

Rhodes College
Department of International Studies

IS 100 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Section 003

Spring 2008
M-W-F 1-1:50 pm
Buckman Hall 103

Dr. Nuray Ibryamova
Office: Buckman Hall 118
Office Hours: M-W 11:00–12:30 am
Phone: (901) 843-3825
e-mail: ibryamovan@rhodes.edu

Course Description and Objectives

The course is designed as an introduction to the major theories and topics in international relations. The intent is to gather skills necessary to think critically about international affairs. The first part of the course provides students with the analytical foundations for understanding world politics. The second part of the course covers the major components of contemporary international relations: international security, international political economy, and international organizations.

The course aims at helping students think about international affairs beyond the day-to-day level by illustrating the connection between current events and theoretical approaches. Students are provided with the opportunity to learn about the historical origins of the international system and most significant events of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The course also gives a sense of awareness of the complex factors influencing contemporary global politics as well as of the conflicting interpretations of current international issues that affect our daily lives. It has significant international content and is structured to introduce students to both national and cosmopolitan perspectives on the international system.

Required Texts:

Kegley Jr., Charles W. and Gregory A. Raymond. The Global Future: A Brief Introduction to World Politics, 2nd Edition. Belmont : Wadsworth Publishing, 2008.

ISBN-10: 049500748X
ISBN-13: 9780495007487

Betts, Richard K. Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on Causes of War and Peace. Third Edition. New York: Pearson Longman, 2008.

ISBN-10: 0205583520
ISBN-13: 9780205583522

Additional articles and other reading materials will be assigned as appropriate.

Course Requirements:

Exams: There will be three exams in this course. The first in-class examination will take place on February 15th, the second on March 17th, 2008. The final exam will take place on April 28th, 2008; it will **not** be comprehensive.

Map Test: In addition to other assignments, the Department of International Studies requires the successful completion of a map test. All students will take a map test in class on March 10th 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 (April 25th) will not be allowed to take the final exam (and will receive a grade of 0 for the final exam). Review maps are available for download on the Academic Departments and Programs fileserver. 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.

Paper: Each student will write a 6-8 page paper on a topic of his/her choice approved by the instructor. The paper should examine and explain a historical or current event in international relations using concepts and theories discussed in class. Further details on the paper, as well as sample topics, will be provided later in the semester. Students must provide the instructor with the topic of their choice on March 24th; the paper is due on April 18th.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in the class discussion. Students who accumulate five or more unexcused absences will have their grade for the class lowered by a full letter.

Map Test	10%
Mid-term I	20%
Mid-term II	20%
Final	20%
Paper	20%
Attendance and Participation	10%
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Total	100%

Grading Scale:

A	93-100 %	C+	78-79	D-	62-60
A-	92-90	C	77-73	F	60-
B+	88-89	C-	72-70		
B	87-83	D+	68-69		
B-	82-80	D	67-63		

Course Policies:

There will be no make up exams unless the instructor has been notified ahead of time. If a student cannot attend an examination, s/he must advise the instructor as soon as possible, and prior to the day of the exam. If the student has a valid and documented excuse, s/he will be allowed to take the exam before the regularly scheduled exam time.

Late papers will be lowered by half a letter grade for each day they are late. Papers submitted a week after their due date will not be accepted. If the student has a valid and documented excuse and has notified the instructor ahead of time, s/he may be allowed to submit the paper at a later time.

Papers submitted electronically will not be accepted. Students must submit their written work to the professor in hard copy.

Students are expected to complete all assigned readings on time and to participate in class discussions. In order to make informed and insightful comments the students need to keep up with current events. Therefore, the students are strongly encouraged to follow on a daily basis a reputable newspaper, such as The New York Times (at www.nytimes.com), or international media sources such as The Economist at (www.economist.com), and Financial Times (www.ft.com).

It is understood that the students will observe the honor code of Rhodes College. Any evidence of academic dishonesty or plagiarism will result in a failing grade and notification of college officials.

Please turn off your cell phones before the class begins.

Students who use laptops in class must do so exclusively for the purpose of note-taking. Surfing the web, emailing, 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.

Entering or leaving the room while class is in progress is not acceptable, so please plan your arrival to the classroom accordingly.

Students With Disabilities: Every effort will be made to accommodate students with disabilities recognized by Rhodes College. Students with such needs are encouraged to registering with the College's Student Disability Services to help accommodate their needs most effectively.

