

Political Science 2223
Summer 2018

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This course serves as the gateway for more advanced classes in international relations. As an introductory course, it seeks to survey the major concepts, theories, and problems of the field. It also presents some illustrative examples of policy challenges facing officials although its basic intent is not to address current events. By the end of the semester, you should have gained a reasonable idea about what the study of international relations and foreign policy is all about and a basic competency to pursue further inquiries in this field.

There is only one text for this course. It is *World Politics: The Menu for Choice* (9th edition) written by Bruce Russett, Harvey Starr, and David Kinsella (Boston: Wadsworth, 2009). You may be able to purchase used copies of this book at the UMC Bookstore or alternatively, buy it online from any one of the several well-known book vendors.

It is possible that you will only be able to find and buy the more recent 10th edition. This option will be acceptable because it covers basically the same material although you should know that this material's location in the book has been altered on some occasions (and the newer edition will be more expensive compared to a used copy of the 9th edition). Moreover, you should be aware that the order in which my lectures and the quizzes are introduced will be based on the earlier 9th edition. I have provided a glossary of terms for each lecture or segment of the class, so that if you familiarize yourself with these terms (by looking them up in the 10th edition if you are using this newer version of the book) you will still be able to follow the flow of the lectures and also be able to complete the quizzes and tests successfully. I sometimes also use boldface to call attention to a term that happens to be discussed in a later chapter in the 10th edition. Note also that some glossary terms come from the lectures and not the readings. Regardless of whether you are using the 9th or 10th edition, timely, regular and serious attention given to the video lectures is the basis for doing well in this course.

Being an online course, the format and requirements of this course have been adapted and undergone some changes from its earlier incarnation taught regularly as a large lecture class. It has also been adjusted to reflect the nature of a short, intense summer course lasting only about five weeks. These adjustments include, for example, frequent quizzes, threaded online discussions, and short papers.

While the text provides a general framework for the course and some background information for the research traditions and problems to be discussed in the class, my lectures will present additional material that seeks to expand, elaborate, and explore in further depth some of the analytic, substantive and/or policy concerns raised in the readings (and other topics not covered in the book). At the same time, you should know that I will not be able to cover and explain everything discussed in the text, as there is not enough time to do so in the lectures. You will be responsible for this material in any quiz or test even though it has not been covered in the readings. This means that in order to do well, you will need to both attend the video lectures and do the

readings thoroughly. I will try to highlight the more important ideas in the glossary of terms that I provide for each segment of the syllabus below.

Evaluation of your course performance will be based on the following considerations.

1. **Mandatory:** Quizzes for each chapter, 85 points total (5 points for each of the 17 quizzes)
2. **Optional for Extra Credit:** Threaded discussions, 45 points total (15 points for each of the three discussions)
3. **Mandatory:** Midterm Test (70 points) and final exam (80 points), 150 points total
4. **Mandatory:** Two short papers, 70 points total (35 points for each paper)

The maximum possible number of points for completing all the above assignments is 350.

Excluding the optional threaded discussions for extra credit, the letter grades for the course will typically reflect the following brackets: A (275-305), B (244-274), C (214-243), D (183-213), and F (182-0). It is important for you to know, however, that I have only provided this information as a matter of general parameters so that these figures are subject to adjustment. Moreover, given the rather large numerical ranges given above, I reserve the right to assign pluses and minuses to the letter grades.

The quizzes, midterm test, and final exam are all open-book assignments. This said, I urge you to prepare for them and to take them as if they are closed-book assignments. The reason is that I have set specific time limits on these assignments so that you will not be able to look up the answers in the text and still have enough time to complete these assignments. Once your time is up, the system will terminate your session and you will not be able to re-take these assignments. If you exit the quizzes, midterm test, or final exam at any time, you will not be allowed to return to complete them even if you have not used up all the allotted time. So please make sure to save your answers and submit them properly before you exit the quizzes, test, or exam.

You need also to **pay attention to the information posted by the university's Information Technology Service warning that MyCUInfo will be down on certain weekend days for scheduled portal maintenance.**

More specifically, you will have **quizzes** consisting of multiple-choice questions on 17 designated days. These quizzes ask you about material contained in each of the 17 chapters in the book (9th edition). You can take these quizzes at any time during a 42-hour window provided for taking them – which starts at 6.00am on the day that I start lecturing on this chapter and lasts just before midnight or 11.59pm on the following day (with, however, some exceptions such as for Chapter 4, see details below). All times indicated in this syllabus are Colorado times.

