

University of Utah
Political Science Department
INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
POLS 2100-02

Spring 2006
Wed 6:00-8:30 PM OSH 138

Instructor: Kristian Alexander
Office: OSH 325
Office hours: Wednesdays 4:00-6:00
and by prior appointment

Office phone number: 581-6372
E-mail: K.Alexander@utah.edu

Purpose and Objectives

This course serves as a general introduction for students interested in international relations. The purpose of the course is to introduce the students to the basic concepts, units of analysis, and major issues of international relations (IR). This course explores both, the general principles and theories of IR, as well as some of the most controversial issues in contemporary world politics. Students will learn to analyze factors that influence the behavior of states at various levels: systemic, regime, societal, bureaucratic, and individual. Later in the course, students will apply some of the previously learned principles to some important current issues in world politics, including security in the post-Cold War era, the re-emergence of nationalism, and the international political economy.

Course Requirements

This is a lecture and discussion course, the success of which depends heavily on your preparation for each class meeting and your enthusiasm you bring to class discussion. I will be asking you questions during each class and may give quizzes to make sure you have kept up with current events in World Politics. There will also be periodic written assignments, including those using case studies. They are marked on the syllabus. You will be evaluated through class participation, a midterm exam, a final, the previously mentioned short writing assignments and on your in-class discussion topic.

1. Class participation (15%). Your participation grade will consist of active participation in class discussion (thoughtful comments, answering questions posed by the instructor, raising critical questions) and in-class exercises (In-class debate on controversial issues).

a.) In order to get the most out of this course, you must be prepared when you come to class. You are required to complete the readings prior to class meeting and to be ready to discuss them. Be prepared to answer questions about the reading and for the possibility of unannounced quizzes. You are also expected to keep up to date with

current events in world politics by reading periodicals (*Time*, *The Economist*, etc.) and a national newspaper such as the *New York Times* or equivalent.

b.) Attendance will affect your participation, and excessive absences will result in a lower grade. An excused absence means you have a medical excuse or documented emergency.

c.) Many class periods will be devoted to discussions of controversial issues in world politics. The topics will be drawn from John Rourke's *Taking Sides: World Politics* (12th ed.) and supplemented by select readings from Robert M. Jackson's *Annual Editions. Global Issues 05/06*. For several of these topics approximately four to six students will be in charge of beginning the class discussion of the topic at hand. For example, if the question to be addressed were "Is Islamic Fundamentalism a Threat to Political Stability?", two people will have to advocate in favor of the "pro" position and two people take the "contra" side. In a debate style format, each group will briefly present their position and perspective. There will also be an opportunity for each group to respond following opening presentation. A sign up sheet with issues that you can choose from will be handed out at the beginning of the first week of class.

2. Exams : Midterm (20%) - Final (35%). The examinations will test the students' comprehension and analysis of the readings and lecture material. Exams will be a mix of multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, and most probably a choice of essay questions (esp. on the Final exam). The Final will be comprehensive. Make-up examinations will only be allowed if you obtain permission from me at least 24 hours prior to the exam. Make-up exams will only be permitted if you can provide me with a legitimate excuse (i.e., medical excuse or documented emergency).

3. Short Writing Assignments (2) (30%). These assignments are marked on the syllabus and will be the basis of extended class discussions. By writing the papers in advance, all students will be better prepared to follow and participate in class exercises. Two to three (three to four) (max.) pages double-spaced to be handed to the instructor at the beginning of class. The papers should be typed, double spaced, use 12-inch font, and not to exceed the designated amount of pages. Any paper that fails to meet these requirements will not be accepted! It should be referenced and free of spelling and grammatical errors. I do not accept electronic submissions; it is the student's responsibility to provide me with a paper copy of all work.

Late Assignments : If you cannot fulfill a requirement by the due date, I must be contacted within 24 hours of the due date and provided with a legitimate explanation (e.g., medical illness). Assignments, which are allowed to be completed after due date, will be expected to meet higher standards given the additional time granted.

