

POSC 2601-102: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Spring 2017
 TuTh 12:30 – 1:45
 Lalumiere Hall 176

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OBJECTIVES: This course covers the basic problems and principles and the major themes, theories, and concepts of international politics. The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the international and domestic sources of cooperation and conflict found in the political-military and political-economic relations between the governments and peoples of countries.

The course seeks to do so by introducing students to the major substantive and theoretical issues that characterize the field of International Relations. Students will explore core concepts and their interplay, and the application of prominent explanations in the field. Through this exploration students will develop critical thinking skills and apply these skills in their written and oral work. Such an introduction will prove vital for those students interested in the continued study of international politics, careers with an international dimension, and for becoming an informed citizen in an increasingly globalized world where international politics dynamics increasingly hold sway.

REQUIREMENTS: The successful completion of this course will require attention to both course readings and class lecture/discussion. Attendance obligations are outlined in the *2016/2017 MU UNDERGRADUATE BULLETIN* and Academic Misconduct Policy will apply to all coursework.

Students will be expected to complete and think about all assigned readings before coming to class. Students are also encouraged to read the international coverage in major national newspapers (e.g., *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*) and news magazines/journals (e.g., *The Atlantic*, *The Economist*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *Current History*) to follow current international events. If you have foreign language skills, and/or interest in particular countries that have major English-language media, reading materials from sources in another country can give further perspective.

The course grade will be based on two exams (a midterm and final), two short critical review papers, and reading quizzes. The direction of borderline grades will be determined by class participation. The midterm (30% of the grade) and final (30% of the grade) follow the same format: identification of key terms and short essays. Review sheets will be handed out one week in advance to help in preparation for the exams, but keeping up to date on readings and class lecture/discussion will be essential. Makeups for the midterm and final exam will be at the discretion of the instructor.

To develop reading and writing skills, students will also be required to complete two critical review papers (5 pages, typed, double-spaced: 30% of the grade). For each paper, the student will write an essay that assesses an assigned article as follows: identify the article's primary argument (thesis); identify the actors, interactions, and institutions at play; identify and discuss the theoretical perspectives upon which the author's argument is based and proven; and, drawing on the above, comment critically (noting possible strengths and weaknesses) on the author's argument and conclusions. No outside research is necessary for this assignment.

Papers will be submitted to the class D2L dropbox by the date and time deadlines noted below in the syllabus. Plan ahead!! Late papers will be penalized up to two letter grades if received within 24 hours after the due date and time (one letter grade deduction per 12 hour window, e.g., A to AB). After this 24 hour period, late papers will not be accepted and the student will receive a grade of F and zero points for the assignment.

To encourage preparation for class and facilitate class discussion during the course of the semester there also will be short pop reading quizzes. Much like dynamics of uncertainty in international politics the number of quizzes and their timing in the course will be at the discretion of the instructor. There are no make-up quizzes. Performance on the quizzes will count for the remaining 10 percent of the course grade.

GRADE SCALE: The scale is based on 1000 points total: 950-1000 (A), 900-49 (AB), 850-99 (B), 800-49 (BC), 750-99 (C), 700-49 (CD), 650-99 (D), 0-649 (F).

REQUIRED TEXTS AND READINGS: There are two required books for the course and both are available through the Marquette Book Marq: 1) Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, Kenneth A. Shultz [FLS], *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, Third Edition (New York and London: WW Norton: 2016); 2) Karen A. Mingst and Jack L. Snyder [MS], *Essential Readings in World Politics*, 6th Edition (New York and London: WW Norton, 2017).

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE [adjustments will take place as necessary]

PART I: Introduction and Approaches

I: Introduction

January 17, 19: Introduction/Overview

Read:

FLS, Introduction (pp. xxii-xxiv, xxvi-xxvii)

FLS, Chapter 1

II: Theoretical Approaches

January 24, 26: Realism

Read:

Review FLS, pp. xxviii-xxx

Morgenthau, "A Realist Theory of International Politics", "Political Power," MS, 55-59

Mearsheimer, "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power," MS, 60-77

January 31: Liberalism

Read:

Review FLS, pp. xxx-xxxii

Kant, "From Perpetual Peace," MS, 20-22

Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics," MS, 78-92

February 2: Constructivism

Read:

Review FLS, pp. xxxi-xxxii

Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," MS, 73-97

February 7: Overviews and Thinking Eclectically

Read:

Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," MS, 3-11

FLS, Chapter 2

PART II: War and Peace

III. Interstate War: Systemic Causes

February 9, 14, 16

Read: Feb 9, 14: Power and Anarchy

FLS, Chapter 3

Morgenthau, readings on the balance of power, MS, 124-130

Jervis, "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma," MS, 359-373

Read: Feb 14, 16: Polarity

Ikenberry, excerpts from *Liberal Leviathan*, MS 131-144

Christensen, From the China Challenge, MS, 145-171

FLS, pp. 590-600

IV. Interstate War: Domestic and Transnational Drivers

February 21, 23 [TBA], 28

Read: Feb 21

FLS, Chapter 4

Read: Feb 28

Fukuyama, "The End of History," MS 41-52

Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations," MS, 208-214

February 27, 6:00 pm: First critical review paper is due (Submit to class D2L Dropbox). Drawing on the paper criteria noted in the syllabus, complete a critical review of John Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, "The Case for Offshore Balancing," *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2016: 70-83.

V. Civil War, Terrorism and Asymmetric Conflict

March 2, 7

Read:

FLS, Chapter 6

Kydd and Walter, "The Strategies of Terrorism," MS, 402-424

March 9 (Thursday): Midterm Exam (in class)

Spring Break: No class March 14, 16

VI. WMD and Ticking Clocks

March 21

Read:

FLS, pp. 579-590

Schelling, "The Diplomacy of Violence," MS 350-358

Waltz, "Why Iran Should Get the Bomb," MS, 398-401

VII. International Institutions and Paths to Peace

March 23, 28

Read: March 23

FLS, Chapter 5 (pp, 185-220)

Read: March 28
 FLS, Chapter 5 (pp. 200-229)
 Fortna, “Does Peacekeeping Work?” MS (5th edition) on **D2L**, 308-316
 Power, “Bystanders to Genocide,” MS, 263-283

VIII. International Law and Human Rights

March 30, April 4

Read: March 30
 FLS, Chapter 11

Read: April 4
 FLS, Chapter 12
 Mutua, “Savages, Victims, and Saviors,” MS, 558-582

PART III: International Political Economy

IX. Theoretical Approaches

April 6

Read:
 Gilpin, “The Nature of Political Economy,” MS, 468-475
 Lenin, Excerpt from *Imperialism*, MS, 23-30

April 13: Easter Break—No Class

X. International Trade

April 11, 18

Read:
 FLS, Chapter 7
 Krasner, “State Power and the Structure of International Trade,” MS, 476-495

X. Monetary Relations and Finance

April 20, 25

Read:
 FLS, Chapter 9, Chapter 8
 Drezner, “The Irony of Global Economic Governance,” MS, 526-544

XI. Development

April 27, May 2

Read:
 FLS, Chapter 10

April 28, 6:00 pm: Second critical review paper is due (Submit to class D2L dropbox). Drawing on the paper criteria noted in the syllabus, complete a critical review of Ann Marie Slaughter, “How to Succeed in the Networked World: A Grand Strategy for the Digital Age,” *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2016: 76-89.

May 4: Conclusion

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 9, 10:30-12:30 a.m.