

POLS 3200: Intro to International Relations

INSTRUCTOR

Deana Neaves

TIME

Fall 2023

Tu, Th 2:20-3:35

PLACE

Sanford 312

EMAIL

deana.neaves@uga.edu

OFFICE HOURS

Tues 4:00-6:00, or
by Appointment
202 Herty, B01

COURSE OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

No nation exists entirely separate from the rest of the world. Even the most isolationist state still makes decisions that affect how other international actors react. The study of international relations helps us to understand how various actors, their preferences, and their institutions interact with each other across nation-state boundaries to produce the political outcomes that we see in the world. It answers questions like “Why do states go to war?”, “Under what conditions do nations choose to cooperate?”, “Why do governments violate their citizens’ human rights?”, and “Can international treaties put an end to the climate emergency?”.

This course is designed to answer questions like these, and to help students build a theoretical foundation upon which to understand the political interactions that take place on a global scale. 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. 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.

REQUIRED TEXT AND READINGS

The required textbook for this course is **Foundations of International Relations**, edited by **Stephen McGlinchey**. It is *AVAILABLE FOR FREE* through the University of Georgia library.

There will also be assigned readings throughout the semester that will be provided in advance. You are expected to have completed the readings listed in the syllabus **PRIOR** to coming to class.

All readings will be posted on the eLC unless otherwise noted. **You are also required to keep up with current events**, as we will be using real-world examples in our discussions. Failure to do so will be evident in your participation, and you will be graded accordingly.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THE ELC SO THAT YOU CAN STAY UP TO DATE ON COURSE CHANGES, INCLUDING ANY LAST-MINUTE READINGS.

GRADING

Your final course grade will be determined by the following assessments:

Exams (55%)

There will be two exams in this course. Lectures and class discussion are intended to supplement, not duplicate, the readings. Exams will draw upon readings and class notes. They are not cumulative. Please note the dates of your midterm and finals exams.

- o Midterm Exam – 25%
- o Final Exam – 30%

Quizzes (15%)

There will be five quizzes throughout the semester, including a syllabus quiz.

Participation (10%)

Simply showing up to class does not constitute participation. **You are expected to play an active role in class discussions.** That said, simply speaking in class will not earn you a “good” participation grade. Those with the highest participation grades will ask insightful questions and present arguments grounded in the class readings and research. Students are encouraged to use the ELC discussion group as a space to engage with your peers about topics related to the course.

We will often discuss contentious political issues and I expect that you will be respectful of each other’s perspectives. Interruptions, slurs, or making fun of students or their views will not be tolerated.

I’ll take attendance each day (it helps me learn your names) and expect you to come to class unless you are unable to do so (i.e. you’re sick, been exposed to someone who is unwell, etc.). If you are going to be absent, please send me an email. **Excessive absences will lead to a deduction in your participation grade.**

IF YOU DO NOT FEEL WELL, DO NOT COME TO CLASS! Per UGA guidelines, faculty are to accommodate students who miss class due to COVID just as they normally would have accommodated ill students before the pandemic. We will have a collaborative notes Google doc available on ELC so you can keep up with what you missed when absent. I also encourage you to exchange contact information with at least two students in this class. Once you’re feeling better, please reach out to me during my office hours to answer any remaining questions.

If you are out for a prolonged period, please stay in contact with your professors. I also encourage you to reach out to Student Care and Outreach (sco@uga.edu) for assistance. They can contact all your professors on your behalf.

Class project (20%)

By the end of the class, I would like you to produce one unique creative product based on what you learned from this course. In its simplest form, this could be a 5-7 page paper on a topic of your choosing, relying on at least 3 sources outside of the required readings. However, I encourage you to consider other possibilities, including videos, podcasts, photography projects, blogs, performances, or other creative endeavors. First, you will need to turn in a

proposal for your project, which you can do any time **before October 19**. Projects may be collaborative, as long as the nature and necessity of the collaboration is fully expressed in your proposal and the proposal has been fully approved by me. Second, the final product itself is **due on November 30**.

Letter grades correspond to the following 0-100 scale:

94-100 A	74-76 C
90-93 A-	70-73 C-
87-89 B+	67-69 D+
84-86 B	64-66 D
80-83 B-	60-63 D-
77-79 C+	00-59 F

POLICIES & RESOURCES

Writing Style Rules

When writing papers for this class, you should follow these rules. Failure to do so could result in a reduction of your grade.