Student Academic Conduct: The University of Utah's policies pertaining to Academic Misconduct and Dishonesty will be carefully observed and strictly enforced in this class. This policy appears on pages 11-13 of the 2000-2002 General Catalog and in the electronic Policy and Procedures Manual at <http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>

Plagiarism Note

Any instance of plagiarism, or other forms of academic misconduct, will result in a failing grade for that assignment and may also result in a failing grade for the course. The University's definition of plagiarism is as follows:

“Plagiarism” means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one's own, without attribution, any other individual's words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression.

ADA Statement: The University of Utah, Department of Political Science seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, <http://disability.utah.edu/> 162 Olpin Union Bldg, 581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. This information is available in alternative format with prior notification.

Course Materials and Readings

Rourke, John T. and Mark A. Boyer, *International Politics on the World Stage*, (6th ed.), (Guilford, Conn: Dushkin/McGraw-Hill, 2005).

Rourke, John T., *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics* (12th ed.), (Guilford, Conn: Dushkin/McGraw-Hill, 2006).

Jackson, Robert M. (ed.), *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06* (21st ed.), (Guilford, Conn.: Dushkin/McGraw-Hill, 2006).

These books are available for purchase at the University bookstore. In addition, several articles, necessary for assignments, will be placed on electronic reserve (as well as regular reserve) at Marriott Library. They can be viewed, printed or downloaded at (<http://ereserve.lib.utah.edu/webpac-1.2-bin/DoReserve>). It is the students' responsibility to get a copy of these articles. They are indicated with an asterisk (*) in the course outline.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Wednesday January 11th, 2006

Topic: Introduction to the Course

Week 2: Wednesday January 18th, 2006

Topic: Concepts and Theories in International Relations

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 1

Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy*, November/December 2004, pp.53-62*

J. Ann Tickner, "Feminist Perspectives on 9/11," *International Studies Perspectives*, no.3, 2002, pp.333-350*

Alica Ba and Matthew Hoffmann, "Making and Remaking the World for IR 101: A Resource for Teaching Social Constructivism in Introductory Classes," *International Studies Perspectives*, no.4, 2003, pp.15-33*

Samuel Huntington, "Clash of Civilizations," *Foreign Affairs*, Summer 1993, pp.22-49* (also available through EBSCO Host).

Due in class on Wednesday January 25th: In 2-3 pages, critically assess Huntington's arguments. Do you fundamentally agree or disagree? What are his assumptions and perceptions of the Islamic World? Provide evidence to support your points, and be prepared to discuss in class!

Week 3: Wednesday January 25th, 2006

Topic: The Evolution of World Politics

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 2

Bruce D. Berkowitz, "Who Won the Cold War---and Why it Matters," in: Steven L. Spiegel et al. (2005) *Readings in World Politics. A New Era*. Wadsworth: USA, pp.251-257 (Reprinted)*

Andreas Wenger & Doron Zimmermann (2003), "Current Affairs," in: *International Relations. From The Cold War to the Globalized World*. Lynne Rienner Pub: Bolder, Colorado, pp.325-338*

Week 4: Wednesday February 1st, 2006

Topic: Levels of Analysis

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 3

Daniel Byman, "Strategic Surprise and the September 11 Attacks," *Annual Review of Political Science*, no.8, 2005, pp.145-170*

Andrew J. Bacevich, "Requiem for the Bush Doctrine," *Current History*, Vol.104, No.686, pp.411-417*

In-Class Discussion: Was War with Iraq Justified?
Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 10; pp.136-151

Week 5: Wednesday February 8th, 2006

Topic: Nationalism

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 4

David A. Lake and Donald Rothchild, "Containing Fear. The Origins and Management of Ethnic Conflict," in: Michael Brown et al (2001) *Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict*. Cambridge: MIT Press, pp.126-160*

In-Class Discussion: Will State Sovereignty Survive Globalism?
Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 3; pp.31-49

