

Introduction to Global Issues/INTL1100
University of Georgia, Fall Semester 2024
Tuesday/Thursday: 12:45-2:00PM
Room: Peabody Hall 219

Dr. Eli Sperling

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:00-12:00pm, can also schedule Zoom meetings throughout the week, depending on my availability

Office Location: Candler 312

Course Description:

Through a multidisciplinary approach, this course introduces key issues that both define and challenge global politics and institutions. These issues include—north-south/east-west divisions, conflict and diplomacy, political economy and globalization, environment and climate change, refugees and migration, global elections, as well as health and human security. In studying these topics together, through the lens of scholarly and journalistic sources, as well as current events, students will build an introductory-level base of knowledge global politics, institutions, and the issues that will inevitably shape our future.

Grade Scheme

A: 93-100

A-: 90-92

B+: 87-89

B: 83-86

B-: 80-82

C+: 77-79

C: 73-76

C-: 70-72

D+: 67-69

D: 63-66

D-: 60-62

F: 00-59

Grade Composition

Quizzes/writing assignments: 10%

Group Presentation: 15%

Midterm: 20%

In class attendance and participation: 20%

Take home Final paper: 35%

Assignments:

Quizzes:

There will be period quizzes, often as part of group work, about the readings, course content during the semester.

Short writing assignments:

There will be two short group writing assignments.

Presentation:

Students in the course will be divided into groups during the first half of the semester. During the last two weeks of the semester, each group will give a 30 minute presentation—details will be discussed in the first weeks of the semester.

Participation:

Students should regularly attend class, having read all the required readings. They should be prepared to both pose and answer questions about the readings and engage in discussion on the broader subject matter.

Midterm Exam:

In-class midterm exam covering the topics in the course so far.

Final Paper

The final paper topic will relate to students' group assignments, their study during the semester for their presentation. Further instructions about the final paper will be discussed in the second half of the semester.

Policies:**Academic Integrity**

Every student must agree to abide by UGA's academic honesty policy and procedures known as A Culture of Honesty and the University of Georgia Student Honor Code, which work together to define a climate of academic honesty and integrity at the university.

Special Needs

This course is guided by the assumption of dignity and respect for all persons in the classroom. My hope is to support diversity of learners and to provide a non-threatening environment. Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate reasonable accommodation based on your needs, contact me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of classes), and make sure that you have contacted the Disability Resource Center: <http://drc.uga.edu>

In-Class Discussion Guidelines:

Civility and respect are essential when engaging in productive academic discourse. All communications for this course should be conducted constructively, civilly, and respectfully.

Differences in beliefs, opinions, and approaches are to be expected. Please bring any communications you believe to be in violation of this policy to my attention. Active interaction with peers and your instructor is essential to success in this course, paying particular attention to the following:

- Be respectful of others and their opinions, valuing diversity in perspectives, backgrounds, abilities, and experiences.
- Challenging ideas, phenomena and the scholars that we engage with is integral to critical thinking and the scholarly process. Please articulate your written and verbal communications carefully and thoughtfully, recognizing that a positive atmosphere of healthy discourse is encouraged.
- It is important to do the reading! We will be discussing nuanced and often complicated circumstances. Being a productive member of in-class discussions means doing the reading and being prepared to talk about those assignments and how they relate to lectures and concepts discussed in class.

Required books:

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. *World politics*. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Many used copies available on Amazon and other booksellers.

*Changes to the syllabus during the semester are subject to the instructor's discretion.

Week 1: Course Introduction

August 15: Syllabus overview, goals and expectations of course

Week 2: What shapes world politics?

August 20: History and politics

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. *World politics*. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter One

August 22: Institutions and order

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. *World politics*. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Two

Week 3: North-South, East-West Divisions

August 27: How do we understand divisions between East and West in world politics?

- Karaganov, Sergey. 2018. The new cold war and the emerging greater eurasia. *Journal of Eurasian Studies* 9 (2) (Jul): 85-93

- Scholz, Olaf. 2023. The global zeitenwende: How to avoid a new cold war in a multipolar era. *Foreign Affairs* (New York, N.Y.). Jan 1,.

August 29: The Global North/Global South

- Stuenkel, Oliver Della Costa. 2024. The new world order and the global south. *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 40 (2) (Jun 12,): 396-404.
- Watch panel discussion video— “Unlocking Cooperation: The Global South and Global North”— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I8DtrbvWa5A>

Week 4: Conflict and Diplomacy

September 3: Introduction

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. World politics. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Three

September 5: What is war?

- September 3: Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. World politics. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Five

Week 5: Conflict and Diplomacy

September 10: The Middle East (in class activity)

- Brookings Middle East Study Group. “Toward Peace in the Middle East: Report of a Study Group.” Washington DC: Brookings Institution Press, 1975.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/2535521>

September 12: Ukraine: a case study

- Håkansson, Calle. 2024. The Ukraine war and the emergence of the European commission as a geopolitical actor. *Journal of European Integration* 46 (1) (Jan 2,): 25-45.
- Watch: “Putin and the Presidents” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJl8XTa_DII

Week 6: Political Economy

September 17: Introduction

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. World politics. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Eight

September 19: International development

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. *World politics*. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Ten
- We will begin watching “The True Cost” in Class

Week 7: Political Economy

September 24: Globalism

- We will finish “The True Cost”

September 26: AI and global economics

- Walter, Yoshija. 2024. Managing the race to the moon: Global policy and governance in artificial intelligence regulation—A contemporary overview and an analysis of socioeconomic consequences. *Discover Artificial Intelligence* 4 (1) (Dec 1,): 14-24.
- "Sizing the prize PwC's Global Artificial Intelligence Study: Exploiting the AI Revolution What's the real value of AI for your business and how can you capitalize?"
<https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/issues/data-and-analytics/publications/artificial-intelligence-study.html>

Week 8:

October 1: MIDTERM!

