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### **PSCI 2223-250, Introduction to International Relation**

Tuesday, Thursday 12:45 PM - 2 PM  
DUAN G1B20

### **Instructor Contact Information**

E-mail: [michael.kanner@colorado.edu](mailto:michael.kanner@colorado.edu)  
Office Location – Ketchum 114F  
Office Hours – None. Request a CONFERENCE on CANVAS for a virtual office visit.  
Campus Box: 333 UCB

### **Communication Policies**

Contact me by e-mail. I usually answer within 12 hours, although sometimes this is just an acknowledgment.

### **Instructor Biography**

I have been a lecturer in political science and international affairs since 2001 and have taught most international relations subjects from security to economics. My bachelor's degree was in science with a concentration in engineering. I also have a master's in managerial science from Troy State University, international relations from Salve Regina University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder, where I focused on political psychology and its effect on foreign policy decision making.

Before joining academia, I served in the US Army, including assignments as an operations officer and analyst from brigade to theater army level in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. As an analyst, my work included studies on expert decision making, low-intensity conflict, and preventive diplomacy.

### **Course Description (from the catalog)**

Introduces the field of international relations, with a general survey of the theories, histories, and problems of historical and contemporary relations among state and non-state actors.

Approved for GT-SS1. Approved for arts and sciences core curriculum: contemporary societies.

### **Course Objectives**

1. Recognize the role of history in contemporary international relations.
2. Practice the use of analytic methodologies on historical and current events.
3. Identify the critical tenets of international relations theories.

4. Examine major current issues.

### Overview

This class will be conducted in person. Classes typically follow this format –

- Administrative announcements (if any)
- Student presentations on current events.
- Presentation on the subject expanding on the text.
  - These presentations include questioning students about their opinions or knowledge of the subject.
  - Students are encouraged to interrupt to ask questions or comment during these presentations
- A final discussion question (if time permits)

### Course Outline

All readings come from *World Politics: International Relations and Globalization in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.

August	
<b>Introduction</b> 25 – Syllabus (download from CANVAS and read)	27 – Ch. 1, International Relations and Globalization
September	
1 – Ch. 2, Development of International Society	<b>History</b> 3 – Ch. 3, International Relations before Second World War
8 – Ch. 4, International Relations after the Second World War	10 – Ch. 5, International Relations after the Cold War
<b>Theory</b> 15 – Ch. 6, Realism	17– Ch. 7, Liberalism
22 – Ch. 8, Marxism and Neo-Marxism	24 – Ch. 9, Neo-Realism and Neo-Liberalism
29 – Ch. 10, Critical Theory	
October	
	1 – Ch. 11, Social Constructivism
6 – Ch. 12, Feminist Theory and Gender in IR	<b>Structures (Institutions)</b> 8 – Ch. 13, International Organizations and Transnational Actors
13 – Ch. 14, The United Nations	15 – Ch. 15, International Law
20 – Ch. 16, Regionalism	<b>22 – Midterm</b> <b>In class, review sheet will be provided</b>
<b>Issues</b> 27 – Ch. 17, International Security Studies	29 – Ch. 18, International Political Economy

November	
3 – Ch. 19, Human Rights	5 – Ch. 20 The Natural Environment
10 – Ch. 21, Development, Poverty, and Inequality	12 – Ch. 22, Migration
17 – Ch. 24, Nuclear Deterrence and Proliferation	19 – Ch. 25, Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Interventions
24 – Ch. 26, Terrorism and Political Violence <b>Comprehensive paper due – Turn-in online</b>	26 - Thanksgiving
<b>TRANSITION TO REMOTE LEARNING<sup>1</sup></b>	
December	
1 – Ch. 27, Rising Powers	3 – Ch. 28, Conclusion
<b>Final Exam – Details to be published</b>	

### Texts and Readings.

There is only one textbook for this course.

Haynes, Jeffrey; Peter Hough, Shahin Malik, and Lloyd Pettiford. 2017. *World Politics: International Relations and Globalization in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Washington, DC: Sage Publishing

During the semester, I will periodically send out links or articles as supplemental material. These are items or recent research related to our studies. They are not required reading, but I recommend that you read, watch, or listen (in the case of podcasts) to them.

### Student Responsibilities

Readings are done in advance. My lectures do not mirror the texts. I expect that you will have read them before class.

Be prepared to participate in class. After the presentation, class discussions will start. In some cases, it will be me reviewing major points and asking your opinion on it.

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<sup>1</sup> Classes after this point will be conducted on CANVAS as CONFERENCES. These will be held at the scheduled class time. They will be recorded for those that cannot attend at that time.

## Grading Criteria

Grades are based on a scale of 100 points. Your final grade is based on the points that you achieve.

<b>A</b>	94-100	<b>B+</b>	87-89	<b>C+</b>	77-79	<b>D+</b>	67-69	<b>F</b>	0-59
<b>A-</b>	90-93	<b>B</b>	83-86	<b>C</b>	73-76	<b>D</b>	63-66		
		<b>B-</b>	80-82	<b>C-</b>	70-72	<b>D-</b>	60-62		

Points are allocated based on the following distribution.

Midterm	25 points
Final Exam	35 points
Comprehensive Paper	20 points
Current Event Analysis – 2 at 5 points each	10 points
Participation	10 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>

*Midterm and Final.* Both exams consist of a series of short essay (one paragraph) questions. A review sheet with the topics will be published ten days to two weeks in advance of the exam. The Midterm will be held during class time. The Final will be held online during exam week.

*Comprehensive Paper.* The comprehensive paper will consist of a choice of two possible questions that will bring together the different parts of the course. The paper will be 4-6 typed, double-spaced pages. No research is required. Specific instructions and the questions will be posted no later than two weeks in advance of the due date.

*Current Event Analysis.* You will each present an analysis of current news using the concepts we are studying. Each presentation will be 5 minutes and include these elements

- Background and history – How did this get this way?
- Reason for selection – Why is it important to the world? The US? You?
- Explanation of events – Why do you think this happened?
- Implications for international affairs – What do you think will happen?

There is also a grade for the presentation based on organization, ease of understanding, and doing more than reading your presentation.

Your assigned days will be posted after the first week of class. It is your choice as to which event you analyze, but it must be related to international affairs and approved by Dr. Kanner no later than 6 PM the night before.

*Participation/attendance.* Ten percent of life is showing up. The same is true for this class. Absences will only be excused based on illness, incarceration, religious

observation, work, sports team, ROTC/military commitments, or family emergencies. Documentation for the absence may be requested.

Missed classes can be observed as a CONFERENCE on CANVAS. If you are not familiar with the CONFERENCES tool, there is a short guide at <https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/How-do-I-use-Conferences-in-a-course-as-a-student/ta-p/470>. There is also a video on YOUTUBE to give you an overview - <https://youtu.be/uYYnryIM0Uw>.

## **Policies** (as established by the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education)

### CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

### REQUIREMENTS FOR COVID-19

As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements, and public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at CU Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,
- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [CU Boulder Medical Services](#).

Students who fail to adhere to these requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). For more information, see the policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require

accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the "Accommodation for Disabilities" statement on this syllabus.

Before returning to campus, all students must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course](#). Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a [Daily Health Form](#)

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the [Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form](#) remotely. If you are sick or quarantined, notify me as soon as possible. You do not need to tell me the nature of the illness, just the approximate period that you will be absent so that we can arrange accommodations.

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, 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](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

#### PREFERRED STUDENT 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.

#### 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 policy may include: plagiarism, 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. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

#### SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

#### 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, notify me of the days that you will be missing, and we will arrange accommodations.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.