

INTL 3200: Introduction to International Relations

Fall 2021

Instructor: Shanshan Lian	Time: MWF 9:10am – 10:00am (CRN: 51642)
Email: shanshan.lian@uga.edu	Place: MLC 153

Office Hours

- **Office Hours:** 3:50pm to 4:50am on Tuesdays
- **Online Office Hours:** Zoom – 3:50pm to 4:50am on Tuesdays
- **Other Times:** By appointment

Course Description and Objectives

When are countries likely to go to war? Why do groups use terrorism to try to get what they want? Why does the Chinese economy impact American politics? Could environmental treaties help stop pollution? These questions, and many like them, are becoming impossible to ignore in an increasingly globalized world. This class serves as a first step in understanding the scientific study of international politics. We will focus on scientific explanations of war, terrorism, political economy, civil society, human rights, and environmental protection in order to gain better theoretical insights into the current world political environment. After this class, you will have not only an understanding of the major players in world politics but a base understanding of the social scientific processes which govern the international political system. As such, this class is not a history class or a class on current events. Though current and historical events will be discussed, your grade will not depend on your rote memorization of these events. Instead, the focus will be on understanding the underlying interests of the actors in the international system, the arenas in which they interact, and the rules which govern their interactions. This focus on basic principles will provide you with a rich practical knowledge of international politics.

The class is divided into four major sections (1) the framework of international relations and background information, (2) understanding conflict, (3) understanding international political economy, and (4) emerging areas of world politics. 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.

Course Textbook

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, Kenneth A. Schultz. 2018. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. WW Norton. ISBN: 0393675092.

Please Note: You are welcome to use the e-book (<https://wnorton.com/books/9780393675092>) or an earlier edition of the book if it is easier/more economical for you. The e-book is \$39.95 from the WW Norton website.

Course Format

This course is in-person. All materials, including the slides and the additional materials, are available online through UGA's eLearning Commons (ELC) portal.

The course consists of **four modules**. Each module consists of **four topics**. Each topic will include:

1. A chapter/portion of a chapter in the Frieden, Lake, and Schultz textbook.
2. A set of slides on the topic, which will be uploaded onto ELC by the end of each week
3. A set of additional materials/video links you could explore for further information on the topic

You will have to complete a topic a week. For each module, the assignments, quizzes and discussion boards, will be due by Monday (September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13). For discussion boards, you are welcome to work ahead. Any way you want to tackle the discussion board work is fine with me! As long as each discussion board assignment is completed before the deadline, you can work whenever and wherever works for you best!

I am here to help however I can. Please feel free to email at any time (shanshan.lian@uga.edu). I strive to answer all emails within 24 hours. I am happy to schedule a time to chat in person or over video.

Grading

- 60% - Four quizzes (one for each module) - Due on September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13, respectively.
- 30% - Four discussion board contributions (one for each module) - Due on September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13 **by 11:59 pm (EST)**, respectively.
- 10% - Attendance (5%) and participation (5%)

Quizzes

At the end of each module, there will be a short (around 20 questions) multiple choice quiz for you to complete. The first three quizzes will take place in MLC 153 within regular class periods during the semester (September 13, October 11, and November 8). The final exam will take place in MLC 153 during the allocated exam time (December 13, 8:00am - 11:00am). Reaching the textbooks, attending classes, and going over the set of slides for each of the module's four topics should prepare you for each quiz. **The quizzes are open note and open book.**

Discussion Board Contributions

There will be a discussion board for each module. We will start off the discussion board with some questions about the topics for that module. For each module, you will contribute at least one thoughtful response to the discussion board question that references the course materials. I will grade these contributions after the module closes. **A rubric can be found on eLC.**

Attendance

I will take attendance every class. There are 2 unexcused absences. I do not need to know the reason for these absences. Any unexcused absences after the 2 freebies will result in a half point deduction from your final participation grade for each absence.

