

Political Science 145
The Politics of Global Problems
Winter Quarter 2007

Monday and Wednesday 1:30-3:18
161 MacQuigg

Instructor: Autumn Lockwood Payton
Office Hours: M, T 2:00-3:00p
(or by appointment)
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Course Description and Goals

This is an introductory course in International Relations (IR). Everyday we are confronted with international issues and problems that affect our daily lives. Perhaps you plan to travel outside of the United States. Maybe you know someone serving overseas in Afghanistan or Iraq. Perhaps you are an international student, or maybe your family has recently immigrated to the United States. The study of IR touches upon these issues and many others including the examination of interstate war, ethnic conflict, military alliances, international organizations and trade flows, to name just a few. This course is designed to give you sufficient theoretical and historical background of IR in order to analyze and discuss contemporary international issues. As such, I expect students to participate in discussions of international current events with respect to the reading and lecture material. Please note, introductory does not mean easy.

The primary objectives for the course follow:

- Become familiar with political events around the world and evaluate how they relate to your own country, community, and life.
- Develop critical reading and writing skills, recognizing the intent of the authors and evaluating messages against your own informed beliefs and opinions.
- Learn to use speech effectively and persuasively (Aristotelian rhetoric) by advocating your claims through the use of logical arguments. In light of this, students should be able to argue both sides of an issue.

Required Texts

There are three required texts for this course. You may purchase the text at the University Bookstore or any local textbook sellers (e.g. Long's, SBX, etc.) and through Internet booksellers such as Amazon.com; however, if you choose to order online, shipping delays may prevent you from performing the required readings in a timely manner. In order for this course to be useful to you, it is essential for you keep up with current events and read The New York Times on a daily basis. There will be a few additional readings available online indicated on the syllabus.

Goldstein, Joshua S. and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, Brief 2006-2007 Edition. New York: Longman, 2007.

The New York Times (May be purchased directly from The Lantern's web site for \$20 per quarter, please check to see if delivery applies to you:
<http://www.thelantern.com/home/index.cfm?event=viewCustomPage&name=NYTimes>.
Or you may read the paper online at no cost: www.nytimes.com)

CARMEN readings posted by week. These are required readings which will be covered on the midterm and final examinations.

Student Evaluation

Daily Quizzes:	10%
Map Quiz:	10%
Position Paper:	25%
Midterm Examination:	25%
Final Examination:	30%

I will grade assignments on the following scale:

100-93	A	79-77	C+		
92-90	A-	76-73	C	Below 60	E
89-87	B+	72-70	C-		
86-83	B	69-67	D+		
82-80	B-	66-60	D		

Assignments

Quizzes: Every Wednesday we meet (with the obvious exception of examination days and the day your paper is due) you will have a short quiz that will assess your knowledge of the assigned reading and current events. This is to ensure that you keep up with the readings and they will help you prepare for the midterm and final examinations. I will drop the lowest quiz grade. Make-up quizzes will not be administered.

Map Quiz: This quiz is separate from the weekly quizzes and will cover your knowledge of world geography. Knowledge of geopolitics will facilitate classroom discussion of current events and overall understanding of interstate relations.

Position Paper: For this assignment you will select one of the films shown in class and discuss the film using class discussions and readings. You will also discuss your own reaction to the film and spell out your position on the events detailed in the film. You must support your position using logical arguments aided by the use of course material, examples from current events, and outside sources (more on this later). Proper citation format must be used.

Midterm Examination: (1/31) The midterm will cover course material through the 5th week of the quarter. The format is multiple choice and identification questions.

Final Exam: Administered during the regularly scheduled final exam time. The final will be cumulative and will include multiple choice, identification, and essay questions.

Student Responsibilities

Reading: You will be asked to complete reading assignments in preparation for each lecture. In order to have fruitful discussion and get the most out of the lectures it is imperative to do the reading prior to each class. Hence, if a reading is listed for the date 1/8, you must complete that reading prior to class on that day.

