days (consistent with updated Department of Public Health (DPH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines). Those quarantining for 10 days must have been symptom-free throughout the monitoring period. Please correspond with your instructor via email, with a cc: to Student Care and Outreach at sco@uga.edu, to coordinate continuing your coursework while self-quarantined.

We strongly encourage students to voluntarily take a COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the end of the 10-day quarantine period (test to be administered between days 8 and 10). Students may obtain these tests at Legion Field (<https://clia.vetview.vet.uga.edu/>) or at the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.). Please DO NOT walk-in the University Health Center without an appointment. For emergencies and after-hours care, see <https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>.

If the test is negative, the individual may return to campus, but **MUST** continue to closely monitor for any new COVID-19 symptoms through 14 days. DawgCheck is the best method for monitoring these symptoms. If new symptoms occur, the individual must not come to campus and must seek further testing/evaluation. If the test is positive at the end of the 10-day period, the individual must begin a 10-day isolation period from the date of the test.

How do I get a test?

Students who are demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19 should call the University Health Center. UHC is offering testing by appointment for students; appointments may be booked by calling 706-542-1162. UGA will also be recruiting asymptomatic students to participate in surveillance tests. Students living in residence halls, Greek housing and off-campus apartment complexes are encouraged to participate.

We strongly encourage you to take advantage of the expanded surveillance testing that is being offered from January 4–22: up to 1,500 free tests per day at Legion Field and pop-up locations. Testing at Legion Field can be scheduled **online**. Walk-up appointments can usually be accommodated at Legion Field, and pop-up saliva testing does not require pre-registration. For planning purposes, precise sites and schedules for the pop-up clinics are published on the UHC’s website and its social media as they are secured: <https://www.uhs.uga.edu/healthtopics/covid-surveillance-testing>.

What do I do if I test positive?

Any student with a positive COVID-19 test is **required** to report the test in DawgCheck and should self-isolate immediately. Students should not attend classes in-person until the isolation period is completed. Once you report the positive test through DawgCheck, UGA Student Care and Outreach will follow up with you.

Course Outline

Required reading, if any, is listed in parentheses. **FLS = Frieden, Lake, and Schultz**. The UGA Course Syllabus Policy states: “The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviation announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.” **Reading should be completed prior to the class meeting for which it is assigned.**

1. Preliminaries

- Thursday, January 14, 2021: Introduction and Summary of Expectations – **On Zoom; No in-person class meeting.**
- Tuesday, January 19, 2021: International Relations as a Social Science (FLS Introduction)
- Thursday, January 21, 2021: A Brief History of International Relations (FLS Chapter 1)
- Tuesday, January 26, 2021: View *Dr. Strangelove* – **Complete on ELC; No class meeting.**
- Thursday, January 28, 2021: Actors, Interests, and Strategy in World Politics (FLS Chapter 2)

2. Political Violence

- Tuesday, February 02, 2021: Inter-state War: Why States Fight Each Other – Part I (FLS Chapter 3)

- Thursday, February 04, 2021: Inter-state War: Why States Fight Each Other – Part II (Lake 2010)
- Tuesday, February 09, 2021: Domestic Politics and War – Part I (FLS Chapter 4)
- Thursday, February 11, 2021: Domestic Politics and War – Part II (Reiter and Stam 2002, Chapters 1 and 2)
 - **Dr. Strangelove response paper due**
- Tuesday, February 16, 2021: Alliances: Why States Fight *for* Each Other (FLS Chapter 5)
- Thursday, February 18, 2021: Alliances: Collective Security
- Tuesday, February 23, 2021: Civil War: Why Wars Occur Within States (FLS Chapter 6)
- Thursday, February 25, 2021: Civil War: International Politics of Rebellion
- Tuesday, March 02, 2021: Terrorism (Kydd and Walter 2006)
- Thursday, March 04, 2021: Counter Terrorism and COIN
- Tuesday, March 09, 2021: Final Thoughts on Political Violence and Midterm Review
- Thursday, March 11, 2021: **Midterm Exam I – Complete on ELC; No class meeting.**

3. Economic Integration

- Tuesday, March 16, 2021: Overview of IPE
- Thursday, March 18, 2021: International Trade I (FLS Chapter 7)
- Tuesday, March 23, 2021: International Trade II
- Thursday, March 25, 2021: Brexit
- Tuesday, March 30, 2021: International Finance Part I (FLS Chapter 8)
- Thursday, April 01, 2021: International Finance Part II
- Tuesday, April 06, 2021: Money (FLS Chapter 9)
- Thursday, April 08, 2021: Development and Midterm Review (FLS Chapter 10)
- Tuesday, April 13, 2021: **Midterm Exam II – Complete on ELC; No class meeting.**

4. Selected Issues in International Politics

- Thursday, April 15, 2021: International Law (FLS Chapter 11)
- Tuesday, April 20, 2021: Human Rights (FLS Chapter 12)
- Thursday, April 22, 2021: Global Environment (FLS Chapter 13)
- Tuesday, April 27, 2021: Weapons of Mass Destruction (FLS Chapter 14)
- Thursday, April 29, 2021: Final Exam Review
- Tuesday, May 11, 2021: **Final Exam – Complete on ELC; No class meeting.**
(8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)