Excused absences are given when I receive one of the following: an official UGA excuse, a medical note, or a student-athlete responsibility. Documentation is required for all of these (For more information, please see: <https://provost.uga.edu/policies/academic-affairs-policy-manual/4-06-class-attendance/>).

If you test positively for COVID-19, please email me right away after you reported your positive test result via **DawgCheck**.

Participation

Participation is worth 5% of your final grade. Keep in mind that a not-so-great attendance record can erase participation, because it's hard to participate if you are not around. **Even perfect attendance without active participation does not guarantee a good participation score.**

5 points	Student attends classes and regularly participates in class discussions. Student contributions critically engage with the material and with class peers.
4 points	Student attends classes and regularly participates in class discussions. Student contributions critically engage with the material.
3 points	Student attends classes and regularly participates in class discussions. Student contributions involve examples from personal life but they lack critical engagement with the material.
2 points	Student attends classes and occasionally participates in class discussions.
1 points	Student attends classes but does not participate in the discussions.
0 points	Student does not attend breakout section.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be calculated on the following scale:

- 94 to 100 – A
- 90 to 93 – A-
- 87 to 89 – B+
- 84 to 87 – B
- 80 to 83 – B-
- 77 to 79 – C+

- 74 to 77 – C
- 70 to 73 – C-
- 67 to 69 – D+
- 64 to 67 – D
- 60 to 63 – D-
- 59 and below – F

Useful Information and University Policies

Important Due Dates

Quiz 1	September 16, 9:10am – 10:00am (EST)
Discussion Board 1	September 16, by 11:59 pm (EST)
Quiz 2	October 11, 9:10am – 10:00am (EST)
Discussion Board 2	October 11, by 11:59 pm (EST)
Quiz 3	November 8, 9:10am – 10:00am (EST)
Discussion Board 3	November 8, by 11:59 pm (EST)
Quiz 4 (Final Exam)	December 13, 8:00am – 11:00am (EST)
Discussion Board 4	December 13, by 11:59 pm (EST)

Make-up Quiz

Legitimate excuses for absence from an exam (e.g., religious holiday, medical emergency, or illness) must be presented to the instructor and accepted prior to the quiz when feasible. Grades are due immediately after the course is over; late or missing assignments at this time may cause difficulties in grade reporting. For more information about legitimate excuses, please refer to the UGA class attendance policy: <https://provost.uga.edu/policies/academic-affairs-policy-manual/4-06-class-attendance/>.

Discussion Board Submission

If you miss a due date for a discussion board, I will allow all students one “freebie” or late submission request: you can have extra 24 hours for the assignment. Please simply email the instructor (shanshan.lian@uga.edu). Grades are due immediately after the course is over; late or missing assignments at this time may cause difficulties in grade reporting. Beyond the one free late submission request, please refer to the UGA class attendance policy: <https://provost.uga.edu/policies/academic-affairs-policy-manual/4-06-class-attendance/>.

University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy

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

UGA Student Honor Code: “I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others.” A Culture of Honesty, the University’s policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found at www.uga.edu/ovpi.

We expect that the Student Honor Code will guide your efforts in this course. A lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy does not explain a violation. Please direct any questions to the instructor.

Changes to the Syllabus Could Occur

The following is taken verbatim 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."

FERPA Statement

The following is taken verbatim from https://ctl.uga.edu/_resources/documents/syllabus-checklist-march-2020b.pdf:

"The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) grants students certain information privacy rights. See the registrar's explanation at www.reg.uga.edu/general-information/ferpa/. FERPA allows disclosure of directory information (name, address, telephone, email, date of birth, place of birth, major, activities, degrees, schools), unless requested in a written letter to the registrar."

Disability Services

The following is taken verbatim from https://drc.uga.edu/content_page/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."

I want to help all students succeed in this course!

Mental Health and Wellness Resources

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

"If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit <https://sco.uga.edu>. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.

UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) or crisis support (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>). If you need help managing stress, anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center. Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App."

Some material in this course contains references to violence. We urge you to take your mental health seriously. There are campus resources to help.

