

POLI 4800/4800G
CONCEPTS AND PATTERNS OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
SUMMER 2012

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Course Description

This course introduces you to theories of and debates about international relations, a sub-field of political science. It is designed as a stepping stone to all upper division international relations (IR) classes that UNO offers. This class is taught under the assumption that students have already taken POLI 2800 and are ready to systematically analyze the major questions and debates in the field. The questions we will address go back millennia. How do states interact with each other? Is the international system really anarchic? Can a state's search for security paradoxically make it less safe? Is the current international system more or less dangerous than in the past? Has globalization had an effect on international relations? Are traditional concepts of power still relevant?

As a field of study, international relations focuses on the political, military, economic, and cultural interaction of state and non-state actors at the global level. The field therefore encompasses a diverse array of topics, from economic development to military conflict, from the environment to international institutions. In this course, we explore the key concepts, issues, and processes of international relations through the writings of some of the most influential and important scholars in the field. Through our consideration of their work, we develop the general knowledge and analytic tools necessary to understand, evaluate, and respond to the complex array of problems states face in the contemporary world.

Student Learning Objectives

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to 1) define key concepts and theories in international relations, 2) engage in a constructive debate about the theoretical and empirical implications of competing theories of international relations, and 3) compose a coherent essay tying IR theories to contemporary issues.

Course Requirements

This class is designed to take advantage of new and evolving tools for teaching online. It is structured into seven weeks. Each week there will be two lectures posted online. While summer session technically starts on Thursday May 31st, readings and substantive lectures are organized by normal Monday to Friday weeks. The first introduction lecture is posted on Thursday May 31st, and subsequent lectures will be posted on Mondays and Wednesdays.

As a means of making sure you have understood and can engage the material, there will be a midterm and a final. Each will be open on Moodle for 24 hours. You will have 90 minutes for the midterm and two hours for the final exam. The dates are listed in the course schedule below. Once you have completed the

exam, you may not return to it, and you can take it only once. Be prepared, and try and find a quiet place to take the exam where you will not be disturbed.

Participation is essential to a successful class as is an engagement with the material. You do not have to agree with the material presented either by me or by the authors we will read. What I do expect you to do is to engage with the material and the class discussion board, think about the issues they raise, come to your own conclusions, and be able to convey them to others.

Since this is an online class and we are trying to cover a semester's worth of material into seven weeks the amount of reading is compressed and thus substantial. It will make your life much easier if you can keep up with the material than if you try and make it up before an exam. Attendance is mandatory and measured by participation in the weekly discussion boards.

Undergraduates

An undergraduate's course grade will be determined by four components. Your grade will be calculated as follows:

20%	Midterm
30%	Final exam
15%	Participation
35%	Policy memo

All written will be graded according to the following grading scale: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F. I grade all written work according to the following criteria: Does the writer make an argument and back up the argument with coherent and well organized evidence? Does the work have a clear introduction that lays out the paper's 1) topic, 2) motivating question, 3) main argument, 4) and evidence? If you are unhappy with any grade in this class, you may submit a printed one-page explanation of why you think your grade is unwarranted twenty-four hours after the grade has been submitted.

Graduate students

Graduate students will do the same work as the undergraduates, but with a different final exam. This final exam will be structured as a MA comprehensive exam. You will have a choice of six questions and you will choose to answer two. Graduate students' grades will be calculated as follows:

20%	Midterm
30%	Final exam
15 %	Participation
35%	Policy memo

Participation

To do well in this class (like any upper-level class) it is necessary to actively participate in class discussion. However, since this is an online class, discussions are limited to the discussion board. As a result your participation will be evaluated on the discussion board. Each Monday you need to post a news article or video clip to the discussion board that is relevant to that week's lectures and then spend a paragraph (at least 4-6 sentences) discussing its relevance to the readings. The article or clip must be from the last five years. For example, on June 10th you could post a news article or YouTube clip about border

skirmishes between Sudan and South Sudan and briefly describe how this situation reminds you of Fearon's (1995) discussion of commitment problems. I have a list of news and video sources on my website (richardwfrank.com) that might be of use.

Once you leave your weekly post, you will see other classmates' responses. You can then respond to their clips or articles. At minimum, you need to post at least one multi-sentence response each week (by Sunday at 11:55pm). Each week you will receive a grade from 0 to 10 (10=best) for your answer and response(s). I would advise you to not put off submitting your responses as Moodle has a habit of freezing or going offline at the worst possible times.

Policy Memo

You will be required to write a final paper for this class. Indeed, 35% of your grade will be determined by your final paper. I will provide a list of issue areas that you can choose from. They will require you to suggest a state response to a contemporary foreign policy issue. For example, what policy would you advocate the United States use in dealing with the new regime in North Korea? Who would the US's allies be in dealing with North Korea? What realistic options are there? What are the interests of the relevant parties? Memos are due July 18th at noon CST, and I will provide a number of resources that outline how to structure a policy memo.

