

Political Science 145
The Politics of Global Problems
Introduction to International Relations
Autumn 2005
Monday and Wednesday, 730-918 AM
Mendenhall Laboratory 0115

Instructor: Ms. Amanda Rosen
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Hours: Tuesdays 1-3pm and by appointment
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Goals and Objectives:

This course is an examination of the various challenges facing every nation and state in the world as they try to exist in a world of limited resources and questionable security. Throughout history, we have examples of these peoples trying to co-exist, sometimes cooperating, other times fighting out their differences. In this course we will examine why the world is full of both cooperation and conflict, and how these two competing forces interact in the contemporary world in issues such as weapons of mass destruction, the environment, globalization, war mongering and peace-making.

In the first part of the course we will examine the characteristics of the international system and explore how and why the system developed as it did. We will focus on the various theories of international relations—Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism and others—and how these aid us in explaining current global problems. The second half of the course focuses on some of the major problems that confront all states and nations in the world. We focus first on pure issues of security—the causes of war and peace and weapons of mass destruction—and then look at economic issues—international trade, finance, globalization, and north-south relations. The last part of the course will focus on the problems that cross state boundaries—the environment and disease in particular—and those that destroy traditional state boundaries from above and below.

The course meets two GEC requirements:

#5. 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.

#7. 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.

Materials:

There is one book required for this course, and it is available for purchase at SBX.

Goldstein, Joshua S and Jon C. Pevehouse. *International Relations (7th Edition)*. New York, NY: Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2006. ISBN 0-321-35474-5.

This book has a companion website at www.internationalrelations.net. This site includes web links, simulations, and videos that relate to the material in your text, and are directly referred to by the icons in the book. I highly recommend that you use these materials, particularly the Changing World Order features and the Case in Point Videos.

Requirements and Grading:

Your final grade will be based on two exams, a map quiz, attendance and participation.

Map Quiz	October 10 th	5%
Quiz I	October 17 th	15%
Midterm	November 2 nd	25%
Quiz II	November 21 st	15%
Final	December 5 th	40%

Final Grade Scale:

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

Map Quiz

Any course in international relations requires a basic knowledge of the location of the states and regions that play a major role in world politics. The map quiz will test your knowledge of these states and conflict-prone regions. It is worth 5% of your final grade, and will be held on Monday, October 10th.

Current Events

Every class session we will spend some time discussing current events. To that end, you should get into the habit of reading the international/world section of a major respected **printed** media source (including The Washington Post, London Times, International Herald Tribune, The Economist, Newsweek, Christian Science Monitor, LA Times, etc). All of these are available online for free, though occasionally registration is required. Our current events discussions are fair game for exams.

Quizzes

There will be two quizzes during the quarter, which will focus largely on the readings and current events. These will be multiple choice and identification, and will take about 20 minutes. They will be held on October 17th and November 21st, and are each worth 15% of your grade.

Midterm and Final

These exams will be closed-book, in-class exams. These exams will test your knowledge and understanding of the readings, lectures, and current events as discussed in class. The Midterm will be a combination of multiple choice, identification, and short answer. The Final will be comprehensive, and will also include essay questions. I will hand out study guides a week before each exam, and the guide will include all the terms you will need to know for that exam. The Midterm is worth 25% of your final grade; the Final is worth 40%.

Other Policies:

Make-ups:

Attendance in class is expected, but occasionally students need to be absent from class for legitimate reasons (e.g. personal or family illness). If you will be absent on the day of a quiz or exam due to these types of exceptional circumstances, you must inform me **before** the class session and provide some kind of documentation. If you meet these criteria, we can discuss what arrangements can be made for a make-up exam. No make-ups will be given to students that do not follow this policy.

Respect:

This is a course about politics, and I anticipate that there will be many differing views brought out in class discussions. Every viewpoint is welcome, as long as everyone treats each other with respect. I encourage all students to openly discuss their views, as long as you also listen to the views of others respectfully and with an open mind. Fairness is more important than objectivity when it comes to politics. Anyone who shows disrespect to either the instructor or a fellow student will be asked to leave the class, along with any other action as I find appropriate.

Disabilities:

Any student who requires special accommodations as the result of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your needs. I rely on the Office for Disability Services (614-292-3307, room 150 Pomerene Hall) to document and coordinate the appropriate accommodations for these students.

Academic Misconduct:

Don't cheat. Seriously. There is no reason why you cannot pass this class and even do extremely well based purely on your own ability. If you aren't doing your own work, you are not getting the education that you are paying for and are therefore wasting your time as well as mine. If anyone is caught violating the University's rules on academic misconduct and cheating, I will forward the case as per University policy to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.

Right to Revise Syllabus:

This syllabus outlines my goals for the course and my expectations for the students. Minor changes may need to be made along the way, particularly to the following schedule, and I reserve the right to revise the syllabus accordingly.

Schedule:

All readings are to be completed by the day they are listed under.

Wednesday, September 21st- Introduction to the CourseWeek 1: International Relations in Context**Monday, September 26th – Conceptual Foundations of International Relations**

Goldstein & Pevehouse 3-24

Wednesday, September 28th –The Historical Context

Goldstein & Pevehouse 24-49

Week 2: The Black Box of Statehood**Monday, October 3rd- Paradigm Wars: Realism and Systemic Level Approaches**

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 2

Wednesday, October 5th- Paradigm Wars: Neo-Liberalism and Other Challenges

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 3

Week 3: Looking Inside the State**Monday, October 10th – State Level Approaches****Map Quiz!**

Goldstein & Pevehouse 150-168

Wednesday, October 12th- Individual Level Approaches

Goldstein & Pevehouse 139-150

Week 4: War and Peace**Monday, October 17th- Armed Conflict: The Causes of War****Quiz 1****Wednesday, October 19th- Armed Conflict: The Causes of War, cont.**

Goldstein & Pevehouse 169-185

Week 5: More War and Peace**Monday, October 24th- Armed Conflict: Types of War**

Goldstein & Pevehouse 198-210

Wednesday, October 26th –Armed Conflict: Dangerous Weapons

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 6

Week 6: Even More War and Peace**Monday, October 31st- Armed Conflict: Case Studies**

Wednesday, November 2nd –Midterm Exam in Class

Week 7: Managing the World's Economy

Monday, November 7th - International Trade

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 8

Wednesday, November 9th - International Finance

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 9

Week 8: Winners and Losers in the World Economy

Monday, November 14th - North-South Relations

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 12

Wednesday, November 16th - More North-South Relations

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 13

Week 9: Transnational Issues: Prospects for Cooperation

Monday, November 21st - Disease and the Environment

Quiz 2

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 11

Wednesday, November 23rd - The Rule of International Law

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 7

Week 10: Breakdown of the Nation-State

Monday, November 28th - Attacks from Below: Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict

Goldstein & Pevehouse 185-198; review p. 32-33

Start reading for Wednesday

Wednesday, November 30th - Attacks from Above: Superstates and the Clash of Civilizations

Goldstein & Pevehouse ch. 10; review p. 52-53 and 208-209

Huntington, Samuel. "The Clash of Civilizations". Available at URL:

<http://www.alamut.com/subj/economics/misc/clash.html>

Final Exam: Monday, December 5th at 730 AM in 0115 Mendenhall Lab