

PS 1400 - Fall 2011
Introduction to International Relations

Instructor: Michael Allen	Class: MWF 12:00–12:50, A&S 104
Office: Professional Building 311	Office Hours: M 1:50–2:50, 4:00–5:00
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Course Description

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the important actors throughout world politics, the goals those actors have, and the problems they encounter. To understand these areas, students examine the framework of understanding that political scientists use to evaluate actors, interests, and events in world politics. Thus, the course not only examines the theoretical approaches to understanding world politics, but how political science is a social science and evaluates the world. The areas this course covers include power, security, war, peace, international economics (trade, development), international organizations, and the role of non-state actors. As an introductory class, this covers a breadth of topics and encourages students to follow up on any particular thread further in more advanced courses offered in the department.

Course Format

The course is primarily a lecture format. As such, students are expected to attend lectures each day. Slides from the lecture **will not** be posted online and, as such, students are encouraged to take notes. Additionally, the lectures are not purely drawn from the course readings and students will be responsible for knowing both written materials as well as what is covered in lecture for any quiz, test, and written assignment.

Required Text

There are three books required for the course:

1. Jeffrey Frieden, David Lake, Kenneth Schultz. 2010. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. New York: W.W. Norton.
2. Bates, Robert H. 2011. *Prosperity & Violence: The Political Economy of Development*. New York: W. W. Norton
3. Nagl, John A. 2002. *Learning to Eat Soup with a Knife: Counterinsurgency Lessons form Malaya and Vietnam*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

In addition to the books, there will be several articles required throughout the course. These articles will be available on blackboard and should all be accessible through JSTOR if they are not posted on blackboard.

Course Requirements

1. **Geography Quizzes: 10%**
Students should come out of this class with a broader understanding of how the international arena looks and how actors behave. In addition to this, it is prudent for students to understand where

countries are physically located and what their neighbors look like. States are more likely to go to war with their neighbors than with any other state in the international system, and knowing what regions look like is important. There will be five geography quizzes throughout the course. The quiz will point to a set of countries and students will have to write down the names of the countries marked on the map. Each week the quiz will occur is marked, though the day is not specified. The five regions are Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Middle East. The list of countries for each region will be posted on Blackboard.

2. **Midterm: 20%**

Given the 50 minute format of our classes, the midterm will span over two days. Day 1 will be on a Wednesday and contain a set of multiple choice questions. Day 2 will contain short answer and essay questions.

3. **Hypothesis Testing Paper 25%**

Each student will be required to write a 4-5 page paper (double space, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1" margins) that applies the study of political science to an area of world politics that they are interested in. Students will be required to formulate a hypothesis with regards to two types of variables, explain why they believe this relationship exists, collect the data for at least 50 countries, present the relationship between the variables, and discuss whether or not their hypothesis was supported. 5% of the project will be from a one-page proposal where the students state their hypotheses and where they expect to get the data from for their test (**Due 10/21**). The remaining 20% of the project will be from the final paper which is due on the last day of class **Due 12/9**.

4. **Reaction Papers 20%**

For each of the books (Bates and Nagl), you will write a short 3-5 page paper (Double space, 12 pt font, 1" margins) focusing on one particular aspect of the book and analyzing it. The reaction paper should either be critical of some particular point or embrace the argument and expand it to another region not covered by the book. Each paper is worth 10% of your grade. The Nagl paper is due **September 30th** and the Bates paper is due **November 11th**.

5. **Final 25%**

The final is cumulative and will be primarily in the same format as the midterm. There may be 1-2 essay style questions on the final exam.

General Guidelines and Information

1. **Lectures will begin on time.** Avoid arriving late to class; otherwise, you may miss important material, quizzes, or information about class assignments. However, being late is better than not showing up at all. If you do arrive late, attempt to arrive quietly into class and avoid making too much of a disruption. The same is true if you have to leave class early. If you miss any information due to your absence, ask a classmate to help you catch up.
2. **Lecture slides will not be posted online.** My lecture style generally uses limited slide information and do not nearly contain enough information. If you miss a class, I encourage you to get the notes from someone else.
3. **Please avoid class room disruptions.** Turn your cellphones to silent before class begins.
4. **Use the APSA style of reference.** To standardize citations and references, follow the guidelines set out by the *American Political Science Association*. Information and guidelines can be found in the following pdf file: <http://www.ipsonet.org/data/files/APSASStyleManual2006.pdf>. Additionally, the library's website on writing and citing is quite useful if you have any questions regarding the appropriate ways to cite the material you are using (<http://mulibraries.missouri.edu/guides/>

WritingCiting.htm). Finally, if you any questions that are not covered by either website, do ask on Blackboard.