If you miss taking a quiz during this window, you will not be able to take it at a later time. Please understand also that once you access the quiz to take it, you will only have five minutes to finish it. When this time expires, the system will terminate your session and you will not be able to complete any unfinished portion of the quiz. Correctly answering each of the five multiple-choice questions on a quiz is worth one point. No deduction will be made for wrong answers given on a quiz.

You should know that in addition to evaluating whether you have understood the lectures, the quizzes seek to test whether you have been keeping up with the reading assignments. Therefore, simply listening to the lecture videos will not enable you to do well. You will also have to read the text.

There are two **short papers**, each in the range of 500-700 words. The first one is due before 11.59pm, July 19, and the second one is before 11.59pm, July 31. You can submit your paper at any time before then, but once the above deadline has passed you will not be able to submit your paper (that is, you will have received a “zero” for your paper grade).

1. Paper #1: What are the important legal principles inherited from the Treaty of Westphalia? Why are they important for international relations? Do you agree with them? Why? Or why not?(due no later than 11.59pm, July 19).
2. Paper #2: What are the reasons behind the realist argument that a balance of power helps to keep international peace and stability? Do you agree with this argument? Do you believe that a balance of power is likely today, and how do you see this possible development affecting the U.S.?(due no later than 11.59pm, July 31).

Midterm test (60 minutes on July 25) and **final exam** (60 minutes on August 10) can be taken at any time between 1.00am and 11.59pm on these two designated days respectively. Once you start to take them, the computer will time you and once your time is up, it will end your session. So again, be mindful of how you use your time. Also, you can only take the midterm test and the final exam on those two days that I have just mentioned. After 11.59pm of these days, you will no longer be able to take them. In other words, if you fail to take them on these designated days, you will have received a “zero” for them. The midterm test and the final exam will each consist of twenty-five multiple-choices and two identification questions asking you to define and discuss important concepts (you will have a choice of picking two of these identification questions from a list of five).

Finally, you will have a chance to participate in **threaded discussions for extra credit**. Participation in these discussions are optional, and you can post your comments any time prior to 11.59pm on July 17, July 24, and August 6 for the following topics respectively. After this deadline, you will not be able to receive credit for these discussions.

1. Do you agree with the description of international system as structural anarchy and a struggle for the survival of the fittest? Or do you rather tend to see people and states cooperating with each other most of the time, often acting on moral and ethical concerns rather than just pursuing more power? (comments due no later than 11.59pm, July 17)
2. Do you think armament and alliances are important means to keep peace and deter war, or do you think that they actually have the reverse effect of increasing international tension and trapping states in conflicts? Explain why you take the position you do, and what implications for U.S. foreign policy follow from your position.(comments due no later than 11.59pm, July 24)
3. Do you agree with the proposition of democratic peace? Which specific reason(s) given by this proposition are you most inclined to agree or disagree with? What caveats or

qualifications, if any, would you offer to this proposition? What implications does this proposition have for U.S. foreign policy?(comments due no later than 11.59pm, August 6)

Academic dishonesty in fulfilling any assignment will be grounds for failing the course. You are responsible to learn about the Honor Code adopted by the University. You can find relevant information at the following websites: <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/faculty.html>; <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html>; and <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, University faculty members are required to make “reasonable and timely accommodations” for students with disabilities. By University policy that obligation only extends to students who have registered with the Office of Disability Services, which makes the determination of whether, for example, students have real learning disorders. If you are a student with a disability, please notify the professor (steve.chan@colorado.edu) in writing during the first week of the semester (i.e., by July 13, 2018) what accommodations are needed. To be accorded this accommodation, you must provide me the relevant documentation from Disability Services (303-4928671, Willard 322, www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices).

If a student has religious obligations that may conflict with this course, please notify the professor in writing within the first week of semester in order to seek a reasonable and fair arrangement. You must provide written documentation during this period. The campus policy regarding religious observance is available at http://www.colorado.edu/policies.fac_relig.html.

