

**INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS  
HONORS POLITICAL SCIENCE 145  
WINTER QUARTER, 2002  
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY : 1:30-3:18  
BAKER SYSTEMS ENGINEERING BUILDING, RM 0130**

**SYLLABUS**

Lecturer: Dr. Omar Keshk  
Office: Derby Hall Room 3143  
Office Hours: Monday, & Wednesday, 11:30-1:15, Tuesday & Thursday: 3:30-5:18  
or by appointment  
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**Course Description and Objectives**

This is an honors section of the introduction to international politics. As such, the material will be more demanding and challenging than that found in regular sections of political science 145. The main focus of the class will be to introduce students to the study of international politics. Not only will the student be introduced to the study of international politics and how political scientists study international politics but also how to critically evaluate the different theories used to study international politics.

To this end, the student will be introduced to three major approaches to the study of international politics. The student will be introduced to how to critically evaluate which of the three different approaches provide a better understanding of international politics by using the three different approaches to analyze international phenomena. Finally, the student, in a paper, will be asked to examine a specific international event using two of these approaches (as specified by the instructor) and to critically examine and discuss which of the two approaches provides a better explanation of the event and why?

**Course Readings**

**Required Readings**

Beuno de Mesquita, Bruce (2000). *Principles of International Politics: People's Power, Preferences, and Perception*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.

*Reading Material on Reserve in the Main Library*

**This book should be available at the OSU, Long's and SBX bookstores.  
The Reading Material should be available at the Main Reserve in the main Library.**

## Course Requirements and Students Responsibilities

<b>Exams:</b>	One Midterm exam
<b>Paper:</b>	One paper(topics to be announced by instructor)

The Midterm will be worth 35% of your final grade and the paper will be worth 45% of your final grade. **No make-ups for missed exams will be allowed under any circumstances except for valid medical reasons. Students experiencing any medical problems necessitating that they miss any of the above must contact me as soon as possible or else they will not be allowed to makeup the exam. Finally, all makeup exam's structure are left to the instructor's discretion and will be nothing like the exam taken during regular scheduled times. Late papers will not be accepted under any circumstances.**

**Attendance & Participation (Attendance worth 5% and Participation worth 15%):** All students are expected to attend the lecture and participate in class discussions. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you arrive after your name has been called you will be marked as absent for that day. No exceptions and please do not ask for any.

Participation is important because it helps you to develop communication and argumentative skills as well as indicates to the instructor that you have done the assigned readings. Furthermore, it makes the class more stimulating.

### Legal Requirements

#### **Academic Honesty**

**NO CHEATING WILL BE TOLERATED.** All instances of cheating will be reported to the university committee on academic misconduct.

#### **Disability**

Students with disabilities and requiring special assistance are responsible for making their needs known to instructor as soon as possible. Arrangements for students needing such aid can be arranged.

#### **Graduating Seniors**

All graduating seniors need to notify the instructor so that arrangements can be made for them to fulfill school requirements for deadlines.

#### **Miscellaneous**

If students want their exams and their papers after the quarter has ended they must notify the Instructor before the end of the current quarter. Otherwise, exams, papers, etc.. will be disposed off after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the following quarter.

## Class Schedule

Jan. 7th, 2002

**Introduction to Class**  
**The Importance of Studying International Politics**  
**Introduction to the International System**

Jan. 9th, 2002

**Criteria For Evaluating Competing Theories**  
**of International Politics**  
*BDM* : Chapter 5

Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> & Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> , 2002

**Structural Approaches to the Study of International Politics**  
**Realism, Neorealism, Liberalism and Marxism**

*BDM*: Chapter 3  
*Kenneth Waltz (Main Reserve)*: 79-101  
*Viotti, and Kauppi(Main Reserve)*: 35-61  
*Oye(Main Reserve)*: 1-24  
*Hobson(Main Reserve)*: 477-489  
*Lenin(Main Reserve)*: 490-500

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2002

NO CLASS (MLK BIRTHDAY)

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> , 2002

**Group and Decision-Making Perspective**  
*BDM*: Chapter 4, pp. 95-110.  
*Helen Milner(Main Reserve)*: 9-29.

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> , 2002

**The Strategic Perspective**  
Part I  
*BDM*: Chapter 2

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> , 2002

**The Strategic Perspective**  
Part II  
*BDM*: Chapter 4, pp. 110-132

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> , 2002

**The Strategic Perspective**  
Part III  
*BDM*: Chapter 8 & 9

Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**The Strategic Perspective**  
Part IV  
*BDM*: Chapter 10, 11

Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**The Strategic Perspective**  
Part V  
*BDM*: Chapter 12

Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
Review for Exam  
Discuss Students' papers

Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**Midterm Exam**

Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**Power In the International System**  
*BDM*: Chapter 6 & 7

Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**War**  
*BDM*: Chapter 15  
*Gilpin(Main Reserve)*: 186-210  
*Russett(Main Reserve)*: 82-115  
*BDM*: Chapter 16

Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**International Political Economy**  
*Balaam & Veseth(Main Reserve)*: 3-75  
*Krasner(Main Reserve)*: 19-36  
*Frank(Main Reserve)*: 64-73  
*BDM*: Chapter 13

Mar. 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> , 2002  
**No Class (Finish your Papers)**

Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> , 2001  
Papers are due in my Office or my mailbox  
in the political science office  
by 4.30pm