Department of International Studies

IS 100 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Section 003

Fall 2009
M-W-F 2-2:50 am
Buckman Hall 103

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Course Description and Objectives:

The course is designed as an introduction to the major theories and themes in international relations. The intent is to accumulate knowledge about international relations – past and present - and to develop analytical skills to explain current events as well as the state of the international system. The first part of the course provides students with the conceptual foundations for understanding international relations. The second part covers the historical development of the international system. The third part of the course discusses the major components of contemporary international relations: international security, international political economy, and international organization.

The course aims at helping students critically think about international affairs beyond the day-to-day level by illustrating the connection between current events and theoretical paradigms. It 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. The course has significant international content and is structured to introduce students to both national and cosmopolitan perspectives on the international system.

Required Texts:


ISBN: 9780195336559


ISBN: 9780199285433


ISBN: 0205583520
Additional reading materials are available on reserve at Barret Library.

**Course Requirements:**

**Exams:** There will be three exams in this course. The first in-class examination will take place on February 16\(^{th}\), the second on March 27\(^{th}\). The final exam will take place on May 5\(^{th}\), 2009; 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 February 6\(^{th}\) 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 (May 1\(^{st}\)) 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.

All re-takes of the map test must be completed by the last day of classes, May 1\(^{st}\). It is the students’ responsibility to make the necessary arrangements with the instructor for re-taking the test.

**Quizzes:** Unannounced quizzes will be administered throughout the semester at the instructor’s discretion. There will be no make-up quizzes.

**Essays:** Each student will write two 2-3 page essays on a topic provided by the instructor. The papers should analyze and explain current events in international relations using concepts and theories discussed in class. Further details on the paper will be provided later in the semester.

**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.

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<td>Mid-term I</td>
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<td>Mid-term II</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Grading Scale:

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Course Policies:

There will be no make-up exams or quizzes 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 essays will be lowered by 3% 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 (www.economist.com), or Financial Times (www.ft.com). Although basic knowledge of current international news is expected, this is not a current events course.

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.

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.

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

This syllabus is subject to change.
Course Schedule:

**Week 1**
1/14  Introduction to the course
1/16  Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 1: Why Study IR?

**Week 2**
1/19  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: No Class
1/21  Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 2: IR as an Academic Subject
1/23  Spiegel et al., Ch. 2: Theory and World Politics, pp. 19-34

**Week 3**
1/26  Spiegel et al., Ch. 2: Theory and World Politics, pp. 34-38
      Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 3: Realism, pp. 59-70
1/28  Realism Cont’d
      Jackson and Sorensen: 74-96
1/30  John Mearsheimer, The Tragedy of Great Power Politics, pp. 29-82
      (LIBRARY RESERVE)

**Week 4**
2/2   Spiegel et al., Ch. 2: Theory and World Politics, pp. 39-44
      Jackson and Sorenson, Ch. 4: Liberalism
      Betts (Kant, “Perpetual Peace”)
2/4   Liberalism Cont’d
      Betts (Keohane and Nye, “Power and Interdependence”)
      RECOMMENDED: Betts (Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics”; Mansfield and Snyder, “Democratization and War”)
2/6   MAP TEST

**Week 5**
2/9   Spiegel et al., Ch. 2: Theory and World Politics, pp. 44-55
      Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 5: Social Constructivism
      Betts (Wendt “Anarchy is What States Make of It”)
      RECOMMENDED: Stephen Walt, International Politics: One World, Many Theories (LIBRARY RESERVE)
2/11  Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 9: Foreign Policy
2/13 Mid-term Exam Review

**Week 6**

2/16 **Mid-Term Examination I**

2/18 Speigel et al., Ch. 3: World Politics and Economics: 1648-1945, pp. 56-78

2/20 Speigel et al., Ch. 3: World Politics and Economics: 1648-1945, pp. 78-107

**Week 7**

2/23 Speigel et al., Ch. 4: World Politics and Economics: The Cold War, pp. 108-136

2/25 Speigel et al., Ch. 4: World Politics and Economics: The Cold War, pp. 137-153

2/27 Speigel et al., Ch. 5: Imperialism and Its Victims, pp. 155-182

**Week 8**

3/2 Speigel et al., Ch. 5: Imperialism and Its Victims, pp. 182-199

3/4 Speigel et al., Ch. 6: Globalization and Fragmentation in a New World Order: 1991 to the Present, pp. 200-224

Betts (Fukuyama, “End of History,” Mearsheimer, “Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War”)

3/6 Speigel et al., Ch. 6: Globalization and Fragmentation in a New World Order: 1991 to the Present, pp. 224-233

Betts (Huntington “Clash of Civilizations”)

**Week 9**

3/9 Speigel et al., Ch. 7: Security Theory and Practice, pp. 237-256

3/11 Speigel et al., Ch. 7: Security Theory and Practice, pp. 257-287


3/13 Betts (Gilpin, “Hegemonic War and International Change”)


**Week 10**

3/16-3/20 **SPRING BREAK**
| **Week 11** | 3/23 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 8: Contemporary Security Issues, pp. 293-317  
Betts (Crenshaw, “The Logic of Terrorism”; Betts, “The Soft Underbelly of Primacy”) |
|-----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|           | 3/25 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 8: Contemporary Security Issues, pp. 320-336  
Mid-Term Exam Review |
|           | 3/27 | **Mid-Term Examination II** |
| **Week 12** | 3/30 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 13: Global Governance: International Law and Organization, pp. 510-523 |
|           | 4/1  | Spiegel et al., Ch. 13: Global Governance: International Law and Organization, pp. 524-560 |
|           | 4/3  | Baylis et al., Baylis et al., Ch. 25: Regionalism in International Affairs (LIBRARY RESERVE) |
| **Week 13** | 4/6  | Spiegel et al., Ch. 9: World Politics: Trade and Investment, pp. 337-365 |
|           | 4/8  | Spiegel et al., Ch. 9 World Politics: Trade and Investment, pp. 365-372  
Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 6: Classical Theories of IPE |
|           | 4/10 | **EASTER BREAK** |
| **Week 14** | 4/13 | Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 6: Classical Theories of IPE, cont’d |
|           | 4/15 | Jackson and Sorensen, Ch. 7: Contemporary Debates in International Political Economy |
|           | 4/17 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 10: World Politics: Development  
Baylis et al., Ch. 28: Poverty, Development, and Hunger |
| **Week 15** | 4/20 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 11: Human Issues: Demographic Trends  
Betts (Weiner, “Security, Stability, and Migration”) |
|           | 4/22 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 12: Resource Issues  
Garrett Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons” (LIBRARY RESERVE) |
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
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| 4/27 | Baylis et al., Ch. 29: Human Rights (LIBRARY RESERVE)  
Baylis et al., Ch. 30: Humanitarian Intervention in World Politics (LIBRARY RESERVE) |
| 4/29 | Spiegel et al., Ch. 14: Global Politics in Context  
Final Exam Review |