

## **Government 155 International Politics**

Fall 2006  
TTh 9:00-10:20  
Class Location: PAC 004  
Office Hours: T 1-2, Th 4:15-5:15,  
and by appointment

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### **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 a requirement for the Certificate in International Relations awarded by the Public Affairs Center.

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

### **Requirements and Course Grading**

Grades will be based on: 3 exams (75%), 1 paper (10%), participation (10%), and quizzes (5%).

Excused late papers and 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) will occur on October 3. Exam #2 (25% of grade) will take place on November 7. Exam #3 (25% 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 Blackboard 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 1-8 and an essay.

Exam #2 will consist of identification terms from classes 10-17 and an essay.

Exam #3 (the final exam) will consist of identification terms from classes 19-24 and essays.

### Paper

The paper is due on December 7 at 4 p.m. and is worth 10% of the grade. The paper should be a maximum of 4 pages. It will be evaluated based upon clarity of presentation, organization, and quality of analysis. Papers should support claims with reference to evidence drawn from lectures and/or readings and should be correct in terms of grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Paper topic: What two (2) theories and/or concepts of international politics does the simulation best serve to illustrate? Which two (2) does it not demonstrate as well? The paper should clearly identify the concepts/theories you are writing about, briefly explain the concept, illustrate your points with reference to specific examples from the simulation, and explain why you reached your conclusions.

Unexcused late papers will be penalized one letter grade (e.g., B+ to B) for each day it is late (from due time to 24 hours is one letter grade). Please inform me through e-mail that your paper will be late under this provision. No unexcused late papers will be accepted after seven (7) days at which point the grade for the paper will be a "0".

Where and how to turn in your paper: Turn in your paper on the course Blackboard. An appropriately labeled location will be created.

The paper should be double-spaced with 12-point font, and 1-inch margins. All pages should be numbered. For the purposes of this paper, formal footnotes are not required. As long as the material referenced in the paper comes from the course, a simple parenthetical reference to the author of the material or lecture day is sufficient (e.g., Morgenthau, p. 7; Lecture 9/7/01). Papers that do not conform to the above specifications will be deducted between 1/3 to a full grade depending on the size of the infraction.

### Participation

Participation will be evaluated based upon the student's contribution to discussion, responsiveness to other students, and quality of insight during classes. These components will be worth 10% of the final grade.

## Quizzes

Daily quizzes at the beginning of the class period will begin on September 14 and end on November 21 (class days #4 through #22) will be worth 5% of the final course grade. There will be a quiz on each of these days except those on which there is an exam. Each quiz will consist of 3 multiple choice questions using the Turning Point software. The quiz will be over the reading for the day. Each of you will need a personal “clicker” to use in this process. Additional information on this process will be available on the course Blackboard.

Each student will be allowed 1 excused (lost, malfunctioning, misplaced, forgotten) clicker quiz. For this one time only, the student will be allowed to turn in a paper response to the quiz.

There are no make-ups for quizzes. Missed quizzes result in a “0” for each of the three quiz items. If you must be gone from class because of outside University commitments, religious holidays, personal illness, and family emergencies, please contact me before-hand (University commitments and religious holidays) or afterward (personal illness, family emergencies). If I excuse your absence, the questions from that day will not count in the calculation of the quiz grade.

## Simulation

The final two weeks of the class will be devoted to a simulation of international diplomacy entitled “Nations: A Simulation Game in International Politics.” Students will be randomly assigned to a nation. Class simulation periods will be supplemented by use of the Blackboard. The “clickers” will also be used during this simulation. The simulation and accompanying Blackboard will be discussed in class in more detail.

## Readings

The following assigned readings are available for purchase at Broad Street Books:

Robert Art and Robert Jervis, International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues, 8th ed. (please note this is a new edition). You must have this edition as significant revisions occur from edition to edition.

Henry R. Nau, Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas

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

Case #169 Nations: A Simulation Game in International Politics

To order the cases, go to the ISD e-commerce site: <http://www.guisd.org/>. Please note that this item is non-returnable.

