

INTS 100: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
(Rhodes College, Fall 2011, 4 credits)
Class website: moodle.rhodes.edu

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Class Schedule/Place
M-W-F / 11:00-11:50am
Palmer 211
Office Hours
M-W-F/9:00-10.00am or
by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

“What made war inevitable was the growth of Athenian power and the fear which this cause in Sparta.” With this quote, Thucydides, an Athenian general and historian, explains the basic cause of international wars: insecurity. On the one hand, since ancient times, not much has changed in that war is still caused by insecurities of nations. On the other hand, everything else has changed since ancient times: we are not divided into castes anymore, we respect human rights for all, and we try war criminals. Hence, international relations is the study of analyzing how things have changed and how they have stayed the same in international politics. This co-existence of change and stability in international politics is the subject of this class.

This course is composed of four sections. In the first section, we will look at the historical development of the international political system and its evolution to its current state. In the second section, we will look at three theoretical approaches (realism, liberalism, constructivism) to understanding international relations and question how these varying approaches explain various international developments. In the third section, we will look at the four subfields of international relations: (1) international security that deals with questions of war and peace, (2) international norms and institutions that deals with questions of international cooperation, (3) international political economy that deals with questions of global economic interdependencies, and (4) foreign policy that deals with questions of how politicians make foreign policy decisions. In the last section of the class, we will look at various international developments around the world and question how they influence the average American.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

As a result of taking this course, students will be able to:

- gain knowledge about international political history of the 20th century
- know about the various theories of International Relations
- question and analyze common theories and biases from a critical perspective
- learn about international political actors
- increase knowledge of international politics of regions other than the US
- articulate their own opinion on debates concerning international politics
- debate and engage in dialogue respectfully
- relate what they have learned to their own political environment

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Baylis, John, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. Oxford University Press; 5 edition.
- Keylor, William R. 2008. *A World of Nations: The International Order Since 1945*. Oxford University Press; 2nd edition.
- All other readings will be available online on Moodle (moodle.rhodes.edu) under “Files” for this course, and on the Academic Sharing Drive.

COURSE POLICIES

Honor Code: It is understood that the students will observe the honor code of Rhodes College. *All papers and exams should be your own work.* Any evidence of academic dishonesty or plagiarism will result in a failing grade and notification of college officials. Plagiarism is the use of someone else’s information or ideas without proper citation. If you wonder if something should be cited, it probably should. This applies to materials read even if you do not use them directly in the paper. We also highly encourage you to check the Writing Center’s page to learn more about plagiarism: <http://www.rhodes.edu/writingcenter/9164.asp>. If you have questions about plagiarism, you can also talk to me directly.

Diversity and Collegiality: This course draws students from a variety of widely diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and hold different values. Because a key to optimal learning and successful teaching is to hear, analyze, and draw from a diversity of views, the instructors expect collegial and respectful dialogue across disciplinary, cultural, and personal boundaries.

Disabilities: Every effort will be made to accommodate students with disabilities. To do so as effectively as possible, students who need special accommodations should identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the semester. If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services at x3885 as soon as possible.

Counseling: If you would like to receive individualized support with time management, test anxiety, stress, and general learning skills, please consult the Student Counseling Center at x3128.

Writing Center: We highly encourage you to visit the Writing Center before you turn in your written assignments. This will improve your writing skills. The Writing Center can be reached at: <http://www.rhodes.edu/writingcenter/>

Laptops and cell phones: Students who use laptops in class must do so exclusively for the purpose of note-taking. Surfing the web, emailing, instant messaging, or playing computer games in class conveys disrespect to your fellow students as well as the instructor, and can be disruptive for the entire class. Please turn off your cell phones before the class begins or put them in silent mode. *Text- messaging is not acceptable while class is in progress.*

Attendance and Participation: Sessions incorporate frequent informal writing and discussions related to formal course assignments. Due to the interactive and participatory nature of this course, attendance at each class session is required. We expect students to arrive on time and attend the full class period. We also expect you to come prepared for class discussions. *There will be unannounced pop-quizzes throughout the semester.* Students with extracurricular activities (athletics, mock trial, religious observances etc.) that will require them to miss one or more classes

during the semester should talk to me in advance of their anticipated absence. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to acquire lecture notes from your classmates. *Needless to say, infrequent class attendance will negatively impact your class participation grade.*

Handouts: We will distribute handouts on various writing assignments and exams 2 weeks prior to the assignment/exam date. It is your responsibility to acquire those handouts if you miss class.

Course webpage: If you have problems with Moodle or Academic folders, please use the Help Desk at: helpdesk@rhodes.edu

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Map Test: The Department of International Studies requires the successful completion of a world map test, which involves identifying the 192 member countries of the United Nations. All students will take a map test in class on October 14 and are required to score 90% or higher to pass. If a 90% score is not achieved on this date, students must retake the exam (to be scheduled individually with your instructor) until a score of 90% or higher is achieved. The grade of the first map exam will be the student's grade for the assignment. Students who do not pass this exam by the last day of classes (December 7) will not be allowed to take the final exam (and will receive a grade of 0 for the final exam). Review maps and a master list of the 192 countries are available for download on the Academic Departments and Programs fileserver and I would be happy to provide other map resources upon request. Though specific details regarding the map test will be available at a later date, students are encouraged to begin thinking about and studying for the map test as early as possible. Also, please note that since we will not devote much classroom time to review the maps in advance of the map test, preparing for the map test is solely an individual responsibility.