NO Class on October 3, Jewish Holiday of Rosh Ha'Shana

Week 9: Environment and Climate Change

October 8: Introduction

- Abbass, Kashif, Muhammad Zeeshan Qasim, Huaming Song, Muntasir Murshed, Haider Mahmood, and Ijaz Younis. 2022. A review of the global climate change impacts, adaptation, and sustainable mitigation measures. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research International* 29 (28) (Jun 1,): 42539-59

October 10: The politics of climate change

- "The challenging politics of climate change" <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-challenging-politics-of-climate-change/>

- “How Politics, Society and Tech Shape the Path of Climate Change”
<https://www.ucdavis.edu/climate/news/how-politics-society-and-tech-shape-path-climate-change>
- "Climate Change, Grand Strategy, and International Order"
<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/climate-change-grand-strategy-and-international-order>

Week 10: Environment and Climate Change

October 15: The politics of climate change in the US

- Sloam, James, Sarah Pickard, and Matt Henn. 2022. Young people and environmental activism: The transformation of democratic politics. *Journal of Youth Studies* 25 (6) (Jul 3,): 683-91
- “U.S. Public Views on Climate and Energy”
<https://www.pewresearch.org/science/2019/11/25/u-s-public-views-on-climate-and-energy/>
- We will watch, “Devil Put the Coal in the Ground” in class

October 17: Tourism: a case study

- Das, Madhumita, and Bani Chatterjee. 2015. Ecotourism: A panacea or a predicament? *Tourism Management Perspectives* 14 (Apr 1,): 3-16
- “This Is How Tourism Must Shift to Actually Address Climate Change”
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-11-14/how-tourism-can-hit-net-zero-by-2050-an-unrealistic-but-not-impossible-solution>
- "Ecotourism or Egotourism" <https://time.com/archive/6893240/ecotourism-or-egotourism/>

Week 11: Refugees and Migration

October 22: Introduction

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. World politics. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Eleven

October 24: Asylum and Migration

- "Asylum and migration" <https://www.unhcr.org/us/what-we-do/protect-human-rights/asylum-and-migration>

- "How Does the U.S. Refugee System Work?" <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/how-does-us-refugee-system-work-trump-biden-afghanistan>
- "EU migration and asylum policy" [https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-migration-policy/#:~:text=Migrants%20and%20refugees%20try%20to,Western%20African%20route%20\(background%20information\)](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-migration-policy/#:~:text=Migrants%20and%20refugees%20try%20to,Western%20African%20route%20(background%20information))
- https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-of-life/statistics-migration-europe_en

Week 12: Refugees and Migration

October 29: Brain drain?

- "From Brain Drain to Brain Circulation and Linkage" <https://aparc.fsi.stanford.edu/publication/brain-drain-brain-circulation-and-linkage>
- Migration and Remittances in Latin America and the Caribbean: Brain Drain Versus Economic Stabilization <https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2017/06/29/migrationandremittancesinlatinamericandthecaribbeanbraindrainversuseconomicstabilization>
- "Brain Drain and Brain Gain in Hong Kong's Population Shuffle" <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/hong-kong-migration-shuffle>

October 31: Is migration necessary in the global north?

- "Americans Still Value Immigration, but Have Concerns" <https://news.gallup.com/poll/508520/americans-value-immigration-concerns.aspx>
- "Latinos' Views on the Migrant Situation at the U.S.-Mexico Border" <https://www.pewresearch.org/race-and-ethnicity/2024/03/04/latinos-views-on-the-migrant-situation-at-the-us-mexico-border/>
- "A Russia without Russians? Putin's disastrous demographics" <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/content-series/russia-tomorrow/a-russia-without-russians-putins-disastrous-demographics/>
- "Japan's population drops by nearly 800,000 with falls in every prefecture for the first time" <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jul/26/japan-population-how-many-people-drops-first-time-births-deaths>

Week 13: Elections

November 5: No Class—go vote!!!

November 7: Global elections

- Kerr, Nicholas, Bridgett A. King, and Michael Wahman. 2024. The global crisis of trust in elections. *Public Opinion Quarterly* (Jul 23).
- "Global Elections & Conflict" <https://www.usip.org/issue-areas/global-elections-conflict>

Week 14: Global Health and Human Security

November 12: Human Rights

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. World politics. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Twelve
- "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

November 14: Global Health

- "Global health needs global health diplomacy" <https://www.emro.who.int/health-topics/health-diplomacy/about-health-diplomacy.html>
- "EU Global Health Strategy" https://health.ec.europa.eu/internationalcooperation/global-health_en
- "The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief" <https://www.state.gov/pepfar/>

Week 15:

November 19: Presentations!

November 21: Presentations!

Week 16:

November 26: Presentations!

Enjoy your Thanksgiving break!

Conclusion: Looking forward

December 3: Last day of class!

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2019. World politics. Fourth edition. New York ; London: W.W. Norton & Company. Chapter Fourteen
- *Prompt for final paper will be posted at the close of class*