It is important for you to keep up with the reading assignments. As you can see, the course schedule is very tight and there is very little room for slippage. I strongly urge you to do the readings before you listen to the lectures for the relevant chapters. The lectures are not a substitute for the readings because as already mentioned, I will not be able to discuss everything covered in the readings in my lectures.

Finally, your first and most important contact for this class is your teaching assistant, Anna Gray who can be contacted at anna.gray@colorado.edu or anr9079@colorado.edu. You are of course also welcome to contact me by email (steve.chan@colorado.edu) or phone (303-492-7904). If need be, I can also meet you in my office on campus or via skype after we set up an appointment by email or phone.

ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE U.S. MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME (MST).

July 10

Video lectures: introduction; grading and assignments

Reading: chapter 1

July 11

Video lectures: chapter 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4

Glossary: menu for choices, opportunity and willingness, circumstances and choices, structure and agency, joint necessity, reciprocal influences, serial dependency, constrained choice, environmental probabilism, popular and strategic cultures, levels of analysis **non-state actors (e.g., international governmental and nongovernmental organizations)**

Reading: chapter 2

Quiz 1: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 12

Video lectures: chapter 2-0, 2-1, 2-3

Glossary: scientific inquiry, theory, hypothesis, concept, generalization, falsifiability, evidence, empirical vs. normative analysis, **realism, liberalism, radicalism**, structural anarchy, relative gain, positional competition, self-help, security imperative, power as military capabilities, **security dilemma**

Reading: chapter 3

Quiz 2: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 13

Video lectures: chapter 3-1, 3-2, 3-3

Glossary: Thirty Years' War, Treaty of Westphalia, sovereignty (non-interference and legal equality), French Revolution, nationalism, **Concert of Europe**, monopoly of force, territoriality, armed rivalry, balance of power, industrialization, democracy, colonial expansion

Reading: chapter 4

Quiz 3: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 16

Video lectures: chapter 4-1, 4-2

Glossary: radicalism, world system, exploration and conquest, core and periphery, globalization, dominance and exploitation, dependency, greed as motivation, balancing vs. bandwagoning, balance of threat and balance of power, soft power, loss of strength gradient

Reading: chapter 5

July 17

Threaded discussion #1: due by 11.59pm today

Video lecture: chapter 4-3

Glossary: alliance and armament, Triple Alliance, Triple Entente, hair trigger, conflict spiral, entrapment, run-away momentum, chain-ganging, buck-passing

Reading: chapter 5

Quiz 4: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 18

Video lecture: chapter 4-4

Glossary: unipolarity, bipolarity, multipolarity, hegemonic stability, balance of power, power transition, flexible alignment, decision uncertainty, "running the table," offensive vs. defensive realism

July 19

Paper #1: due by 11.59pm today

Video lecture: chapter 5-1

Glossary: extraction, mobilization, pain tolerance, co-optation vs. coercion, strategic vs. trading states, structural vs. bargaining power, soft power

Reading: chapter 6

Quiz 5: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 20

Video lecture: chapter 5-2

Glossary: diplomacy, compellence, deterrence, ability vs. willingness, aversion to war costs, stalemate

Reading: chapter 6

July 23

Video lecture: lecture 0927

Glossary: two-level games, power elites, pluralism, polyarchy, permissive public, mobilizables, attentive public, mass public, rally 'round the flag, decay factor, diversionary theory, audience costs, gender gap

Reading: chapter 7

Quiz 6: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 24

Threaded discussion #2: due by 11.59pm today

Video lecture: lecture 0929

Glossary: human as information processors, bounded rationality, cost-benefit analysis, satisfice, muddling through, incrementalism, wishful thinking, signals and noise, cognitive consistency, mirror images, groupthink, risky shift, crisis or decision cube, prospect theory, loss aversion, attribution theory: dispositional vs. circumstantial explanation

Reading: chapter 7

Quiz 7: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 25

Midterm test today, covering chapters 1-7 (9th edition), due by 11.59pm

Video lecture: lecture 1004

Glossary: Allison's models of rational actor, organizational processes, and government politics, principal-agent dilemma

Reading: chapter 8

July 26

Video lecture: chapter 8-1

Glossary: three images of war and peace, human nature, war as a social institution, slavery and dueling, relative deprivation, capitalist state, imperialism, under-consumption, monopoly/surplus capital, lateral pressure, power-transition theory, long-cycle theory, globalization