Week 6: Wednesday February 15th, 2006

Topic: Globalization and Transnationalism

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 5

Daniel Philpott (2002) "The Challenge of September 11 to Secularism in International Relations" *World Politics*, Vol. 55, No.1., pp. 66-95.*

Mark Juergensmeyer, "Holy Orders: Religious Opposition to the Modern States," in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp.18-21

In-Class Discussion: Is Globalization a Positive Development for the World Community?
Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 1; pp.2-10

REVIEW FOR MIDTERM

Week 7: Wednesday February 22nd, 2006

Topic: National States: The Traditional Structure

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 6

Midterm: 6:00-7:00 PM

Week 8: Wednesday March 1st, 2006

Topic: International Organizations: An Alternative Structure

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 7

W. Andy Knight "The future of the UN Security Council: Questions of legitimacy and representation in multilateral governance," in: Andrew F. Cooper et al eds.(2002) *Enhancing Global Governance. Towards a New Diplomacy?* United Nations University Press, pp.19-37*

Jeffrey Laurenti, "Grand Goals, Modest Results: The UN in Search of Reform," *Current History*, Vol.104, No.686, pp.431-437*

In-Class Discussion: Is the United Nations fundamentally flawed?

Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 17, pp.266-283

Week 9: Wednesday March 8th, 2006

Topic: National Power and Diplomacy

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 8

Walter Russell Mead, "America's Sticky Power," in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp. 8-12*

Joshua Kurlantzick, "The Decline of American Soft Power," *Current History*, Vol.104, No.686, pp.419-424*

Timothy Garton Ash, "Anti-Europeanism in America," *Hoover Digest*, No.2, Spring 2003.*

The Economist, "French anti-Americanism," December 24th, 2005, pp.75-77*

In-Class Discussion: Should the United States Continue to Encourage a United Europe?

Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 5; pp.70-83

Week 10: Wednesday March 15th, 2006

Spring Break: No class!

Week 11: Wednesday March 22nd, 2006

Topic: International Law and Morality

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 9

In-Class Discussion: Should the United States ratify the International Criminal Court Treaty?

Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 18; pp.284-297

Week 12: Wednesday March 29th, 2006

Topic: Pursuing Security

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 10

Robert A. Pape “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism,” in: Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis ed. (2005) *International Politics. Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issue*. Pearson/Longman 7th ed., pp.232-249 (Reprinted)*

James D. Kirasl, “Terrorism and Globalization,” in: John Baylis and Steve Smith ed., (2005) *The Globalization of World Politics*. Oxford University Press, 3rd ed., pp. 479-497*

Due in class Wednesday March 29th: In 3-4 pages briefly define terrorism as best and succinctly as you can! What transitions has the nature of terrorism undergone according to the authors? How have globalization and suicide acts affected the modalities of ‘terrorism’? What policies/strategies are proposed to counter terrorism? Be prepared to discuss in class!

Week 13: Wednesday April 5th, 2006

Topic: Globalization and Economic Competition and Cooperation

Rourke and Boyer, Chapters 11-12

James S. Henry, “Where the Money Went,” in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp.80-84

Jeffrey Kluger, “The Big Crunch,” in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp.24-26

Muhammad Yunus, “The Grameen Bank,” in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp.189-192

In-Class Discussion: Should the Rich Countries Forgive All Debt Owed by the Poor Countries?

Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 13; pp.191-205

Week 14: Wednesday April 12th, 2006

Topic: Preserving and Enhancing Human Rights and Dignity

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 13

Rhoda E. Howard and Jack Donnelly “Human Rights in World Politics,” in: Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis eds. (2005) *International Politics. Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issue*. Pearson/Longman 7th ed., pp.558-570 (Reprinted)*

Shashi Tharoor, "Are Human Rights Universal?," in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp.185-188

In-Class Discussion: Is the War on Terrorism succeeding?
Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 15; pp.230-246