- o All papers should be double-spaced and in 12-point font, printed on pages with 1” margins all around.
- o Title pages, graphs, tables, figures, references, appendices, etc. do not count toward your paper’s length.
- o You are required to use the American Political Science Association (APSA) style format for your papers. The full style guide can be found on our class’s ELC page.

Cell Phones and Other Noise-Making Devices

All cell phones and other devices that make noise must be turned off or put on silent/vibrate upon entering the classroom. Repeated unnecessary disruptions of class caused by such devices may negatively affect a student’s grade.

Academic Honesty

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: www.uga.edu/honesty. 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. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will be referred to Judicial Affairs, as required by university policy. The most common issue of academic dishonesty I have come across is plagiarism. To be clear, plagiarism is copying from any source material (direct or paraphrasing of ideas), published or unpublished (this includes Wikipedia!), without giving proper credit.

The use of artificial intelligence or word mixing software to complete your project or disguise plagiarized work is considered unauthorized assistance in this course. Suspected unauthorized assistance, or other violations of UGA's "A Culture of Honesty," will be reported to the Office of Academic Honesty.

Class Discussion and Debate

Political debates and discussions can become quite heated. This passion is part of what makes the study of politics fun. However, the fun ends where personal attacks and disrespect begin. All students are expected to be courteous and considerate of their classmates. Disrespectful language and personal attacks will not be tolerated.

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, changes to the class schedule, and other valuable information will be sent to this account over the course of the semester. Please check it regularly.

I have posted office hours from 4 until 6 PM on Tuesdays. My office is located in the basement (B01) of the International Affairs building (202 Herty Dr). If you would like to meet with me during office hours, drop by. If these times do not work for you, I would be more than happy to set up an appointment at a different time during the week over Zoom. Simply send me an email and I will give you a link and set up a time with you.

Contested Grades

Students are always welcome to come discuss assignments and their overall class performance during my office hours. If you find a mathematical error on a graded assignment, please let me know immediately. Students wishing to contest a grade must wait 24 hours after their assignment/exam has been returned to make an appointment to see me. During that appointment students should come prepared with (1) their assignment/exam, (2) a typed explanation of what the best possible response to the prompt would look like, (3) a typed explanation of how their work compares to that best answer, and (4) their class and reading notes. All requests for such meetings must be made within two weeks of the date the assignment/exam was returned.

Students with Disabilities

UGA is committed to providing equal access to academic programs and university-administered activities and reasonable modifications to students with disabilities. Students in need of academic accommodations need to request such services from the Disability Resource Center located at 114 Clark Howell Hall (for more information visit www.drc.uga.edu) and should make an appointment to see me with their appropriate paperwork from the DRC within the first two weeks of classes.

Prohibition on Recording Lectures/Discussions

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:

- o Will use the records only for personal academic use during the specific course.

- o Understand that faculty members have copyright interest in their class lectures and that they agree not to infringe on this right in any way.
- o 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.
- o 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.
- o Will erase/delete all recordings at the end of the semester.

Other Support Services

UGA has a vast array of resources to support students facing a variety of challenges. Please don't hesitate to come speak with me or contact these resources directly. Please be aware that UGA faculty and staff are obligated to report any knowledge of sexual assault/relationship violence to UGA's Equal Opportunity Office. UGA's Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (info below) can speak to students confidentially.

- o **Office of Student Care & Outreach** (coordinate assistance for students experiencing hardship/unforeseen circumstances) – 706-542-7774 or by email sco@uga.edu
- o **Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)** - 706-542-2273 (during regular business hours) After Hour Mental Health Crisis: 706-542-2200 (UGA Police—ask to speak to the CAPS on-call clinician)
- o **Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP)** – 706-542-SAFE (The advocates at RSVP can provide students confidentiality).

Staying Informed

In this course, we will often discuss current political events and issues. It is therefore important that you stay informed. Your ability to take the news of the day and view it through the lens of what you are learning will be a vital component of your success in this class. You may get your information from whatever outlet you choose. However, it is recommended that at least some of your information comes from a national news source, such as *The New York Times* (www.nytimes.com), *The Washington Post* (www.washingtonpost.com), CNN (www.cnn.com), or NPR (www.npr.org). Also, academic blogs are often great places to encounter discussions of current events through the lens of the things we are talking about in class. A few political science blogs that may be useful for this course are *The Monkey Cage* (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/>), *The Quantitative Peace* (www.quantitativepeace.com/), *Political Violence @ a Glance* (<http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/>), and *The Duck of Minerva* (<http://duckofminerva.com/>), among others.