Absences, Make-Ups, and Late Policy: If you are sick or have a family emergency you must have proper documentation (e.g. doctor's note) in order to make-up a graded assignment. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per class period. For example, if a "B+" paper due on Monday is turned in on the following Wednesday, it will receive a "C+".

Feedback: If you have questions or comments about lectures, readings, course administration, or discussions I strongly encourage you to ask me during or after class, during office hours, by email or by phone. During the working week, I will try to respond to emails within a 24 hour period. I encourage you to take advantage of my office hours. I have designed this course so that every student can do well if they are willing to put in the effort. If you are experiencing difficulties in the class, I will do my best to help you. The earlier you notify me, the more effectively I can help you.

Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty, in any form, will not be tolerated. Any suspected incidences of cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's ideas or words without proper citation) will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If you have questions on what constitutes violations of academic misconduct please refer to official OSU policy contact me directly.

Disability: Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor. Any student in need of accommodation should contact me by the end of the first week of the quarter to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office of Disability Services in 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate accommodations.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Jan. 3 Introduction to the Study of International Relations and
Levels of Analysis and Actors in World Politics

Week 2

Jan. 8 Theoretical Perspectives and a Brief History of International Relations: From
Empire to Modern State
Read: Goldstein pp. 1-44. CARMEN: Zakaria Newsweek column.

Jan. 10 Power Politics
Read: Goldstein pp. 45-59; CARMEN: The Melian Dialogue

Week 3

Jan. 15 MLK holiday—No Class

Jan. 17 Map Quiz
Power Politics Continued: Anarchy and the Balance of Power
Read: Goldstein pp.45-75; CARMEN: "American Primacy in Perspective"

Week 4

Jan. 22 Why do States Fight Wars? Theories of Conflict and the Nature of Conflict
Read: Goldstein pp. 121-142; CARMEN: Charles Kupchan "Independence for Kosovo"

Jan. 24 Conflict and Security: Ethnic Conflict Continued
No Man's Land
Read: CARMEN: "Peaceful, Rebuilt but still divided; Bosnia ten years on"

Week 5

Jan. 29 Conflict and Security: The Use of Military Force and Nuclear Proliferation
Read: Goldstein pp. 142-171; CARMEN: "Why we will soon miss the Cold War"

Jan. 31 MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Week 6

Feb. 5 Alternatives to Power Politics: Liberalism and its variants
Read: Goldstein pp. 77-120

Feb. 7 Alternatives to Power Politics: The Role of Substate Actors
Paradise Now
Read: CARMEN: "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?"

Week 7

Feb. 12 International Political Economy: The Politics of Trade and North-North Relations
Read: Goldstein pp.174-202, 210-227

Feb. 14 International Political Economy: North-South Relations
Read: Goldstein 284-318, CARMEN: "The Lessons of HIV/AIDS"

Week 8

Feb. 19 North-South Relations Continued
Read: Goldstein 318-346, CARMEN: "How to Help Poor Countries"

Feb. 21 International Organization: The United Nations System
Read: Goldstein 231-250; CARMEN: "In Larger Freedom"

Week 9

Feb. 26 PAPERS DUE IN CLASS
Discussion, Bringing Down a Dictator

Feb. 28 International Law: Treaties and Courts
Read: Goldstein 263-280; CARMEN: Roth/Kissinger Debate on Universal Jurisdiction

Week 10

March 5 Security and the Environment and the International Climate Change Regime
Read: Goldstein 250-271; CARMEN: Readings on Kyoto Protocol

March 7 WRAP UP and EXAM REVIEW

FINAL EXAMINATION Tuesday, March 13 1:30p

The following are the goals and objectives set out for this GEC course by the University:

Diversity: International Issues

Goals/ Rationale:

Diversity: International Issues courses help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture.

Social Science

Goals/Rationale:

Courses in social science help students understand human behavior and cognition, and the structures of human societies, cultures and institutions.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students understand the theories and methods of scientific inquiry as they are applied to the studies of individuals, groups, organizations, and societies.
2. Students comprehend human differences and similarities in various psychological, social, cultural, economic, geographic, and political contexts.
3. Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and social values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.