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

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### I. Key Concepts and Theoretical Perspectives

1. September 5 Introduction
2. September 7 IR Field to Present Day  
Nau, "Why We Disagree about International Relations," pp. 1-13  
Morgenthau, Tickner (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 7-28
3. September 12 Key Concepts  
**Note: Clicker test – bring your clickers to class.**  
Nau, "How to Think About International Relations," pp. 14-42
4. September 14 Neorealism and Anarchy  
**Note: Quizzes begin.**  
Waltz, Mearsheimer, Walt (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 29-60, 96-103
5. September 19 Neoliberalism and Cooperation  
Oye, Keohane, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 69-82, 119-126
6. September 21 Constructivism and Identity  
Wendt, Doyle (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 61-68, 83-95
7. September 26 Domestic Politics  
Nau, "The Democratic Peace" pp. 393-400  
Gause, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 432-440  
Holsti, "Theories of International Relations," Making American Foreign Policy, pp. 327-332 (Blackboard)  
Brian Ripley, "Psychology, Foreign Policy, and International Relations Theory," Political Psychology 14 (September 1993): 403-16 (Blackboard)

8. September 28 Individual Level

Margaret Hermann & Joe Hagan, "International Decision Making: Leadership Matters," Foreign Policy, (Spring 1998), pp. 124-37 (Blackboard)

Ole R. Holsti "Cognitive Process Approaches to Decision-Making" Making American Foreign Policy, pp. 33-51

9. October 3 **Exam #1** (material in classes 1-8)

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

10. October 5 European System through World War I

Nau, "Perspectives on World History" and "World War I," pp. 43-93

11. October 10 Interwar Period (1919-1939), Bipolarity, and the Cold War

Nau, "World War II" and "The Origins and End of the Cold War", pp. 94-147

12. October 12 The Post-Cold War Era

Nau, "After the Cold War," pp. 148-180

Jervis, Huntington, Zakaria, Jervis (Art & Jervis reader), **pp. 375-431**

## **Fall Break**

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

13. October 19 Approaches to International Security

Jervis Hoffman, Art (Art and Jervis Reader), pp. 177-220

14. October 24 Crisis, Coercive Diplomacy, and Nuclear Weapons

Art Schelling, Art (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 141-177

15. October 26 Arms Control, Negotiations, Morality, and Force
- Morgenthau (Art and Jervis reader), pp. 104-113  
 Gordon A. Craig & Alexander A. George, Force and Statecraft, chapters 12, 20 (Blackboard)
16. October 31 International Political Economy and Interdependence
- Gilpin, Keohane, Scott, Frankel, Wolf, Waltz, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 267-347  
 Nau, “Globalization Today” and “How Globalization Actually Works,” pp. 208-256
- Recommended background: Nau, “How the West Became Rich,” pp. 184-207
- IV. Challenges in the Current World**
17. November 2 Human Rights, International Law, and Global Governance
- Hoffmann, Roberts, Howard & Donnely, Ratner, (Art & Jervis reader) pp. 114-18, 127-36, 546-57, 591-96  
 Nau, “Global Governance,” pp. 373-392
18. November 7 **Exam #2** (material in classes 10-17)
19. November 9 War and Weaponry
- Pape, Sagan, Waltz, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 221-261
20. November 14 Economic Development
- Rodrik, Garrett, Micklethwait & Wooldridge, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 347-368  
 Nau, “Trade and Investment,” “Miracle and Missed Opportunity”, “Foreign Aid and Domestic Governance”, pp. 256-331
21. November 16 Internal State Conflict
- Rotberg, Kaufmann, Dobbins, Payne, Naim (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 451-494, 558-566  
 Nau, “Ethnic, Religious, and National Conflicts” pp. 334-352

22. November 21            Thinking Big: The Environment and Primacy in the Current Era

**Note: Last quiz this day.**

Environment-

Hardin, Homer-Dixon, Browne, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 495-516  
Nau, "World Environment," pp. 353-372

Primacy-

Walt, Betts & Christensen, Moravcsik (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 441-  
450, 517-531

### **V. Simulation**

23. November 28, 30, December 5            International Politics Simulation

ISD Case "Nations: A Simulation Game in International Politics"

We will discuss this aspect of the course before April 27. Nation  
assignments will be posted on the Blackboard.

### **VI. Conclusion**

24. December 7

Conclusions: Challenges to the Current System?

Keck & Sikkink, Mallaby, Drezner, (Art & Jervis reader), pp. 532-545,  
567-580

**Paper Due 4 p.m.**

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

### **Certificate of International Relations --Related Courses**

Since Government 155 International Politics is a survey of the international relations field, other courses at Wesleyan cover some of these issues in greater depth. For a list of courses that cover many of these issues, please see the Certificate web page at: <http://www.wesleyan.edu/pac/cir-info.htm>.