

Political Science 2601 (Sec. 103)
International Politics
Fall Semester, 2009-10

Dr. Lawrence J. LeBlanc
Office: WWP 452
Tel. 288-3422/6842
E-mail Lawrence.LeBlanc@Marquette.edu

Office Hours:

TTH 10:00 – 12:00
W 12:00 - 2:00
(or by appointment)

Course Objectives: This course covers the basic problems and principles, and the major themes, theories, and concepts of political science in the subfield of international politics. Throughout the semester, we shall be concerned with relations among states (or “countries”) and other actors (e.g., international organizations, individuals, transnational corporations) in the international system, mainly in the post World War II period. The course aims to put contemporary international issues and problems into a historical framework or perspective that will help students comprehend future developments in international relations. The reading assignments, class lectures and discussions, and examinations are intended to encourage the development of analytical, research, and writing skills.

Readings:

1. Karen A. Mingst, Essentials of International Relations. W.W. Norton Co., 2008 (4th ed.).
2. Donald M. Snow, Cases in International Relations: Portraits of the Future. Pearson Longman, 2010 (4th ed.).
3. Recommended Website for Readings and Research: Foreign Affairs Online
<http://people.virginia.edu/~rjb3v/rjb.html>

Attendance Policy: Required

(Class begins promptly at 2:00 p.m. on T and TH. PLEASE BE ON TIME.)

Requirements: To perform well in this course, students will have to do the assigned readings and attend classes regularly. The examinations will draw upon the readings as well as lecture notes. There will be four examinations (mixed objective and essay) during the semester: one before mid-semester, a mid-semester, one after mid-semester, and a final.

Grading Policy: The examinations are each worth 100 points, and the following scale will be applied in assigning grades to them:

93-100 A	73-77 C
88-92 A/B	68-72 C/D
83-87 B	58-67 D
78-82 B/C	-57 F

Grades for the course will be determined by applying the following formula: 25% of the scores on each of the examinations.

COURSE OUTLINE

I. The Study of International Relations

Mingst, Chapter 1.
Snow, Part I.

II. Contending Perspectives on International Relations

Mingst, Chapter 3.
Snow, Chapters 1, 2.

III. The Historical Development of the International System

Mingst, Chapters 2, 4.

IV. States as Actors in International Relations

Mingst, Chapter 5.

V. Non State Actors in International Relations

Mingst, Chapters 6, 7.
Snow, Chapter 3.

VI. The Arms Race, War, and Insecurity

Mingst, Chapter 8.

Snow, Chapter 4, Part II and Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 16.

VII. The International Political Economy

Mingst, Chapter 9.

Snow, Part III and Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12.

VIII. Social and Humanitarian Issues

Mingst, Chapter 10 (through p. 320)

Snow, Part IV and Chapters 13, 14, 15.

IX. Conclusion

Mingst, Chapter 10 (pp. 320-326)