Changes to the Syllabus

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. As such, I reiterate the absolute necessity that you (1) stay up to date with the information on eLC and (2) check your email regularly.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
1 (August 17)	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Read the syllabus.○ Turn on eLC notifications.
2 (August 22, 24)	What is IR? / Actors in IR <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ McGlinchey Chapters 1 & 2○ “Palestinians Seen Gaining Momentum in Quest for Statehood” NYT○ “ISIS Transforming Into Functioning State That Uses Terror as Tool” NYT○ CFR. 2020. “What does the World Health Organization Do?” https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-does-world-health-organization-do
3 (August 29, 31)	Paradigms: Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ McGlinchey Chapter 6○ Busby. 2020. What International Relations Tells Us About COVID-19. E-IR. https://www.e-ir.info/2020/04/26/what-international-relations-tells-us-about-covid-19/○ Milner. 1991. “The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations Theory: A Critique”. <i>Review of International Studies</i>. <p><i>**Complete Syllabus Quiz on ELC by 11pm, August 31</i></p>
4 (September 5, 7)	Theories: Marxism, Feminism, and Postcolonialism <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ McGlinchey Chapter 7○ Confortini. 2006. “Galtung, Violence, and Gender: The Case for a Peace Studies/Feminism Alliance.” <i>Peace & Change</i>.○ Sjoberg, “Mansplaining’ International Relations” http://relationsinternational.com/mansplaining-international-relations-walt/○ Sjoberg. 2015. “Seeing Sex, Gender, and Sexuality in International Security.” <i>International Journal</i>.

5 (September 12, 14)

Foreign Policy Analysis

- Mintz and Sofrin. 2017. "Decision Making Theories in Foreign Policy Analysis." *Oxford Research Encyclopedias*.
<https://oxfordre.com/politics/display/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228637-e-405>
- Maclellan. 2023. "France, Australia and the First Nations Foreign Policy."
<https://devpolicy.org/france-australia-and-the-first-nations-foreign-policy-20230203/>
- Masters. 2023. "Ukraine: Conflict at the Crossroads of Europe and Russia."
<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/ukraine-conflict-crossroads-europe-and-russia>
- Walt. 2019. "America's Polarization Is a Foreign Policy Problem, Too."
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/03/11/americas-polarization-is-a-foreign-policy-problem-too/>

6 (September 19, 21)

International Political Economy

- McGlinchey Chapter 10
- CNN. 2020. "NAFTA is Officially Gone. Here's What Has and Hasn't Changed" <https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/01/politics/usmca-nafta-replacement-trump/index.html>
- Guisinger. 2017. "Americans Views on Trade Aren't Just About Economics. They're Also About Race." <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/08/16/americans-views-of-trade-arent-just-about-economics-theyre-also-about-race/>
- PBS News Hour. 2019. "Impact of U.S.-China trade war felt in both countries" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dt2W2uOyLGw>
- What is the Transpacific Partnership?
<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-trans-pacific-partnership-tpa>
- What is the RCEP? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=weyA6-aqqfo>

7 (September 26, 28)

Regionalism and Global Politics

- McGlinchey Chapter 4
- Haug. 2021. "What or Where is the 'Global South'? A Social Science Perspective." <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2021/09/28/what-or-where-is-the-global-south-a-social-science-perspective/>
- Tricontinental. 2023. "Sovereignty, Dignity, and Regionalism in the New International Order." <https://thetricontinental.org/dossier-regionalism-new-international-order/>
- Mittelhammer et al. 2023. "Rethinking the EU's Approach to Women's Rights in Iran." <https://carnegieeurope.eu/2023/04/25/rethinking-eu-s-approach-to-women-s-rights-in-iran-pub-89559>

8 (October 3, 5)

International Law and Organizations

- McGlinchey Chapters 8 & 11
- Barnett and Finnemore. 2019. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations." *International Organization*
- Hafner-Burton, Kahler, and Montgomery. 2009. "Network Analysis for International Relations." *International Organization*.
- Hathaway. 2023. "How Russia's Invasion of Ukraine Tested the International Legal Order". <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-tested-the-international-legal-order/>.