Your memo should have standard margins, a 12 point standard Times New Roman font, footnotes, a bibliography of works cited, and be in a consistent format (APSA, Chicago, etc.). All sources must be credited. Wikipedia and its ilk will not be accepted as sources. You may not use portions of papers written for other classes. If you have any question about the acceptability of a source, please ask me. There is a 7 to 15 page requirement refers to the length of your paper's text not the total length. Late papers will incur a letter grade (i.e. 10 point) penalty for every 24 hours in which they are late. Please see the handout I will give you for more specifics about what I expect in an upper-level paper.

Extra credit

You can earn up to an extra 5% of your grade if you choose to try your hand at creating and recording your own presentation to share with the class based on your final paper topic and argument. The deadline for posting presentations is July 18th at noon CST. More details on this opportunity will be given later on in the semester.

Class Meetings and Course Communication

Students are encouraged to contact me with any questions about the course material or ways of approaching the final paper. This is an online class. Therefore, all class interaction will be online, mostly on the Moodle discussion board, and there will be no in-person office hours. I will be available via email. I strive to respond to emails within 24 hours. Email is a relatively new form of communication; however, I expect students to treat email like previous forms of correspondence. Your writing—whether in a paper, test, or email—is a reflection on you as a UNO student, and you should treat it as such by using correct capitalization, punctuation, and letter structure.

Moodle

Moodle is a useful tool that will be used extensively for this course for announcements, readings, lectures, and grades. During the course I will post the (non-book) readings in the class's *Documents* section. I will also post the lecture slides in the *Documents* section. It is advisable to check Moodle and your UNO email account often.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the UNO Judicial Code for further information. The Code is available online at: <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/accountability.cfm>.

This is an upper-level class, and I expect you to be familiar with proper citation technique. If you have any questions about the appropriate means of quoting others' words or citing their general arguments please ask me. I consider enrollment in this class as an acceptance of the university's academic dishonesty policy and the course's requirements as outlined in this syllabus.

You will submit a digital copy of your final paper on Moodle to Turnitin, which finds whether sentences originate in other works. If there is evidence of plagiarism it will be punished to the fullest extent possible. Neither ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism nor a lack of intent to plagiarize are acceptable defenses.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students who qualify for services will receive the academic modifications for which they are legally entitled. It is the responsibility of the student to register with the Office of Disability Services (UC260) each semester and follow their procedures for obtaining assistance.

Assigned Readings

There is one (1) assigned book available from the UNO Bookstore or from online booksellers. Online stores like Amazon are usually significantly cheaper, but you need to plan ahead so as to receive this book in time to discuss them in class.

Art, Robert J., and Robert Jervis. 2012. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*. Eleventh Edition. Pearson. ISBN: 0-205-85164-9.

In addition to the above book, I have assigned a number of scholarly journal articles. All articles are available through Moodle, the library's website, or on the Internet. It is in your self-interest to learn how to access online journal articles from the library's website. If you have any questions about accessing e-journals, please let me know.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This reading list is subject to change. If necessary, updates to this syllabus will be posted on Moodle in the *Course Information* section. All reading must be completed before reading/watching the lecture slides. Readings are in Art and Jervis (2012) unless otherwise noted. Readings posted on Moodle are marked with a (M).

WEEK 0: May 31-June 3

Lecture 1: Class introduction and overview

-No readings. Make sure you have the book in hand and have explored the class's Moodle site and have read the introduction to Art and Jervis (2012).

WEEK 1: June 4 - 10

Lecture 2: Studying international relations

- Thucydides. The Melian Dialogue (8-14).
- Aristophanes. 1961. *Lysistrata*. Scene 1 (M).
- Morgenthau. 1985. Six Principles of Political Realism (14-22).
- Tickner. 1988. A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism (22-34).

Lecture 3: History of international relations

- Clausewitz. 1873. [War as an Instrument of Policy](#) (M)
- Lipson. 1984. International Cooperation in Economic and Security Affairs (M).
- Tilly. 1992. *How War Made States, and Vice Versa*: Ch. 3, 67-95 (M).
- Holsti. 2004. Theories of International Relations (M).
- Kennedy. 1984. The First World War and the International Power System (M).
- Keohane. 1989. International Relations Theory: Contributions of a Feminist Standpoint (M).
- Weber. 1994. Good Girls, Little Girls and Bad Girls: Male Paranoia in Robert Keohane's Critique of Feminist International Relations (M).

WEEK 2: June 11-17

Lecture 4: Anarchy

- Waltz. 1979. The Anarchic Structure of World Politics (35-56).
- Fearon 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War (57-65).
- Wendt. 1992. Anarchy is What States Make of It (65-72).
- Hurd. 1999. Legitimacy in International Politics (72-75).
- Krasner. 2001. Sovereignty (M).