Midterms and Final: There will be 2 midterms (September 28 & October 26) and 1 final (Dec 9, 1pm). We will hold review sessions before each exam. Study guides and guidelines for all the exams will be distributed in class later in the semester.

Opinion Pieces: Students are expected to prepare 2 sets of 5-page (Times New Roman font, size 12 pt., double-spaced, with up to 1" margins) opinion pieces on a given political question distributed in class (due on September 9 & November 21). These pieces should (1) argue in favor of a political stance, (2) reference class readings and lectures, (3) refute alternative viewpoints, and (4) cite two outside sources (Wikipedia, MSN Encarta, Britannica Online are NOT acceptable sources.) Details on this assignment will be distributed at a later time. We highly encourage you to read the Writing Center's guide for effective writing for this assignment, at: <http://www.rhodes.edu/writingcenter/9076.asp>

Participation: The participation grade for the course is not a given but is earned, and is composed of three components: (1) keeping up with the readings (there will be pop quizzes throughout the semester), (2) regular attendance, and most importantly (3) active participation throughout lectures.

THE DATES FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT ARE INDICATED WITHIN THE COURSE SCHEDULE AND AT THE END OF THE SYLLABUS.

GRADING

Graded Activities	Weight of Each Activity
Participation	%10
Opinion Pieces (2 in total)	%20 (%10 each)
Map Test	%10
Midterm 1	%20
Midterm 2	%20
Final	%20

Make-up Exams: Make-up exams will *not* be offered except in rare circumstances. Should you have an unanticipated emergency that causes you to miss the scheduled exam, contact me as soon as possible by email or telephone. Note that you may be expected to provide evidence (e.g. a doctor's note). I also reserve the right to require students to take a make-up exam on a specific date.

Incompletes: A grade of "I" ("Incomplete") will be given only under special circumstances following discussion with the instructor.

Late Work: Late work will be downgraded by a grade for each day late, e.g. a B+ assignment will be downgraded to a B after 1 day late, to a B- after 2 days late, etc. - Unless there is a medical emergency. Do not email your work, we need hard-copies.

Absence: Excessive (as determined by the instructor) absences may result in a diminished (or failing) course grade.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

- Please make it a point to complete the assigned reading before the week we discuss. You will learn more from this class and it will be more interesting to you if you are prepared.
- Feel free to bring news items relating to the international relations to discuss into class. For instance, you will benefit greatly if you read on a regular basis from the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com), *BBC World News* (www.bbc.co.uk), or *Foreign Policy Magazine* (<http://blog.foreignpolicy.com>).
- *It is very likely that during the semester all students will discover perspectives with which they agree or disagree. To facilitate such discoveries, the course requires that abrasive attitudes toward others be left at the doorway.*
- I will be happy to discuss individual student progress at any time.
- This syllabus is subject to change

COURSE CALENDAR

Section 1: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

AUGUST 24, WEDNESDAY: Why Should You Care about International Relations?

AUGUST 26, FRIDAY: The Emergence of International Politics (1)

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch.2

AUGUST 29, MONDAY: The Emergence of International Politics (2)

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch.3

Information on Opinion Piece Assignment will be distributed in class.

AUGUST 31, WEDNESDAY: The Cold War Era and Beyond

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch.4

SEPTEMBER 2, FRIDAY: Using Library Resources

Presentation on using library resources by Ms. Nikki Rech

SEPTEMBER 5, MONDAY: LABOR DAY-NO CLASS

Section 2: THEORETICAL APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SEPTEMBER 7, WEDNESDAY: Realism (1): Introduction to Key Concepts

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 5

SEPTEMBER 9, FRIDAY: Realism (2): The Interwar Era

Carr, E.H. 2001. *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939: An Introduction to the Study of International Relations*. Perennial, ch.5

Assignment: Opinion Piece #1

SEPTEMBER 12, MONDAY: Liberalism (1): Introduction to Key Concepts

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 6

SEPTEMBER 14, WEDNESDAY: Liberalism (2): Democratic Peace

Doyle, Michael W. 1986. "Liberalism and World Politics." *The American Political Science Review* 80 (4): 1151-1169.

Information on the Midterm will be distributed in class

SEPTEMBER 16, FRIDAY: The Neo-Neo Debate

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 7

SEPTEMBER 19, MONDAY: Constructivism (1): Introduction to Key Concepts

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 9

SEPTEMBER 21, WEDNESDAY: Constructivism (2): Norms and Behavior

Axelrod, Robert. 1986. "An Evolutionary Approach to Norms." *The American Political Science Review* 80(4): 1095-1111.

