

POLITICAL SCIENCE 12(D): INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
MONDAY/WEDNESDAY 10-10:50AM, LEDDEN AUDITORIUM

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Office Hours: Mondays 3-4PM
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Course Description:

This course introduces students to the study of international politics. The actions and interactions of governments, groups and citizens is increasingly complex and interdependent. Knowledge of world affairs is a central element of the study of politics in the modern era. In this course, students will acquire the basic analytical tools necessary to understand and explain a variety of phenomena including war, terrorism, globalization, environmental cooperation, and human rights practices.

Course Requirements:

- **Discussion Section (40% of course grade):** An important part of the learning process in the course is manifest in discussion. Your section grade is apportioned as follows:
 - **Attendance (10%):** You are required to attend your assigned discussion section.
 - **Participation (10%):** Read assigned portions of the textbook on time, then come to section and discuss what you have learned. Ideas are best grasped in context. Section allows you to review historical and current events and participate in a good debate.
 - **Quizzes (20%):** Quizzes are designed to ensure that you keep up with the reading, and to assess your knowledge of key concepts. Each quiz will consist of a brief set of short, factual questions (True/false, multiple choice, fill in the blank) based on the text.
- **Mid-term (20% of course grade):** Essay exam, choice of questions. Bring exam book.
- **Course Assignment (20% of course grade):** You will be asked to review and interpret in a structured manner five (5) international crises selected at random (each crisis takes about an hour). Additional details will be provided in class. Don't worry! This task is not hard. *** *Students may prepare a written term paper as an alternative to this assignment* ***
- **Final Exam (20% of course grade):** Essay exam, choice of questions. Bring exam book.

Student Standards:

- **Plagiarism** You are encouraged you to study and learn together. All assignments must be the *sole product* of the person submitting the work. Don't cheat and don't plagiarize. If you have *any* questions about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, see me.
- **Disabilities/life issues** It is your responsibility to apprise me of factors that may interfere with your performance in class *well in advance of scheduled assignments*. Appropriate measures for disabilities, acts of God, etc. will be taken in accordance with UCSD policies.
- **Grading/appeals** All attempts to discuss grading decisions must be made in writing.

Readings:

The textbook for this course is available from the UCSD bookstore and elsewhere. Make sure to obtain the 3rd edition. My apologies for high textbook prices. You may purchase a used copy.

- Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2016. *World Politics: Interests,*

Interactions, Institutions, 3rd Ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. (hereafter “FLS”)

- An Ebook version of the text is available. Various pricing options are available: <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294991867>.
- The W.W. Norton Student Studyspace for the *World Politics* textbook is available at: <http://wwnorton.com/college/polisci/worldpolitics2/welcome.aspx>. Here you will find study plans, chapter outlines, practice quizzes, and other pedagogical tools.

Students are also encouraged to familiarize themselves with major periodicals with a focus on international relations/foreign policy and follow the international section of major newspapers:

- Financial Times (<http://news.ft.com/world>)
- The New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/index.html>)
- Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/world>)
- Foreign Affairs (<http://www.foreignaffairs.org>)
- Foreign Policy in Focus (<http://www.fpif.org/>)
- The National Interest (<http://www.nationalinterest.org>)
- Foreign Policy Association (<http://www.fpa.org/>)
- Council on Foreign Relations (<http://www.cfr.org/>)

Schedule of Topics and Readings

I. Conflict and Cooperation

March 28 & 30: ***Introduction and Historical Context***: FLS Introduction and Chapter 1

April 4 & 6: ***Interests, Interactions, and Institutions***: FLS Chapter 2

II. War and Peace

April 11 & 13: ***Why War?***: FLS Chapter 3

April 18 & 20: ***Domestic Politics and War***: FLS Chapter 4

April 25: ***International Institutions and War***: FLS Chapter 5

April 27: ***Non-state Actors***: FLS Chapter 6

May 2: ***Mid-term***

III. International Political Economy

May 4: ***International Trade***: FLS Chapter 7

May 9: ***International Financial Relations***: FLS Chapter 8

May 11: ***International Monetary Relations***: FLS Chapter 9

May 16: ***Development, Poverty and Growth***: FLS Chapter 10

IV. Transnational Politics

May 18: ***The Global Environment***: FLS Chapter 13

May 23: ***Transnational Networks***: FLS Chapter 11

May 25: ***International Human Rights***: FLS Chapter 12

May 30: No Class (Memorial Day Holiday)

V. Looking Ahead

June 1: ***The Future of International Politics***: FLS Chapter 14

June 6: ***Final Exam***: 8-10:50 AM (Ledden)