Lecture 5: Mitigating anarchy I

- Oye. 1985. The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics (76-90).
- Jervis. 1978. Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma (90-111).
- Doyle. 1983. Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs (111-24).
- Walt 1987. Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning (125-32).
- Kang. 2010. Hierarchy and Hegemony in International Politics (132-6).

WEEK 3: June 18-24

Lecture 6: Mitigating anarchy II

- Morgenthau. 1985. The Future of Diplomacy (136-46).
- Hoffmann 1968. The Uses and Limits of International Law (146-51).
- Keohane. 1998. International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work? (151-8).
- Jervis. 1976. *Perceptions and Misperceptions in International Politics* Chapter 1 (M).
- Mearsheimer. 1995. The False Promise of International Institutions (M).

Lecture 7: Using force

- Art and Jervis (159-163).
- Schelling. 1966. The Diplomacy of Violence (172-186).
- Art. 1980. The Four Functions of Force (164-171).
- Art. 1996. The Fungibility of Force (197-213).
- The World Bank. 2011. The Shape of Violence Today (232-8).

Midterm Thursday June 21st

WEEK 4: June 25 – July 1

Lecture 8: Nuclear deterrence

- Sokoski. 2005. Getting Ready for a Nuclear-Ready Iran (239-42).
- Posen. 2006. A Nuclear Armed Iran: A Difficult but Not Impossible Policy Problem (242-58).
- US Congress. Office of Technology Assessment. 1979. *The Effects of Nuclear War*: 1-12 (M).
- Tannenwald. 1999. The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-use (M).

Lecture 9: Civil war

- Kalyvas. 2007. Civil Wars (M).
- Annan. 1999. Reflections on Intervention (416-21).
- Barnett and Snyder. 2008. The Grand Strategies of Humanitarianism (422-9).
- Downes. 2011. To the Shores of Tripoli? (429-36).
- Bowen. 1996. The Myth of Global Ethnic Conflict (M).

WEEK 5: July 2-8

Lecture 10: Terrorism

- Hoffman. 2006. What is Terrorism? (186-196).
- Pape. 2003. The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism (214-31).
- US State Department. 2011. Country Reports on Terrorism 2010 (Selections to be announced)
- [The 911 Commission Report](#). Ch.2 (M).

Lecture 11: International political economy

- Art and Jervis (259-264).
- Gilpin 1975. The Nature of Political Economy (265-81).
- Hiscox. 2004. The Domestic Sources of Foreign Economic Policies (282-91).
- Scott. 2001. The Great Divide in the Global Village (292-304).
- Friedman. 2006. The First Law of Petropolitics (M).

WEEK 6: July 9-15

Lecture 12: Economics, trade, and globalization

- Frankel. 2000. Globalization of the Economy (305-21).

- Rodrik. 2001. Trading in Illusions (344-52).
- Ghemawat. 2007. Why the World Isn't Flat (321-7).
- Naim. 2009. What Globalization Is and Is Not (327-32).
- Micklethwait and Wooldridge. 2001. Why the Globalization Backlash Is Stupid (363-9).
- Blinder. 2006. Offshoring: The Next Industrial Revolution (332-43).
- Wade, 2008. Financial Regime Change? (352-63).

Lecture 13: The global commons

- Hardin. 1968. The Tragedy of the Commons (501-7).
- Victor. 2006. International Cooperation on Climate Change (507-15).
- Roberts. 1993. The United Nations and International Security (515-23).
- Waltz. 1999. Globalization and Governance (523-35).
- Ikenberry. 2011. The Future of the Liberal World Order (535-43).

WEEK 7: July 16-19

Lecture 14: Human rights, development, and transnational forces

- Howard and Donnelly. 1987. Human Rights in World Politics (437-49).
- Ratner. 1998. International Law: The Trial of Global Norms (450-5).
- Keck and Sikkink. 1998. Transnational Activist Networks (456-62).
- Williams. 2003. Transnational Organized Crime and the State (463-76).
- Lin. Cyber Conflict and National Security (476-89).
- Lynch. 2011. After Egypt: The Limits and Promise of Online Challenges to the Authoritarian Arab State (489-500).

Lecture 15: Going Forward

- US National Intelligence Council. 2008. Global Trends 2025 (544-51).
- Posen. 2009. Emerging Multipolarity: Why Should We Care? (552-60).
- Dupont. 2008. The Strategic Implications of Climate Change (560-9).
- Howe and Jackson. 2011. Global Aging and the Crisis of the 2020s (570-8).
- Subramanian. 2011. The Inevitable Superpower: Why China's Dominance Is a Sure Thing (578-85).

Final paper due July 18th at noon CST. Final exam on July 20th.