

IAFS 1000-100 GLOBAL ISSUES AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Spring 2026, T/Th 12:30pm-1:45pm, Bruce Curtis Bldg W100

Professor Molly Todd (Dr. Todd)

Office hours: Mondays 9:30-11:00AM via Zoom <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/8815053447> and by appointment (I am also often available in-person in my office at this time- feel free to come by Ketchum 165)

Recitations:

Section	TA	Recitation	Contact	Office Hours
IAFS 1000-1 01	Grace Donahue	Th 10:10-11am - Economics 205	Grace.Donahue-1@colorado.edu	By appointment via Calendly: https://calendly.com/grdo1924-colorado/30min
IAFS 1000-1 02	Lars Schwaebbe	W 9:05-9:55am - Economics 205	Lars.Schwaebbe@colorado.edu	11:00am-1:00pm Guggenheim 311
IAFS 1000-1 03	Lars Schwaebbe	W 2:30-3:20pm - Guggenheim 3		11:00am-1:00pm Guggenheim 311
IAFS 1000-1 04	Holland Eddy	Th 9:05-9:55am - Economics 205	Holland.Eddy@colorado.edu	Mondays and Fridays 11:00am-12:00pm Eaton Humanities Room 352
IAFS 1000-1 05	Holland Eddy	Th 4:40-5:30pm - Economics 205		Mondays and Fridays 11:00am-12:00pm Eaton Humanities Room 352

Communication: For course questions, you should contact your TA first. Your TA is the key to success in this course! If you have already contacted the TA and cannot resolve your question you should: 1) ask your question in class, 2) come to my office hours, 3) Write a message through the Canvas Portal. Messages sent over the weekend will receive a response the following week. In general, I do not use email for basic communications regarding my courses.

Course Description: This course introduces a range of subjects, approaches, concepts, and ideas in the International Affairs (IAFS) major and minor. It builds from literature across disciplines

including Political science, Cultural studies, Decolonial studies, Border studies, Critical theory, Critical security studies, Transnational feminism, Anthropology, and Geography – and does so in every geographical area of the world. This course is your gateway to IAFS (or just a good basic survey for those interested in global affairs) from which you will be able to take follow-on courses in specialties ranging from development, economics, culture, security, history, and the like. We will survey compelling global issues of the day from various analytical frameworks, interpretations, and theories. Using critical perspectives, we cover concepts such as sovereignty, borders, territory, peacekeeping and international law, power, security, norms, colonialism and postcolonial critique.

Course Objectives:

- Introduce you to topics and problems facing the global community and how international actors deal with them
- Introduce a variety of perspectives across disciplines in International Affairs
- Encourage your interest in current events
- Improve your reading, writing, critical thinking, and synthesizing skills

Course Structure:

The *Tuesday/Thursday class meetings* will be lectures with some discussion and surveys during the 75 minutes. Attendance in lectures will be taken on a regular basis by survey answers sent to your TA (that result will be added to the overall participation grade). In recitations, attendance is *mandatory*. Your performance on exams (worth 40% total – 10% for the first one, 15% for the second and Final) and papers (worth 30% total – 10% each) will depend on you attending classes because exams will be open-note tests.

Recitations will cover all of the readings and connect them to a current events topic. The readings are uniform across all recitation sections. The readings include the textbook (Pevehouse and Goldstein) and Canvas SETS under Readings in the module for that week. You must attend the recitation section in which you are enrolled. Each recitation will have its own syllabus, which are listed by TA in Canvas. Quizzes will be given in recitations.

We highly recommend that you have all the reading completed for that week, before Tuesday's lecture, so you can follow the lecture (and recitation discussion) efficiently and with greater understanding.

Textbook: TEXT: Jon C.W. Pevehouse and Joshua S. Goldstein (abbreviated as P&G), International Relations, 13th edition (2025).

To keep the cost of the Pevehouse/Goldstein, International Relations textbook as low as possible and access to those materials as convenient as possible, we have collaborated with the CU Bookstore to deliver those materials through a program called "CU Book Access." It's important to note that there are different opting plans associated with this textbook program: CU Book

Access Complete, Select, and Global Opt Out.

What does this mean for you?

Those eligible (such as undergraduates) for CU Book Access Complete will be automatically opted in and charged a flat rate of \$259 (plus tax) for all required materials. Those who wish to pay for only particular books can opt into CU Book Access Select - where then, students can pay the individual prices of materials they don't opt out of on their shelf.

