

**INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

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**Instructor**

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PLEASE USE THIS EMAIL address rather than Canvas to communicate.

**Teaching Assistants**

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**Course Intro**

Welcome to Introduction to International Relations. I am looking forward to discussing a wide array of topics with you – everything from economic globalization to counterinsurgency, nation building, and weapons of mass destruction. The purposes of this course include offering you a baseline understanding of the vocabulary, concepts, and events studied within the field of International Relations, helping you to develop your own analytical skills, and giving you a window into potential job opportunities in this field.

You will be introduced to a variety of theories and points of view. You should come prepared each day to offer thoughtful comments about the reading. This includes being versed enough in current events that you can apply the author's ideas to the world around you.

THIS IS A TOUGH COURSE. Please know that I am a strong proponent of truth in advertising: This is a tough course. It is meant to be. Part of my job in this course is to give you a sense of what would be expected of you should you choose to work in the field of International Relations. This occupational field is extremely competitive *because the work is so fun*, so fascinating, so engaging. If I am to prepare you to compete with other graduates for the most interesting of those interesting jobs, this course has to be tough. It is.

**Readings**

*Essentials of International Relations 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*, by Karen A. Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft

*International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, by Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis

**8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> Edition**

Other readings will be available via Canvas.

**Requirements**

This course will consist of a set of pop quizzes, two midterms and a comprehensive final exam. Study questions for each of these (including the quizzes) will be posted on Canvas.

Reading Quizzes	(7 at 20 points each)	140 points
Map Quizzes	(6 at 10 points each)	60 points
Midterms	(2 at 100 points each)	200 points
Final Exam		<u>100 points</u>
Total		500 points

## Grade Scale

You can check your current grade at any time by dividing the points you have accumulated by the points possible. The resulting percentage can then be applied to the following scale:

A	94-100	C	74-76
A-	90-93	C-	70-73
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	84-86	D	64-67
B-	80-83	D-	60-63
C+	77-79	F	59

PS 2100

## COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Readings
Aug 29	Introduction to course	
Aug 31	The American Perspective	Essentials of IR Ch. 1
Sept 5	History of International Relations Pre-Nation-State	Map Prep: 7 continents Essentials of IR Ch. 2 Part I
Sept 7	History of International Relations	Essentials of IR Ch. 2 Part II
Sept 12	History of International Relations 9/11, Iraq, Afgh, ISIS	Map Prep: Middle East Read, print, and bring to class one article on the situation in Iraq, the ongoing war in Afghanistan, or ISIS
Sept 14	Introduction to Levels of Analysis System Level: Realism	Essentials of IR Ch. 3 pp. 70-83 Art & Jervis: Morgenthau "Six Principles of Political Realism"
Sept 19	Fog of War	Map Prep: North America Essentials of IR Ch. 8 pp. 261-276 Art & Jervis: Mearsheimer "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power"
Sept 21	Guest Speaker: Kerry Kartchner, US Department of State	TBD
Sept 26	NeoRealism	Come with your questions about the study guide, because this day will also serve as our review.
Sept 28	<b>MIDTERM I</b>	
Oct 3	State Level Analysis & Power	Map Prep: Asia Rourke: State Level Analysis Essentials of IR Ch. 5 pp. 132-169
Oct. 5	Constructivism	Essentials of IR Ch. 3 pp. 92-95 Art & Jervis: Wendt "Anarchy is What States Make of It"
Oct. 10	Strategic Culture	On Canvas: "Bounding Strategic Culture" "Cultural Topography"
Oct. 12	Guest Speaker: Matt Berrett Assistant Director CIA (retired)	Applying a Cultural Lens to National Security Threats

Oct. 17	WMD and Deterrence	Map Prep: Europe Essentials of IR Ch. 8 pp 277-end Canvas-- Bunn "Can Deterrence be Tailored?"
Oct. 19	FALL BREAK – No class (Attend Friday classes)	
Oct. 24	Liberalism	Map Prep: Africa Essentials of IR Ch. 3 pp. 83-89 Essentials of IR Ch. 9 (all)
Oct. 26	International Organizations – Economic	Canvas – article on European Union
Oct 31	Globalization	Canvas – Friedman, Intro and Ch. I of <i>The World is Flat</i> Canvas – Ghemawat, "Why the World Isn't Flat" Canvas – "The World is Spiky" Essentials of IR Ch. 5 169-179
Nov 2	<b>MIDTERM 2</b>	
Nov 7	The Great Economic Divide: North and South	Map Prep: Latin America Canvas: Kegley Ch. 5
Nov. 9	Radicalism	Essentials of IR Ch. 3 pp. 89-92
Nov. 14	Individual Level Analysis	Essentials of IR Ch. 6
Nov. 16	Terrorism	Art & Jervis: Hoffman, "What is Terrorism?"
Nov. 21	Case Study: al Qaeda	See Canvas for readings
Nov. 22-24	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
Nov 28	Counterinsurgency	See Canvas for readings
Nov 30	International Organizations – Security	Essentials of IR Ch. 7
Dec 5	Assessing Future Threats The Cyber Realm	Essentials of IR Ch. 10 OR Ch. 11 – whichever topic interests you most
Dec. 7	Review for Final	
Tuesday Dec 12	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> 11:30-1:20	Held in our classroom