Reading: chapter 9

Quiz 8: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 27

Video lecture: chapter 9-1, 9-2, 9-3

Glossary: armament race, nuclear deterrence, nuclear proliferation, mutual assured destruction, first- vs. second-strike capabilities, countervalue vs. counterstrike, zero-sum game, game of chicken, security dilemma, prisoners' dilemma, evolution of cooperation, tit-for-tat (forgiveness, niceness, provacability, optimism), shadow of the future, reputation, reciprocity, retribution

Reading: chapter 10

Quiz 9: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 30

Video lecture: chapter 10-1, 10-2, 10-3

Glossary: just war doctrine, *jus ad bellum*, *jus ad bello*, double-effect rule, Catholic bishops on morality of nuclear deterrence, preventive war (Caroline standard), self-help and reprisal (last resort, proportionality, discrimination, just cause, legitimate authority), Geneva Laws, Nuremberg trials, reason of state, superior order, domestic vs. universal jurisdiction, retrospective law, military necessity, *tu quoque*, people as reasoning agents, natural law, superintendent principle, communitarian (statist) vs. cosmopolitan (universal) conceptions of human rights, International Court of Criminal Justice, international regimes, positive and negative rights, torture and mistreatment of POWs, humanitarian intervention, responsibility to protect

Reading: chapter 11

Quiz 10: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

July 31

Paper #2: due by 11.59 today

Video lecture: chapter 11-1

Glossary: zone of peace and zone of war, negative vs. positive peace, Immanuel Kant (perpetual peace), republicanism, cosmopolitanism, pacific union, democratic peace (institutional and cultural explanation, monadic vs. dyadic), security community, functionalism, Treaty of Rome (European Common Market)

Reading: chapter 12

Quiz 11: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 1

Video lecture: chapter 12-1

Glossary: imperial overstretch, military-industrial complex, guns vs. butter tradeoff, opportunity costs, military Keynesianism, power elite, **industrial policy**

Reading: chapter 13

Quiz 12: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 2

Video lecture: chapter 13-1, 13-2, 13-3

Glossary: Adam Smith, David Ricardo, Friedrich List, free trade, autarky (autarchy), laissez-faire, comparative advantage, protectionism, mercantilism, strategic trade, Great Depression, beggar-thy-neighbor policies, Bretton Woods regime, WTO, hegemonic stability, collective good or public good (joint supply and non-exclusiveness), sensitivity and vulnerability

Reading: chapter 14

Quiz 13: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 3

Video lecture: chapter 14-1, 14-2

Glossary: integration and amalgamation, European Union, Common Agricultural Policy, pooled sovereignty, supranationalism, borderless world, complex interdependence, trading blocs, race to the bottom, sovereignty at bay, non-governmental groups, distant proximities

Reading: chapter 15

Quiz 14: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 6

Threaded discussion #3: due by 11.59pm today

Video lecture: chapter 15-1, 15-2

Glossary: best of times and worst of times, North-South gap, multiple Souths, BRIC, human-development index (life expectancy, literacy, parity purchasing power), structural violence, structural adjustment, dependent development, newly-industrializing countries, import substitution vs. export-oriented industrialization, Huntington (order) vs. Olson (democracy, stationary vs. roving bandits), Washington vs. Beijing “consensus,” social (income) equality and human capital, savings and investment

Reading: chapter 16

Quiz 15: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 7

Video lecture: chapter 16-1

Glossary: tragedy of the commons, intrinsic responsibility, carrying capacity, triage, lifeboat ethics, demographic transition, age structure, replacement rate, Thomas Malthus

Reading: chapter 16

Quiz 16: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 8

Video lecture: chapter 16-2

Glossary: forced ride, public bad, externality, overconsumption, underproduction, overpopulation, spaceship earth, ecological footprint, distributive justice, interdependence

Reading: chapter 17

August 9

Video lecture: chapter 17

Glossary: end of history, triumphalism, clash of civilizations, primordial, west vs. rest, jihad vs. McWorld

Quiz 17: due by 11.59pm tomorrow

August 10

Final exam today, covering chapters 8-17 (9th edition), due by 11.59pm