Coronavirus Information for Students

- **Face Covering:**

Following guidance from the University System of Georgia, face coverings are recommended for all individuals while inside campus facilities.

- **How can I obtain the COVID-19 vaccine?**

University Health Center is scheduling appointments for students through the UHC Patient Portal (https://patientportal.uhs.uga.edu/login_dualauthentication.aspx). Learn more here – <https://www.uhs.uga.edu/healthtopics/covid-vaccine>. The Georgia Department of Health, pharmacy chains and local providers also offer the COVID19 vaccine at no cost to you.

To find a COVID-19 vaccination location near you, please go to: <https://georgia.gov/covid-vaccine>. In addition, the University System of Georgia has made COVID-19 vaccines available at 15 campuses statewide and you can locate one here: <https://www.usg.edu/vaccination>.

- **What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19?**

If you test positive for COVID-19 at any time, you are required to report it through the DawgCheck Test Reporting Survey. We encourage you to stay at home if you become ill or until you have excluded COVID-19 as the cause of your symptoms. UGA adheres to current Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) quarantine and isolation guidance and requires that it be followed. Follow the instructions provided to you when you report your positive test result in DawgCheck. Guidelines for COVID-19 Quarantine Period (As of 8/1/21; follow DawgCheck or see DPH website for most up-to-date recommendations)

Students who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine upon exposure unless they have symptoms of COVID-19 themselves. All others should follow the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) recommendations: Students who are not fully vaccinated and have been directly exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms should self-quarantine for 10 days. Those quarantining for 10 days must have been symptom-free throughout the monitoring period and continue self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms for a total of 14 days.

You should report the need to quarantine on DawgCheck (<https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/>) and communicate directly with your faculty to coordinate your coursework while in quarantine. If you need additional help, reach out to Student Care and Outreach (sco@uga.edu) for assistance. Students, faculty and staff who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 are no longer required to quarantine if they have been fully vaccinated against the disease and show no symptoms.

- **Monitoring Conditions**

Note that the guidance referenced in this syllabus is subject to change based on recommendations from the Georgia Department of Public Health, the University System of Georgia, or the Governor's Office. For the latest on UGA policy, you can visit coronavirus.uga.edu.

Course Outline

Module 1: Framework and Background Information

Topic 1: Intro to Course

Week 1: August 18 - August 20 (No Class on Friday)

- Required Reading: Syllabus, Introduction Chapter from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz
- Slides: Topic 1: Introduction to the course
- Recommended Readings/Links: None

Topic 2: Introduction to Social Science & Historical Background

Week 2: August 23 - August 27

- Required Reading: Introduction and Chapter 1 (What Shaped Our World? A Historical Introduction) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 2: 5 Key Points on Social Science Research & 10 World Events to Remember
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO (a bit irreverent): [history of the entire world, i guess](#)

Topic 3: Foundations for Understanding International Relations

Week 3: August 30 - September 3

- Required Reading: Chapter 2 (Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 3: The 3 I's Framework - Interests, Interactions, and Institutions - One Framework to Understand Many Events
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [Zombies, G20 and International Relations](#)
 - VIDEO: [Metaphor of the Living Dead: Daniel Drezner at TEDxBinghamtonUniversity](#)

Topic 4: More on Interactions - Bargaining, Cooperation, and Game Theory

Week 4: September 6 - September 10 (Labor Day - No Class on Monday)

- Required Reading: Chapter 2 (Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018) - Reread Special Topic: A Primer on Game Theory
- Slides: Topic 4: Interactions - Just the Basics
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - WEBSITE: <http://www.gametheory.net/>

Module 2: Understanding International Conflict

Topic 5: Bargaining Model of War

Week 5: September 13 - September 17 (Quiz 1 and Due Date of Discussion Board Posts for Module 1 on Monday)

- Required Reading: Chapter 3 (Why Are There Wars?) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)

- Slides: Topic 5: Important Points to Remember on the Bargaining Model of War
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [The Bargaining Model & War: A Tutorial](#)
 - OUTSIDE READING: Reiter, Dan. "Exploring the bargaining model of war." *Perspectives on Politics* 1, no. 1 (2003): 27-43.

