

**INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
**INR2002, SECTION 1**  
**CLASSROOM: HCB 0102**  
**MWF 2:30 - 3:20PM**  
**SPRING 2014**

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**Office hours:** MW 1:00-2:30pm

Feel free to stop by anytime during office hours - no appointment is necessary.

**Course Goals and Overview**

The goal of this class is to discover how international politics affects our everyday lives. We investigate international relations through the framework of interests, interactions, and institutions. We learn that global actors have varying interests, unique interactions, and they work under different rules and institutions. But we also uncover broad patterns of international behavior that allow us to explain and make predictions about world events.

Throughout the semester, we identify different actors in international politics, and investigate why those actors sometimes fight and sometimes cooperate. Our focus then turns to international political economy, where we discuss theories of global trade, finance, monetary policy, and development. Finally, we investigate unique challenges to the international community, including environmental problems and human rights abuses. By the semester's end, you will understand a variety of political problems facing the world today.

**Class Materials**

*Required*

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2012. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions, 2nd edition. New York: W.W. Norton. ISBN 978-0393912388.

The textbook is also available as an e-book (online or downloadable version). It can be purchased here: <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/978-0-393-91238-8/>.

*Optional*

iClicker, ISBN 1429280476. Clickers are only used in this class to gain extra credit (up to 10 points added to the final grade). If you do not want opportunities for extra credit, then you do not need to purchase a clicker. The iclicker is available from the bookstore, or as an iPhone or Google Android App. I cannot guarantee the reliability of the wi-fi in HCB 102, so you may want to consider that when deciding to use the clicker app.

**Earning Grades**

*Four exams, each worth 25% of the final grade*

Exams consist of multiple-choice questions and are administered during regularly scheduled class time in HCB 102. Exam days are Friday January 31, Monday February 24, Monday March 31, and Thursday May 1. Students who are more than 10 minutes late will not be allowed to take the exam, and will not be able to make it up.

Makeup exams are only allowed for excused absences. You must let me know in advance if you will miss the exam. Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. Be aware that **all makeup exams are given in essay format during finals week.**

*In-class participation using iClicker, up to 10 points added to the final grade*

There will be 10 class days throughout the semester when we use iclicker to check your understanding of the material and to help you engage. These days will occur at random and are not announced in advance. To maximize your opportunities to earn extra credit, make sure to always have your clicker with you when you come to class. On iclicker days, you will be asked a series of questions throughout the lecture. To earn a full extra credit point for the day's participation, you need to answer all questions asked with the clicker. One point maximum can be earned on each iclicker day.

The grading scale for the course is as follows. Grades ending in .5 or higher are rounded to the nearest percentage point.

	B+ 89 - 87	C+ 79 - 77	D+ 69 - 67	
A 93 - 100	B 86 - 83	C 76 - 73	D 66 - 63	F 59 - 0
A- 92 - 90	B- 82 - 80	C- 72 - 70	D- 62 - 60	

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is not a required or graded component of this course. You do not need to inform me if you will be absent from class. However, repeated absences are likely to result in a lower grade, because you will miss vital information for the exams. I do not post or distribute class notes, so if you miss a class, get the notes from a fellow student.

### **Email Policy**

Treat all emails that you send to me and fellow members of the class as professional documents. Be sure to **sign your first and last name** to the email. I can more quickly and accurately answer emailed questions if I know to whom I am writing. Also, please include INR2002 in the subject line.