SEPTEMBER 23, FRIDAY: Applying Theories: The Clash of Civilizations Thesis

Huntington, Samuel P. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72(3).

SEPTEMBER 26, MONDAY: Review for Midterm #1

SEPTEMBER 28, WEDNESDAY: MIDTERM #1

Section 3: ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SEPTEMBER 30, FRIDAY: International Security (1): Introduction

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 14

Midterm Evaluations

OCTOBER 3, MONDAY: International Security (2): Terrorism

Friedman, Benjamin. 2005. "Think Again: Homeland Security." *Foreign Policy*, July 1.

Gause, Gregory. 2005. "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?" *Foreign Affairs* 84(5): 62-76.

Zakaria, Fareed. 2010. "The Jihad Against the Jihadis" *Newsweek*, 22 February.

OCTOBER 5, WEDNESDAY: International Norms & Institutions (1): Introduction

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 20

OCTOBER 7, FRIDAY: International Norms & Institutions (2): Human Rights

Keck, Margaret E. and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. "Human Rights Advocacy Networks in Latin America." In *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Cornell University Press.

OCTOBER 10, MONDAY: International Political Economy (1): Introduction

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 15

OCTOBER 12, WEDNESDAY: International Political Economy (2): The Global Economic Order and Crisis

Krugman, Paul R. 1993. "What Do Undergrads Need to Know About Trade?" *The American Economic Review* 83(2): 23-26.

Rodrik, Dani. 2001. "Trading in Illusions." *Foreign Policy* 123: 54-62.

Stiglitz, Joseph. 2011. "Of the 1%, by the 1%, for the 1%." *Vanity Fair*.

Sachs, Jeffrey D. 2011. "Need versus Greed." *Al-Jazeera*, March 4.

Information on the Midterm will be distributed in class.

OCTOBER 14, FRIDAY: MAP TEST

OCTOBER 17, MONDAY: FALL RECESS-NO CLASS

OCTOBER 19, WEDNESDAY: Environmental Issues

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 21

OCTOBER 21, FRIDAY: Poverty

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 28

OCTOBER 24, MONDAY: Review for Midterm #2

OCTOBER 26, WEDNESDAY: MIDTERM #2

Section 4: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

OCTOBER 28, FRIDAY: The Middle East (1)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch. 9

OCTOBER 31, MONDAY: The Middle East (2)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch. 9 -contd

NOVEMBER 2, WEDNESDAY: Latin America (1)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch.6

NOVEMBER 4, FRIDAY: Latin America (2)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch.6-contd

NOVEMBER 7, MONDAY: Africa (1)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch. 10

Information on the Opinion Piece will be distributed in class.

NOVEMBER 9, WEDNESDAY: Africa (2)

Kapstein, Ethan. 2009. "Africa's Capitalist Revolution." *Foreign Affairs* 88(4): p119-128.

Lyman, P. and K. Robinette. 2009. "Obama and Africa: Matching Expectations with Reality." *Journal of International Affairs* 62(2).

NOVEMBER 11, FRIDAY: Former USSR (1)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch. 4

NOVEMBER 14, MONDAY: Former USSR (2)

Collins, Kathleen. 2007. "Ideas, Networks, and Islamist Movements: Evidence from Central Asia and the Caucasus." *World Politics* 60: 64-96.

NOVEMBER 16, WEDNESDAY: Europe (1)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, ch. 5

NOVEMBER 18, FRIDAY: Europe (2)

Göle, Nilüfer. 2011. "The New Faces of the European Far-Right." *The Immanent Frame*.

Koff, Harlan. 2005. "Security, Markets and Power: The Relationship Between EU Enlargement and Immigration." *European Integration* 27(4): 397-415.

NOVEMBER 21, MONDAY: China (1)

Keylor, 2008. *A World of Nations*, pp. 234-242, 267-285

Assignment: Opinion Piece #2

NOVEMBER 23+25: THANKSGIVING-NO CLASS

NOVEMBER 28, MONDAY: China (2): Rise of China

Brzezinski, Zbigniew and John Mearsheimer. 2005. "Clash of the Titans." *Foreign Policy* 146.

Bergsten, C. Fred. 2008. "A Partnership of Equals." *Foreign Affairs* 87(4): 57-69.

NOVEMBER 30, WEDNESDAY: Globalization (1)

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 32

Information on the Final will be distributed in class.

DECEMBER 2, FRIDAY: Globalization (2)

Documentary: The Inside Job

DECEMBER 5, MONDAY: Globalization (3)

Baylis et al. 2011. *The Globalization of World Politics*, ch. 33

DECEMBER 7, WEDNESDAY: Review for the Final

DECEMBER 9, FRIDAY, 1:00PM: FINAL EXAM

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

DUE BY	ASSIGNMENT DUE
SEPT 9	OPINION PIECE #1
SEPT 28	MIDTERM 1
OCT 14	MAP TEST
OCT 26	MIDTERM 2
NOV 21	OPINION PIECE #2
DEC 9 (1:00PM)	FINAL EXAM