Topic 6: Domestic Interests and War

Week 6: September 20 - September 24

- Required Reading: Chapter 4 (Domestic Interests and War) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 6: Domestic Interests and War
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - OUTSIDE READING: Reiter, Dan. "Democratic peace theory." Oxford University Press, 2012.

Topic 7: International Institutions and War

Week 7: September 27 - October 1

- Required Reading: Chapter 5 (International Institutions and War) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 7: Alliances and Collective Security Organizations
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [Parity on the frontline: women take increasing role in peacekeeping](#)

Topic 8: Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil War and Terrorism

Week 8: October 4 - October 8 (No Class on Friday for ISA-South)

- Required Reading: Chapter 6 (Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil War and Terrorism) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 8: Nonstate Actors and Violence - Civil War and Terrorism
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - BLOGPOST: [Was what happened in Charleston terrorism?](#)
 - BLOGPOST: [Inspired or Directed? Why This Distinction Matters in Recent Terrorist Attack in Orlando](#)

Module 3: Understanding International Political Economy

Topic 9: International Trade

Week 9: October 11 - October 15 (Quiz 2 and Due Date of Discussion Board Posts for Module 2 on Monday)

- Required Reading: Chapter 7 (International Trade) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 9: International Trade - 3 Big Points
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - WEBSITE: <https://ourworldindata.org/trade-and-globalization>

- WEBSITE: <https://www.export.gov/National-US-Trade-Data>

Topic 10: International Financial Relations

Week 10: October 18 - October 22

- Required Reading: Chapter 8 (International Financial Relations) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 10: International Finance
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - WEBSITE: <https://www.bls.gov/fdi/overview.htm>

Topic 11: International Monetary Relations

Week 11: October 25 - October 29 (Fall Break – No Class on Friday)

- Required Reading: Chapter 9 (International Monetary Relations) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 11: International Monetary Relations
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [Imports, Exports, and Exchange Rates: Crash Course Economics 15](#)

Topic 12: Development

Week 12: November 1 - November 5

- Required Reading: Chapter 10 (Development: Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 12: Development
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [Guns, Germs, and Steel](#)

Module 4: "New" Challenges to World Politics

Topic 13: International Law and Norms

Week 13: November 8 - November 12 (Quiz 3 and Due Date of Discussion Board Posts for Module 3 on Monday)

- Required Reading: Chapter 11 (International Law and Norms) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 13: International Law and Norms
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - OUTSIDE READING: Finnemore, Martha, and Kathryn Sikkink. "International norm dynamics and political change." *International organization* 52, no. 4 (1998): 887-917.
 - PODCAST: [The Rights Track: Do NGOs Matter?](#)

Topic 14: Human Rights

Week 14: November 15 - November 19 (No Class on Friday for ISA-Midwest)

- Required Reading: Chapter 12 (Human Rights) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)

- Slides: Topic 14: Human Rights
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - BLOGPOST:
<https://www.vox.com/2019/6/7/18656568/usa-human-rights-report-police-shooting-voter-suppression> (Uses data from UGA Project The Human Rights Measurement Initiative)

Topic 15: The Global Environment

Week 15: November 22 - November 26 (Thanksgiving – No class on Wednesday and Friday)

- Required Reading: Chapter 13 (The Global Environment) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 15: Environment
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [What is Palm Oil - BBC](#)

Topic 16: Challenges to the World Order

Week 16: November 29 - December 3

- Required Reading: Chapter 14 (Challenges to the World Order) from Frieden, Lake, and Schultz (2018)
- Slides: Topic 16: What Comes Next?
- Recommended Readings/Links:
 - VIDEO: [China: Power and Prosperity](#)

Reading Week

Week 17: December 6 - December 8

Final Exam

Quiz 4 (Final Exam) and Due Date of Discussion Board Posts for Module 4 are on Monday, December 13.