### **Academic Honor Policy**

Both you and I are responsible for upholding academic integrity. By my writing this syllabus, and by your enrolling in this course, we agree to uphold the FSU Academic Honor Pledge, which says "I affirm my commitment to the concept of responsible freedom. I will be honest and truthful and will strive for personal and institutional integrity at The Florida State University. I will abide by the Academic Honor Policy at all times." If you would like more clarification and examples of academic honor violations, please visit <http://academichonor.fsu.edu/policy/policy.html>

I consider bringing a fellow student's iclicker to class to be cheating and a violation of the Florida State Academic Honor Policy. If you are caught with a remote other than your own or have

votes in a class that you did not attend, you will forfeit all clicker points and may face additional disciplinary action.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center  
874 Traditions Way  
108 Student Services Building  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167  
(850) 644-9566 (voice)  
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)  
sdr@admin.fsu.edu  
<http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/>

### **Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings**

This schedule is subject to change with advance notice.

#### **Foundations of International Politics**

*Why should we care about international politics? What makes international politics different from domestic politics?*

Jan 8: Introduction, World Politics textbook

Jan 10: Introduction, World Politics textbook

#### **History of International Politics**

*What significant events shaped the world we live in today?*

Jan 13: Chapter 1, pages 2-21

Jan 15: Chapter 1, pages 22-36

#### **Interests, Interactions, and Institutions**

*What do actors want from politics? Why can't actors always get what they want? Do rules matter in world politics?*

Jan 17: Chapter 2, pages 38-61

Jan 20: No Class, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Jan 22: Chapter 2, pages 62-79

#### **International Conflict**

*If war is so costly, why do countries fight?*

Jan 24: Chapter 3, pages 80-104

Jan 27: Chapter 3, pages 105-123

Jan 29: Review Chapter 3

## **Exam 1: Friday, January 31**

### **Domestic Politics and War**

*What domestic interests affect matters of war and peace?*

Feb 3: Chapter 4, pages 124-142

Feb 5: Chapter 4, pages 143-167

Feb 7: Review Chapter 4

### **International Institutions and War**

*Can international law and institutions prevent war?*

Feb 10: Chapter 5, pages 170-189

Feb 12: Chapter 5, pages 189-213

Feb 14: Review Chapter 5

### **Civil War and Terrorism**

*Why does war happen within countries? Why do terrorists kill?*

Feb 17: Chapter 6, pages 214-241

Feb 19: Chapter 6, pages 242-263

Feb 21: Review Chapter 6

## **Exam 2: Monday, February 24**

### **International Trade**

*What's so good about trade? Why do countries sometimes restrict trade?*

Feb 26: Chapter 7, pages 264-286

Feb 28: Chapter 7, pages 287-311

Mar 3: Review Chapter 7

### **International Finance**

*How and why do people invest overseas?*

Mar 5: Chapter 8, pages 312-336

Mar 7: Chapter 8, pages 337-349

### **International Monetary Policy**

*Without world government, how do countries supply money and regulate currency?*

Mar 17: Chapter 9, pages 350-374

Mar 19: Chapter 9, pages 375-385

Mar 21: Review Chapter 9

### **International Development**

*Why are some countries rich and others poor?*

Mar 24: Chapter 10, pages 386-405

Mar 26: Chapter 10, pages 406-419

Mar 28: Review Chapter 10

## **Exam 3: Monday, Mar 31**

### **International Law and Norms**

*Without global police to enforce it, can international law change how countries behave?*

Apr 2: Chapter 11, pages 420-433

Apr 4: Chapter 11, pages 434-451

Apr 7: Review Chapter 11

### **Human Rights**

*If everyone values human rights, why hasn't the human rights movement been more successful?*

Apr 9: Chapter 12, pages 452-472

Apr 11: Chapter 12, pages 473-491

### **The Global Environment**

*If everyone values the earth's resources, why is global cooperation over the environment so hard to achieve?*

Apr 14: Chapter 13, pages 492-516

Apr 16: Chapter 13, pages 517-533

Apr 18: Review Chapter 13

### **The Future of International Politics**

*What are the major challenges facing the world in the future?*

Apr 21: Chapter 14, pages 534-556

Apr 23: Chapter 14, pages 557-577

Apr 25: Review Chapter 14

**Exam 4: Thursday, May 1, 12:30pm in HCB 102**