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POSC 60-1001  
Spring 2009

## INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

**Course Description and Learning Objectives:** International Politics is the study of political interactions across state boundaries; as such, it is the analytical study of patterns of conflict and cooperation among states and among states and various non-state actors. Upon completion of the course, students will have a basic understanding of the concepts unique to the analysis of the political interactions of states in the international arena. To achieve this, we will examine the predominant theories, models, and hypotheses which describe, explain, predict, and prescribe the behavior of states and other actors in the international arena. This course will use historical and current events to illustrate the concepts and to provide insight into the relevance of international relations to students' lives. This course also aims to assist students in applying the political, economic, and moral issues discussed in the course to their political decision-making and participation as citizens.

**Texts:** The following books are required and may be purchased at the Bookstore:

Rourke, John T. *International Politics on the World Stage*. 12<sup>th</sup> edition.

Mansbach, Richard W. and Rhodes, Edward. *Global Politics in a Changing World: A Reader*. 4th edition.

Additional assigned readings will be available on the internet or distributed in class.

Students are also required to read a major national newspaper noted for its coverage of international events, either *The New York Times* or *The Wall Street Journal* (for students with an interest in business). Students are encouraged to develop the habit of following the international news on a daily basis during the semester and to apply the concepts learned in this course to it.

**Course Format:** This course is a lecture-discussion course. As such, students are encouraged to raise questions during the lectures and be prepared for discussion of current international political events. Attendance at lectures is required. Reading assignments are to be completed before the first day of lecture on each topic in order to fully understand and appreciate the lectures and to participate meaningfully in class discussion.

**Exams:** There will be two exams and a comprehensive final. Exams will consist of short answer and essay. Material for the exams will be drawn from both the readings and lectures.

**Weekly newspaper analyses:** To enhance awareness and understanding of current international

political events, students are required to read the national political news in *The New York Times* [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com) or *The Wall Street Journal* (for students with an interest in international business and economics). Each week (10 total), students will select 1 article on international political issues and write a short analysis of 3-5 paragraphs on the relevant issues in the article. The analysis should explain how the article illustrates theories, concepts, or issues of the course, or how the material covered in the course assisted your understanding of the article. The newspaper article and analysis are due in class on Friday of each week. Late or missing assignments will receive a grade of 0.

**Grading Policy:** The final grade will be based on points earned on the exams, newspaper assignments, and class discussion.

First exam: 25%

Second exam: 25%

Newspaper assignments: 10%

Class participation: 10%

Final exam: 30%

Grades will be distributed as follows:

A 93%-100%

AB 88%-92%

B 83%-87%

BC 78%-82%

C 73%-77%

CD 68%-72%

D 60%-69%

F 59% and below

**Attendance Policy:** Regular and prompt attendance is required for all lectures. Class attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. Class attendance is important because lectures will generally differ in content from the readings and announcements regarding any changes in the course schedule will be made in class only. If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to find out what was covered and to get notes from another student. Attendance at exams is mandatory. **Make-up exams will be given only to students who have a written doctor's excuse for illness, a verifiable family emergency, or a signed excuse from a faculty advisor for participation in college sanctioned activities.** Students who know that they will be absent on the exam day must inform the instructor in advance and may take the exam in advance.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Cheating in any form will not be tolerated in this class. Anyone caught cheating on exams or on any other work assigned work will be punished in accord with University guidelines. Further information is available at <http://www.marquette.edu/rc/academicdishonesty.shtml>

**Special Needs:** If you have special needs due to any type of physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, please see me during the first week of class to make appropriate arrangements to accommodate your needs.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

### **Jan 12                      Introduction**

### **Jan 14-21                  Approaches to the Study of International Relations**

Rourke, chs. 1, 2

Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue"

<http://www.wellesley.edu/ClassicalStudies/CLCV102/Thucydides--MelianDialogue.html>

Machiavelli, "From *The Prince*," Chs. I, V, VI, XII, XIV, XV, XVII

[http://www.orst.edu/instruct/phl302/texts/prince/prince\\_contents.html](http://www.orst.edu/instruct/phl302/texts/prince/prince_contents.html)

Hobbes, "Of the Natural Condition of Mankind, as Concerning Their Felicity, and Misery"

[http://www.class.uidaho.edu/mickelsen/texts/Hobbes%20Leviathan/chapter\\_xiii.htm](http://www.class.uidaho.edu/mickelsen/texts/Hobbes%20Leviathan/chapter_xiii.htm)

Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism"

<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/morg6.htm>

Kant, "Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch"

<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/kant/kant1.htm>

Wilson, "The World Must Be Made Safe for Democracy: The Fourteen Points"

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/1918/14points.html>

Marx and Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*

<http://www.anu.edu.au/polsci/marx/classics/manifesto.html>

Lenin, "The Place of Imperialism in History," chapter X

<http://www.marx2mao.com/Lenin/IMP16.html#C10>

### **Jan 23-26                  Levels of Analysis**

Rourke, ch. 3

Mansbach & Rhodes, ch.1

### **Jan 28-Feb 2              State, Nation, and Nationalism**

Rourke, chs. 4, 6

Mansbach & Rhodes, chs. 5, 13, 14

### **Feb 6-11                    Power and the Capabilities of States**

Rourke, ch.8

Mansbach & Rhodes, ch. 4

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13--FIRST EXAM**

### **Feb 16-23                  National Security**

Rourke, ch. 10

Mansbach & Rhodes, chs. 2, 3

**Feb 25-Mar 6            International Security**

Rourke, ch. 11

Mansbach &amp; Rhodes, chs. 3, 9

**Mar 16-23                International Law**

Rourke, ch. 9

**Mar 25-Apr 1            The United Nations and International Organizations**

Rourke, chs. 5, 7

Mansbach &amp; Rhodes, chs. 6, 7, 16

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3--SECOND EXAM****The International Economy**

Rourke, chs. 12-13

Mansbach &amp; Rhodes, chs. 10, 11

**Apr 20-24                Humanitarian Issues**

Rourke, ch. 14

Mansbach &amp; Rhodes, chs. 8, 15

**Apr 27-29                Global Environment Issues**

Rourke, ch. 15

Mansbach &amp; Rhodes, ch.12

**May 1                      Conclusions and Review****TUESDAY, MAY 5, 10:30-12:30--FINAL EXAM**