The material International Relations, 9780135229545, is available to students opted into CU Book Access Select for a charge of \$71.99. Opting out of this material in Canvas means you won't pay for this particular material, but you lose all access to the course materials, including homework managers like Connect or Mindtap, related to it. Please keep in mind that "opting out" means that your access to these materials will be turned OFF, and you will have no way to complete assignments. For any issues or questions, please reach out to the CU Bookstore at assist@cubookstore.com or visit their website, cubookstore.com.

Older paper versions are also available and appropriate for this class and will be more economical than the current version.

Reading SETS on CANVAS (for recitations)

Assignments

First Exam (lectures/P&G, chps. 1-4) 10%

Second Exam (lectures/P&G, chps. 5-9) 15%

Final Exam (lectures/P&G, chps. 10-14) 15%

Three Quizzes (taken in recitations) 30% (10% each)

Participation: attendance in lectures and recitations, and participation in recitations 30%

NOTE: Failure to take any exam will result in failure of the entire course (and NOT just that exam category). Likewise, failure to take any of the three quizzes will result in failure of the course NOT just the Quiz category.

EXAMS: The two exams and Final will cover the material up to the date they are given in class. That is, the exams are NOT comprehensive, covering the entire course. They are open-note exams, meaning you may bring notes from the lectures, recitations, and readings to the exam. You may not bring the readings themselves, nor use a computer, cellphone, or other means to access the internet or course materials. The format will be one essay, with a question posted on the front board via PPT, for each exam. There will be no study guides but study sessions will be held in recitations before each exam.

QUIZZES: Taken and discussed during the assigned recitation indicated on the syllabus. The

three quizzes will deal with the current/historic events topic. Quizzes will be short answers and will test mostly on the reading Sets and possibly on the Pevehouse and Goldstein textbook.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION: You are expected to attend and contribute to each recitation session, and expected to attend lectures as well. You are allowed one absence with no questions asked— in addition to three excused absences from recitations (you must contact your TA in advance). You will lose 10% of the recitation grade for each infraction thereafter, up to a total of 3 unexcused misses, when you will receive a 0 for the entire recitation grade. It is in your interest to attend and participate.

In Lectures: Through surveys from my PPT presentations, we will take attendance on average about once a week but it could be more. You will submit your answer(s) to your TA. Your TA will let you know the format of how to submit your survey. Survey answers will be time stamped. Your lecture attendance will go into your total attendance grade for recitations. I will post PPT presentations in Canvas, but they are only outlines and will do you little good without lecture details. So, be smart: come to class – it's good for you and your grade!!

EXTRA CREDIT? No, but high attendance in lectures and recitations will be counted. Assignment of letter grades based on percentages of total points will be as follows: 94%+ = A; 90%-93% = A-; 87%-89% = B+; 83%-86% = B; 80%-82% = B-; 77%-79% = C+; 73%-76% = C; 70%-72% = C-; 67%-69% = D+; 63%-66% = D; 60%-62% = D-; 59% & below = F.

Policies

Absences:

You must notify your Teaching Assistant (not me) prior to class to receive an excused absence. Attendance is critical to this course, so don't miss! There will be NO makeup exams offered for sickness/medical/personal reasons unless you give ME advance notice that you will miss the exam on the scheduled date. See also attendance and participation.

Requirements for Infectious Diseases

Members of the CU Boulder community and visitors to campus must follow university, department, and building health and safety requirements and all public health orders to reduce the risk of spreading infectious diseases. The CU Boulder campus is currently mask optional. However, if masks are again required in classrooms, adhering to University Policy is subject to the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution guidelines. Students who require accommodation because a disability prevents them from fulfilling safety measures related to infectious disease will be asked to follow the steps in the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus. For those who feel ill and think you might have COVID-19 or if you have tested positive for COVID-19, please stay home and follow the further guidance of the Public Health

Office. For those who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms and have not tested positive for COVID-19, you do not need to stay home.

Accommodations

For students requiring accommodations, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see Temporary Medical Conditions on the Disability Services website.

If you have a temporary illness, injury or required medical isolation for which you require adjustment, please alert me as soon as possible.

Preferred Names and Pronouns

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name. If you would like me to use a name or pronoun other than that listed, please let me know.

Honor Code

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code may include but are not limited to: plagiarism (including use of paper writing services or technology [such as essay bots]), cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. Understanding the course's syllabus is a vital part in adhering to the Honor Code.

