

## Government 155 International Politics

Fall 2011  
Class Location: PAC 107  
Home Page: <http://dfoyle.web.wesleyan.edu/>  
Office Hours: W 11:30 am-1:30pm  
and by appointment

Professor Douglas Foyle  
Phone: 685-5049  
Office: PAC 307  
Email: [dfoyle@wesleyan.edu](mailto:dfoyle@wesleyan.edu)

### Course Description

The purpose of the course is to provide the student with the background and conceptual tools for understanding contemporary international relations. Classes will address a wide variety of issues including the origins of the state system, the nature of power, the use of force, and international political economy. Conceptions derived from these discussions will be applied to consider topics arising in the present international system such as nationalism, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, the environment, and international organization.

Class periods will be devoted to lectures by the instructor and discussion of the reading material.

This course provides the foundation for upper-level courses in the international relations and a general introduction for non-majors. It is also fulfills a requirement for the Certificate in International Relations awarded by the Public Affairs Center.

Students are strongly encouraged to stay current with foreign policy developments by reading a major newspaper. Although a basic understanding of “front page” international news will be assumed, **this course is not a current events course.**

### Requirements and Course Grading

Grading Policies: For specifics on my grading standards and numerical thresholds for various grades, see my website under the “Courses and Grading” link.

Please note: I do not “round” the numerical scores. A numerical score must at least reach the minimum threshold of a grade to receive that grade (e.g., 89.99 is a B+ while 90 is an A-).

Grades will be based on: 3 exams (80%), and participation in class discussions (20%).

Incompletes will be allowed only for significant and verifiable personal emergencies (e.g., serious personal illness, death in the family). No extensions will be granted due to the pressures of academic life (such as work due in other classes).

There are no make-up exams. At the instructor’s discretion, if a personal emergency keeps you from taking an exam, the exam portion of your final grade will be calculated based upon the other exams. For example, if one exam is missed, each of the two other exams would be worth 37.5% of the final grade ( $37.5\% \times 2 = 75\%$ ).

Unexcused absences from an exam will result in a “0” for that exam.

## Exams

Exam #1 (25% of grade) and exam #2 (25% of grade) will take place as indicated on the schedule. Exam #3 (30% of grade) will cover the material over the entire course and will occur during finals week as scheduled by the registrar.

Exam question types:

*Identification questions* require you to define and give the significance of important terms and concepts. A complete list of these terms will be made available on the course Moodle prior to the exam.

*Essay questions* require an answer that broadly integrates material from the course (e.g., After taking this course, do you feel that the world is fundamentally peaceful or conflictual? Why?).

Exam #1 will consist of identification terms from classes 1-9 and an essay.

Exam #2 will consist of identification terms from classes 11-17 and an essay.

Exam #3 (the final exam) will consist of identification terms from classes 19-26 and essays.

## Participation

Participation will be evaluated based upon the student's contribution to discussion, responsiveness to other students, and quality of insight. Class attendance is a basic requirement of the participation grade. You will receive two participation grades: one for the first half of the semester (classes 2-12) and one for the second half of the semester (classes 13-25). Your participation grade for the first half of class will be given shortly after the class 12. These two grades will be averaged to yield the final participation grade

## Readings

The following assigned readings are available for purchase at the bookstore (Please note: You must have this edition as significant revisions occur from edition to edition.)

:

Robert Art and Robert Jervis, International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues, 10th ed.

Henry R. Nau, Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

The following items are available for purchase (in paper or pdf format) directly from the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy:

ISD Case #278 Going to the United Nations: George W. Bush and Iraq

ISD Case 334 “The Cuban Missile Crisis”

ISD Case # 258 “Establishing an International Criminal Court”

To order the cases, go to the ISD website: <http://www.guisd.org/>. Please note that these items are non-returnable.

All the above items are available on reserve in Olin Library. Additional readings are available on the course Moodle.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

It is the policy of Wesleyan University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students, however, are responsible for registering with Disabilities Services, in addition to making requests known to me in a timely manner. If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The procedures for registering with Disabilities Services can be found at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/deans/disability-students.html>.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### I. Key Concepts and Theoretical Perspectives

1. September 6 Introduction: IR as a Field of Study
  
2. September 8 IR Field to Present Day  

Nau, “Why We Disagree about International Relations,” pp. 1-20  
Daniel Maliniak, Amy Oakes, Susan Peterson, and Michael J. Tierney,  
“Inside the Ivory Tower,” Foreign Policy (March/April 2007), pp.  
62-68. (Moodle)
  