Week 15: Wednesday April 19th, 2006

Topic: Preserving and Enhancing the Global Commons

Rourke and Boyer, Chapter 14

John Barkdull, "Why Environmental Ethics Matters to International Relations,"
in: *Global Issues. Annual Editions 05/06*, pp.211-215

In-Class Discussion: Do Environmentalists overstate their case?
Rourke (Taking Sides): Issue 20; pp.316-329

REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM

Week 16: Wednesday April 26th, 2006

Final Exam: 6:00-8:30 PM

QUESTIONS:

What are the differences among the major alternative theoretical approaches to the study of international relations---realism and alternatives? Why have such different approaches developed? What are the strengths and weaknesses of theories at different levels of analysis such as the international system, the state and the individual?

Feminism and 9/11---see Pettman and Brown Journal of IR, IR COMPS Summary, Shimko and Goldstein etc.

Constructivism--see article by Thomas Risse (saved desktop), Shimko chapter and own IR Comps summary

Huntington: own paper written and Zohair Husain in Goldstein textbook pp.209-211 and Catherwood chapter on 'Clashing Civilizations' in her: Why the Nations Rage (copied) and Oliver McTernan (Violence in God's Name) chapter: 'The Clash of Paradigms' (copied).

What historical periods have most influenced the development of international relations?

What are the historical origins of the state?

Why is the Treaty of Westphalia used as a benchmark for international relations scholars?

How could the Cold war be both a series of confrontations between the United States and the Soviet Union and a "long peace"?

What key events have shaped the post-Cold War?

How is the state, the major actor in international relations, defined?

What are the different views of the state held by various theoretical perspectives?

How is state power measured?

What methods do states use to exercise power?

What are the major contemporary challenges to the state?

Which individuals matter in international relations? (Look at Rosenau article in Harvard International Review: "Followership and Discretion")

What roles do private individuals play in international relations?

What roles do mass publics play in foreign policy?

According to the various theoretical perspectives, how much do individuals matter?

Nationalism:

Look at additional chapters in Fox and Sandler (Bringing Religion into IR) and Scott Thomas (Global Resurgence of Religion and the Transformation of International Relations). Copied! Plus: Carlson and Owens Introduction (Copied) and Scott Thomas (Religion and International Conflict) in ed. Dark book (Copied). Also see: 'Religion in International Relations. The Return from Exile' by Fabio Petito and Pavlos Hatzopoulos (in office).

Environmental debate: look at Mother Jones journal and influence of think tanks article.

IO'S:

Look at chapter in Kearns and Mingst book on International Organizations!

How do theories of IR explain the emergence and significance of International Organizations?

Why are intergovernmental organizations formed?

What roles are played by nongovernmental organizations?

In the aftermath of the 2003 Iraq war, is the UN still a relevant actor in world politics?

Look at Fassbender article on Security Council and Krieger chapter 5 and in Malone Book chapter on why there is a US dislike for UN—Rawski and Miller.

What is security? Human security? Issues of Nuclear Proliferation-Causes? (Look at *Current History* article and Myths about Nuclear Proliferation)

Why is there war? (Look at Mearsheimer and Lieber articles on Iraq!)

What can we learn about the causes of war?

How is insecurity managed in the world of liberals?

How are realist approaches to managing insecurity different from those of liberals?

What are the new threats to international security?

Why is there increased attention to the international political economy?

What theoretical perspectives guide the study of the international political economy?

What are the most important issues that are part of the economic sanctions debate? Are they a useful instrument of foreign policy? Look at Foreign Affairs article on Sanctions on Iraq (**Containing Iraq: Sanctions Worked** [George A. Lopez](#) and [David Cortright](#) From *Foreign Affairs*, [July/August 2004](#)) and O'Sullivan and Preeg books and 'Sanctions').

What are the major concepts of economic liberalism?

What are the debates concerning the development gap?

What roles have the major international economic institutions played in the post-WWII era? Look at Mingst textbook and Cohn –Global Political Economy—and Ravenhill--Global Political Economy)

What roles have multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations played in the international political economy?

What are the critiques of the anti-globalization movement?