All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution: StudentConduct@colorado.edu. Students found responsible for violating the Honor Code will be assigned resolution outcomes from the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution as well as be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member. Visit Honor Code for more information on the academic integrity policy.

AI Policy

You may conditionally use gen AI tools in this course for the purpose of brainstorming ideas, but not for writing your paper, or finding answers to your Exams. Final work must be

student-generated. If you use gen AI tools on assignments in this class, document your usage with the Chicago Manual of Style or appropriate citation guidelines for this course.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these concerns, and individuals who have been subjected to misconduct can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email CUreport@colorado.edu. Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and [support resources](#) including confidential services can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors must inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents related to these policies regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive outreach from OIEC about resolution options and support resources. To learn more about reporting and support for a variety of concerns, visit the [Don't Ignore It page](#).

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, email me in advance and we will work out a mutually agreed-upon arrangement regarding make-up work. See the campus policy regarding religious observances for full details.

Mental Health and Wellness

The University of Colorado Boulder is committed to the well-being of all students. If you are struggling with personal stressors, mental health or substance use concerns that are impacting academic or daily life, please contact [Counseling and Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\)](#) located in C4C or call (303) 492-2277, 24/7.

Free and unlimited telehealth is also available through [Academic Live Care](#). The [Academic Live Care](#) site also provides information about additional wellness services on campus that are available to students. A 24/7 Suicide Prevention hotline is available by calling 303-492-2277.

Basic Needs

I believe that in order to learn, students need to have their basic needs met: food to eat and a safe place to live. If you're having trouble with either, the campus has resources at the [Basic Needs Center](#). If you're facing food insecurity, reach out to food@colorado.edu, and review [CU food resources here](#), like BuffPantry. If you're having trouble paying rent or facing housing insecurity,

there are many [CU housing assistance programs](#). You can also get in touch with these advocates: Boulder County Housing & Human Services at 303-441-1000 or Off-campus Housing at och@colorado.edu & 303-492-7053. For assistance with landlord-tenant matters, contact Mediation Services at 303-441-4364 & mediation@bouldercolorado.edu. A 24/7 Suicide Prevention hotline is available by calling 303-492-2277.

*Please don't hesitate to also approach me if you would like support negotiating any of these resources.

Readings & Reading Schedule

Week	Tuesday Lecture	Thursday Lecture	Recitation
1		1/8 Introduction P&G 1	Introduction
2	1/13 Concepts/Trends	1/15 Realism P&G 2	Discuss Reading Set 1 (Russia/Ukraine)
3	1/20 Pessimism	1/22 Liberalism/Institutional ism P&G 3	Discuss Reading Set 2 (Iran)
4	1/27 Optimism?	1/29 Social Theories	Discuss Reading Set 3 (Israel/Hamas) QUIZ 1 in Class on Sets 1, 2, 3
5	2/3 Humanities/Struggle?	2/5 Foreign Policy P&G 4	First Exam study session
6	2/10 FIRST EXAM in class	2/12 Conflict P&G 5	Discuss Reading Set 4 (Immigration)
7	2/17 Military Force P&G 6	2/19 WMDs	Return and discuss First Exam
8	2/24 Law P&G 7	2/26 READING DAY – NO CLASS	NO RECITATIONS

			THIS WEEK
9	3/3 UN System	3/5 Trade Theory P&G 8	Discuss Reading Set 5 (<i>Trump</i>) QUIZ 2 in class on Sets 4, 5
10	3/10 Trade History	3/12 Money and Globalization P&G 9	Second Exam study session
11	3/17 NO CLASS SPRING BREAK	3/19 NO CLASS SPRING BREAK	NO RECITATIONS THIS WEEK
	3/24 Investment	3/26 SECOND EXAM in class	Discuss Reading Set 6 (<i>China</i>)
	3/31 Integration P&G 10	4/2 EU	Return and discuss Second Exam
	4/7 Environment and Population P&G 11	4/9 North-South Gap P&G 12	Discuss Reading Set 7 (<i>Foreign Aid</i>)

	4/14 Inequality	4/16 Development and Options P&G 13	Discuss Reading Set 8 (<i>environment</i>) QUIZ 3 in class on Sets 6, 7, 8	
	4/21 <i>IAFS Day</i>	4/23 Concluding Thoughts; Final Exam review P&G 14	Final Exam Study Session	

FINAL EXAM: (P&G 10-14), April 28 4:30–7 p.m.