9 (October 10, 12)

Midterm exam

10 (October 17, 19)

Global Governance and Diplomacy

- Jönsson. 2018. "Global Governance: Challenges to Diplomatic Communication, Representation, and Recognition." in *Global Governance and Diplomacy: Worlds Apart?* pgs. 29-38. Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/5e5bm7pc>
- Arvanitakis and Hornsby. 2017. "Global Poverty and Wealth" <https://www.e-ir.info/2017/01/15/global-poverty-and-wealth/>
- Ratha. 2014. TED Talk "The Hidden Force in Global Economics: Sending Money Home." (Video) https://www.ted.com/talks/dilip_ratha_the_hidden_force_in_global_economics_sending_money_home?language=ry
- Roth. 2004. "The Law of War in the War on Terror." *Foreign Affairs*.
- Sagan & Valentino. 2017. "Revisiting Hiroshima in Iran: What Americans Really Think about Using Nuclear Weapons and Killing Noncombatants." *International Security*. Available online: http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/full/10.1162/ISEC_a_00284

11 (October 24, 26)

International Security

- McGlinchey Chapters 14 & 15
- Cohn. 2013. "Women and Wars: Toward A Conceptual Framework" *Women & Wars*.
*Read only pgs. 21-30
- Axworthy. 2001. Human Security and Global Governance: Putting People First. *Global Governance*.
- Why Hasn't US national security community prioritized public health – until now <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/why-u-s-national-security-community-has-never-prioritized-public-health-until-now>

12 (October 31, Nov 2) **Human Rights and Humanitarian Interventions**

- Dunne and Hanson. 2009. "Human Rights in International Relations." *Human Rights: Politics and Practice*.
- U.N. Declaration of Universal Human Rights. Available: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>
- NYT Debate "Have Human Rights Treaties Failed?" Available: <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2014/12/28/have-human-rights-treaties-failed?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&module=c-column-top-span-region®ion=c-column-top-span-region&WT.nav=c-column-top-span-region>
- Hehir. 2017. Myanmar: The Responsibility to Protect is Working Exactly as it was Supposed To. Duck of Minerva Blog: <http://duckofminerva.com/2017/09/31229.html>
- Sersso. 2013. "The International Criminal Court's Africa Problem." <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2013/06/201369851918549.html>

13 (November 7, 9) **Environmental Politics and Global Challenges**

- McGlinchey Chapter 19
- Podesta and Ogden. 2007. "The Security Implications of Climate Change." *The Washington Quarterly*.
- McFarland and Lide. 2010. "The Arctic is Melting. Here's Why Cooperation and Diplomacy Get So Complicated." <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/07/30/the-arctic-is-melting-heres-why-cooperation-and-diplomacy-get-so-complicated/>
- McCarthy. 2021. "Why is Climate Change a Racial Justice Issue?" <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/why-is-climate-change-a-racial-justice-issue/>
- Dennis and Bell. 2020. "Indigenous Women, Water Protectors, and Reciprocal Responsibilities." *Social Work*.

14 (November 14, 16) **Globalization, Cultural Diversity, and Gender**

- McGlinchey Chapters 12 & 13
- Pagel. 2014. "Does Globalization Mean We Will Become One Culture?" <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20120522-one-world-order>
- Miller. 2005. "The Doctrine of Discovery in American Indian Law." *Idaho Law Review*. **Focus on pgs. 2-9 & the conclusion, skim the rest.
- Materson. 2009. "African American Women's Global Journeys and the Construction of Cross-Ethnic Racial Identity." *Women's Studies International Forum*.
- Kuokkannen. 2013. "Violence Against Women, Indigenous Self-Determination and Autonomy in Sami Society." *L'Image du Sápmi*.

15 (November 21)

Emerging Issues in International Relations

- Carothers and O'Donahue. 2019. "How to Understand the Global Spread of Political Polarization." <https://carnegieendowment.org/2019/10/01/how-to-understand-global-spread-of-political-polarization-pub-79893>
- Chakravorti. 2023. "How AI is Shaping the Future of Politics." <https://foreignpolicy.com/2023/08/04/ai-regulation-artificial-intelligence-democracy-elections/>
- Sharma. 2021. "The Privatized Frontier: The Ethical Implications and Role of Private Companies in Space Exploration." <https://www.thespacereview.com/article/4238/1>

16 (November 28, 30)

Review and Final Exam Preparation

***** FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 7, 3:00 pm*****