5. **Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.** All written work is subject to being submitted to SafeAssignment through blackboard. This is a program that will find copied work from both published sources, the internet, and other work by students. Student who are found to be plagiarizing or cheating on a given assignment or test will automatically fail that assignment or test.
6. **SafeAssignment:** All written assignments must be turned in through SafeAssignment given the appropriate links on blackboard as well as providing a physical copy to the instructor. The digital copy is due by 5pm on the day the assignment is due to be turned in. Assignments not turned in digitally as well as physically will not be graded and receive a zero for that assignment. If you have trouble with submitting an assignment, contact the instructor immediately.
7. **Missing Exams and Late Assignments:** There will not be makeup exams or quizzes. Late paper assignments will be severely penalized—as such, having work completed early will increase your chances of avoiding penalties to your grade.
8. **Grade Appeals:** If you believe that you were not graded appropriately for a given assignment and wish to contest that grade, you must do so in writing. Appeals will not be accepted for 48 hours from which the assignment was returned. The appeal should clearly state your objection and request that your work be re-evaluated. Re-evaluated work will be graded from scratch and the grade can be increase or decrease from the grade originally assigned.
9. **The Syllabus:** the syllabus is a living document that can and will be altered throughout the duration of the course based both on need and design. Generally, this may means readings will be removed or added as needed. All changes will be listed on Blackboard, so make sure to check announcements for any such change.
10. **Contacting the Instructor:** The best way to get in touch with me is either through Blackboard or email. Any question that is of general interest to the entire class should be posted on Blackboard first. Such questions will be redirected to Blackboard if they are emailed to me.

Course Schedule

This is the reading you are expected to have done *by the day it is assigned*. As mentioned earlier, the books are going to be the longest part and you should start reading them well in advance of the due date for discussion. Suggestions for readings will also be welcomed if they are offered early enough.

Note: Any author year listed in parentheses (e.g. (Waltz 1959)) will be found in the reference list at the very end of this document. These are usually articles or books chapters and can be found via JSTOR or Blackboard.

Week 1, August 22nd-26th

Getting to the Modern State
August 22nd, 24th, and 26th

Syllabus, FLS Introduction,
Chapter 1

Week 2, August 29th – September 2nd

The Role of the State
August 29th, 31st, and
September 2nd

FLS Chapter 2, (Tilly 1985)

Week 3, September 5th – 9th

War
September 5th **No Class**
September 7th and 9th **Europe Quiz**

(Reiter 2003) (Waltz 1959,
Chapter 1)

Week 4, September 12th – 16th

Theories of War
September 12th, 14th, and
16th

FLS Chapter 3,
(Thucydides 1910, “The
Melian Dialogue”)

Week 5, September 19th – 23rd

World Politics as a Social Science
September 19th, 21st, and **Asia Quiz**
23rd

(Bull 1966, Singer 1969)

Week 6, September 26th – 30th

Domestic Politics and War
September 26th, 28th, and **Nagl Paper**
30th

Nagl Book, FLS Chapter 4

Week 7, October 3rd–7th

Domestic Politics Continued
October 3rd

Finish Domestic Politics, Re-
view

October 5th **Midterm Day 1**
October 7th **Midterm Day 2**

Final Grades

A: 93+
A-: 90–93
B+: 88–90
B: 83–88
B-:80–83
C+: 78–80
C: 70–78
D: 60–70
F: 0–60

Other Information

Students with Disabilities

Please inform the instructor immediately if you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have important emergency medical information that should be shared with the instructor, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated. If disability related accommodations are necessary, please register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696, and notify the instructor accordingly. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Intellectual Pluralism

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the Departmental Chair or Divisional Director; the Director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>); or the MU Equity Office (<http://equity.missouri.edu/>), or by email at equity@missouri.edu. All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

List of Articles

- Abbott, Kenneth W. & Duncan Snidal. 1998. "Why states act through formal international organizations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42(1):3–32.
- Bull, Hedley. 1966. "International Theory: the Case for a Classical Approach." *World Politics* 18(3):361–77.
- Mitchell, Ronald B. 1994. "Regime design matters: intentional oil pollution and treaty compliance." *International Organization* 48(03):425–458.
- Pape, Robert A. 2003. "The strategic logic of suicide terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 97(3):343–361.
- Reiter, Dan. 2003. "Exploring the Bargaining Model of War." *Perspectives on Politics* 1(1):27–47.
- Rogowski, Ronald. 1987. "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade." *American Political Science Review* 81(4):1121–1137.

- Singer, J. David. 1969. The Incomplete Theorist: Insight with Evidence. In *Contending Approaches to International Politics*, ed. James N. Rosenau & Klaus Knorr. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Thucydides. 1910. *The Peloponnesian War*. New York: E.P. Dutton.
- Tilly, Charles. 1985. War Making and State Making as Organized Crime. In *Bringing the State Back*, ed. Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer & Theda Skocpol. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Waltz, Kenneth N. 1959. *Man, the State and War*. New York: Columbia University Press.