Course Schedule:

Week 1

January 9, 2008

Introduction to the course

January 11, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 1: Exploring the Twenty-First Century World Politics

Week 2

January 14, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 2: Theories of World Politics

Library Reserve: Robert Jackson and Georg Sørensen, "Chapter 3: Realism."

Recommended: Stephen Walt, "International Relations: One World, Many Theories," Foreign Policy 110 (Spring 1998): 29-46. Available at Library Reserve or Online Journals collection of Barrett Library.

January 16, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 2 cont'd

Betts (Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue"; Hobbes, "The State of Nature"; Waltz, "The Origin of War in Neorealist Theory"; Kant, "Perpetual Peace"; Keohane and Nye, "Power and Interdependence")

January 18, 2008

Kegley and Raymond Ch. 2 Cont'd, Betts Cont'd; Betts (Wendt "Anarchy is What States Make of It")

Library Reserve: Kenneth Waltz, "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics."

Library Reserve: Robert Jackson and Georg Sorensen, "Chapter 4: Liberalism."

Week 3

January 21, 2008

Martin Luther King Observance – NO CLASS

January 23, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 2 Cont'd, Betts Cont'd

January 25, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 3: Foreign Policy Decision Making

Week 4

January 28, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 3 Cont'd

January 30, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 4: Great-Power Rivalry and the Lure of Hegemony

February 1, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 4 Cont'd

Betts (Gilpin, "Hegemonic War and International Change")

Week 5

February 4, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 5: Rich and Poor in World Politics

Betts (Lenin, "Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism")

February 6, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 5 Cont'd

February 8, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 6: Non-State Actors and the Challenge of Global Governance

Kenneth Rogoff, "The World Still Needs the IMF" Newsweek;

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032542/site/newsweek/>

George Monbiot, "Don't be fooled by this reform: the IMF is still the rich world's viceroy"

The Guardian, Tuesday September 5, 2006.

Week 6

February 11, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 6 Cont'd

February 13, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 6 Cont'd

February 15, 2008

Mid-Term Examination I

Week 7

February 18, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 7: Armed Conflict in the Twenty-First Century

Betts (Crenshaw, "The Logic of Terrorism"; Betts, "The Soft Underbelly of Primacy")

February 20, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 7 Cont'd

February 22, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 8: Military Power and National Security in a Turbulent World;

Betts (Waltz, “The Spread of Nuclear Weapons”; Jervis, “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma”)

John Mearsheimer, Zbigniew Brzezinski, “Clash of the Titans,” Foreign Policy January/February 2005.

Week 8

February 25, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 8 Cont’d; Betts Cont’d, Mearsheimer Cont’d

February 27, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 9: Realist Paths to Peace: Alliances, Arms Control, and the Balance of Power

February 29, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 9 Cont’d

Week 9

March 3, 2008

Spring Recess – NO CLASS

March 5, 2008

Spring Recess – NO CLASS

March 7, 2008

Spring Recess – NO CLASS

Week 10

March 10, 2008

Map Test

March 12, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 10: Liberal Paths to Peace: International Law and Organization
Betts (Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics”; Mansfield and Snyder, “Democratization and War”)

March 14, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 10 Cont’d

Week 11

March 17, 2008

Mid-Term Examination II

March 19, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 11: The Globalization of World Politics
Betts (Weiner, “Security, Stability, and Migration”)

March 21, 2008

Easter Recess – NO CLASS

Week 12

March 24, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 11 Cont’d; Betts Cont’d

March 26, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 11 Cont’d

March 28, 2008

NO CLASS

Week 13

March 31, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 12 Markets and Money in a Global Political Economy

Library Reserve: Robert Jackson and Georg Sorensen, “Ch. 7: International Political Economy: Classical Theories.”

April 2, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 12 Markets and Money in a Global Political Economy

Betts (Rosecrance, “Trade and Power”)

Library Reserve: Robert Jackson and Georg Sorensen, “Ch. 8: International Political Economy: Contemporary Debates.”

April 4, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 12 Cont’d

Betts Cont’d

Week 14

April 7, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 12 Cont’d

April 9, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 13 Human Rights and the Quest for Global Justice

April 11, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 13 Cont’d

Week 15

April 14, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 14: Population Dynamics and Global Environmental Politics

Betts (Cooley, “The War Over Water”; Homer-Dixon, “Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict”)

April 16, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 14 Cont’d

April 18, 2008

Betts (Fukuyama, “The End of History”; Mearsheimer, “Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War”; Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations”)

Week 16

April 21, 2008

Betts Cont’d

April 23, 2008

Kegley and Raymond, Ch. 15

April 25, 2008

Final Exam Review