3. September 13 Key Concepts  

Nau, “How to Think About International Relations,” pp. 21-68
  
4. September 15 Realism  

Thucydides, Morgenthau, Waltz, Mearsheimer, Walt (Art & Jervis  
reader), pp. 9-23, 37-69, 127-144
  
5. September 20 Liberalism  

Oye, Keohane, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 79-92, 150-158
  
6. September 22 Constructivism (and Critical Theory)  

Tickner, Wendt, Doyle (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 24-36, 70-78, 114-126
  
7. September 27 Domestic Processes  

Nau, “The Democratic Peace” pp. 514-522  
Hiscox, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 282-291  
Ole R. Holsti, “Theories of International Relations,” Making American  
Foreign Policy, pp. 327-332. (Moodle)  
Valerie M. Hudson, “Foreign Policy Analysis: Actor-Specific Theory  
and the Ground of International Relations,” Foreign Policy Analysis  
(2005), pp. 1-30. (Moodle)

8. September 29            Individual Level
- Margaret Hermann & Joe Hagan, “International Decision Making: Leadership Matters,” Foreign Policy, (Spring 1998), pp. 124-37. (Moodle)
- Ole R. Holsti “Cognitive Process Approaches to Decision-Making” Making American Foreign Policy, pp. 33-51. (Moodle)
- Charles F. Parker and Eric Stern, Bolt from the Blue or Avoidable Failure? Revisiting September 11 and the Origins of Strategic Surprise Foreign Policy Analysis (2005) pp. 301-330. (Moodle)

9. October 4                Case Discussion: The 2003 Iraq War
- ISD Case #278 Going to the United Nations: George W. Bush and Iraq

## **II. The Recent International System and International Relations Theory**

10. October 6              European System through World War I
- Nau, “Perspectives on World History” and “World War I,” pp. 69-128
11. October 11             **Exam #1** (material in classes 1-9)
12. October 13            The Interwar Period (1919-1939) Through the End of the Cold War
- Nau, “World War II” and “The Origins and End of the Cold War”, pp. 129-198
13. October 18            The Post-Cold War Era
- Nau, “From 11/9 to 9/11,” pp. 199-226
- Kaldor, Jervis, Art, Cronin (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 231-237, 373-411

## **III. International Relations Subfields: International Security and International Political Economy**

14. October 20            Approaches to International Security
- Jervis, Hoffman (Art and Jervis Reader), pp. 93-113, 145-149

15. October 27                   Crisis, Coercive Diplomacy, and Nuclear Weapons  
   Art, Schelling, Art (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 163-184, 196-212
16. November 1                 Case Discussion: The Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962  
   ISD Case 334 “The Cuban Missile Crisis”
17. November 3                 International Political Economy and Interdependence  
   Gilpin, Scott, Frankel, Ghemawat, Blinder, (Art & Jervis reader), pp.  
   265-281, 292-338  
   Nau, “History of Globalization,” “How Globalization Works in Practice”  
   and “Trade, Investment, and Finance,” pp. 263-360
18. November 8                 **Exam #2** (material in classes 10-17)

#### **IV. Challenges in the Current World**

19. November 10                Morality, Human Rights and International Law  
   Howard & Donnely, Annan, Ratner, (Art & Jervis reader) pp. 450-74  
   Nau, “Global Civil Society,” pp. 463-88
20. November 15                War and Weaponry  
   Hoffman, Pape, Sokolski, Posen (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 185-195,  
   213-230, 238-258
21. November 17                Economic Development  
   Rodrik, , Micklethwait & Wooldridge, Wade (Art & Jervis reader), pp.  
   339-366  
   Nau, “Miracle and Missed Opportunity”, “Foreign Aid and Domestic  
   Governance”, “Global Inequality, Imperialism, and Injustice” pp.  
   361-437

22. November 22            Internal State Conflict
- Kuperman, Kaufmann, Payne (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 412-459  
Nau, “Terrorism and the World After 9/11” pp. 227-259
23. November 29            The Environment
- Hardin, Schwartz, Victor, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 502-523  
Nau, “World Environment,” pp. 439-462
24. December 1            The International Structure of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Roberts, Waltz, Ikenberry , Naim, Slaughter, US National Intelligence  
Council, Posen, Kagan, Jackson/Howe, (Art & Jervis reader), pp.  
524-596  
Nau, “Global Governance,” pp. 489-513
25. December 6            Case Discussion: The International Criminal Court
- ISD Case # 258 “Establishing an International Criminal Court: The  
Emergence of a New Global Authority?”
- VI. Conclusion**
26. December 8            Conclusions
- Keck & Sikkink, Mallaby, Williams, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 475-501

**Exam 3** as scheduled during finals week.