

Introduction to International Relations (IR)

Political Science 41A

Summer I, 2007

University of California, Irvine

Day/Time: MWF, 11-12:50

Location: SE2 1304

Course Website – www.astesback.com/IR/index.htm

Instructor: P. Brian Fisher

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Office Hours: MWF 1-2 or by appt

This course is an introduction to a wide range of topics in the field of international relations. The discipline traditionally focuses on political relationships between sovereign nation-states in the modern world, and to an increasing extent, the growing polity beyond the state. A central theme of the course will be to develop an understanding of patterns of conflict and cooperation between states. The course will begin with an introduction to a range of theoretical approaches for analyzing interstate politics in an anarchical world political system. These theories include liberalism, realism, neo-marxism, and constructivism. The theories will be applied to understand and explain current and past issues in international affairs, including the recurrence of war, patterns of economic growth and trade, the protection of human rights, and management of environmental degradation. In examining these themes, the course will involve practical exposure to international politics and global problems that currently face humanity, including the globalization of crime and disease. We will then consider developments in the area of global governance in recent years, and examine whether interstate anarchy remains the most useful model for understanding world political events and future global political order. In this regard, students will analyze through a series of debates 'real' world cases to evaluate the ethical, theoretical, and practical consequences of international politics.

Course Goals

This course has *four* specific goals focused on empowering students to appreciate the dynamics of global politics:

1. To promote analytical reasoning about issues in international affairs and global politics.
2. To introduce analytical approaches and concepts frequently used to understand global politics.
3. To build a base of knowledge about past and present issues in international affairs.
4. To engage in pragmatic debates over global problems and how to approach these problems.

Class Format

Attendance at class sessions is expected. Class sessions will be devoted to a mixture of lecture and discussion regarding assigned reading materials, with a strong emphasis on dialogue amongst the class.

Grading

The following weight will be given to coursework in the determination of final grades.

COURSEWORK	VALUE
Midterm	20%
Final Exam	30%
Debate	20%
Debate Paper	10%
Map Quizzes	10%
Participation/Short Paper(s)	10%

Schedule of Coursework due dates

- Map Quizzes are scheduled for **June 27, June 29, July 2, July 6, July 9**
- Midterm exam is scheduled for **Monday, July 16** during regular class time
- Debates are scheduled for **July 11, July 20, July 25, July 30** (you will be responsible for one debate). A debate may be added for **July 6** (depending on enrollment).
- Debate Paper is due the class immediately **AFTER** your scheduled debate
- Final exam is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 1** during regular class hours

Midterm and Final exams

Each exam will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, short answer (based on concepts, historical and contemporary events, places, and people), and a longer essay question. You will be graded on practical knowledge and analytical abilities. There will be 5 map quizzes, covering the major geographical areas of the world. Should you miss one, you will have to take a makeup quiz covering the entire world.

Course Materials

The following reading list is provided as a general guide to the assigned topics and readings for this course. Consult the course website, entitled "Schedule", on a regular basis for specific reading assignments.

1. *International Relations, Brief 2006-2007 Edition*, by Joshua Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, New York: Pearson-Longman (2007).
2. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, Expanded Twelfth Edition*, by John T. Rourke, Iowa: McGraw-Hill (2006).
3. All other *required readings* will be posted on the 'schedule' pages of the course website.
 - Some articles will be posted on the schedule with a URL.
 - Some articles will be available library course reserve (<http://antpac.lib.uci.edu/>)

Course Website

All students are responsible for visiting the “schedule” section of the course website on a regular basis. The attached reading list provides a general guide to the course readings; however, the actual assignment list and regular updates will be posted on the course website with appropriate links.

Class Announcements

Check your UCI email account on a regular basis for any announcements concerning this class. If you have trouble accessing your UCI email account, an archive of class email announcements can be found at your EEE.

Debates and Debate Papers

DEBATES:

1. There will be 4 (or 5) class debates. Every class member will participate once.
2. Although the general subject matter of each debate is given, it is incumbent upon each group to decide 3 issues that it deems appropriate for the debate. These issues should be agreed upon between each side and should highlight the key tension points of the subject matter.
2. The teams will be broken up into 4-5 members on each side (so 8-10 for each debate).
3. The substantive information for the debate should start with the class readings and supplemented with outside research. Look at the website for additional web sources.
4. The format will be an opening statement, arguments, and closing statement for each side. Each issue will comprise the argument section, allowing for an introduction of the issue, accompanied by a short rebuttal by the opposing side on that issue. This format will be followed for all 3 issues. See website.
5. Your grade will be based upon:
 - i) *Structure*: the overall structure of the debate (setup and issues chosen by group)
 - ii) *Research*: the research and information brought to support your arguments
 - iii) *Presentation*: how well you argued your points and rebutted your opposition
 - iv) *Winner*: The rest of the class will serve as jury, and the winning team (as decided by the class) will automatically receive a half letter grade boost. So, the highest grade that members of the losing team can receive is an A-.

DEBATE PAPER:

1. Each individual participating in their respective debate must turn in a 2-page (single-spaced) paper on the debate. The paper will be due the class AFTER the debate.
2. You can choose to outline the entire debate by focusing on each issue or just focus on your own issue.
3. You should include both sides of the argument by anticipating the other side’s argument for the issues, providing a robust discussion of the debate.
4. Your paper should include:
 - i) *Highlight key tensions*: that is, why this is a critical debate for global politics.
 - ii) *Analysis of Issues*: generate a robust discussion of the issues surrounding the debate, providing evidence to support the arguments. Be persuasive.
 - iii) *Conclude*: Reach a conclusion on each issue, and supply an overall conclusion (you don’t have to side with your debate position, just explain your rationale).

Class 1 CLASS ORIENTATION

Monday, June 25, 2007

- **ORIENTATION**
- **ASSIGN DEBATE GROUPS**

Required Readings:

- **No Readings**

Class 2 UNDERSTANDING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IR)

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

- **MAP QUIZ: LATIN AMERICA**
- **FILM: GUNS, GERMS AND STEEL, PART I**

Required Readings:

- ***IR*, Chapter 1, "Understanding IR," pp. 1-44**
- **Fisher, *A Step Back* Excerpts (Website)**
- **James Traub, "The Statesman: Why, and How, Bono Matters," *New York Times Magazine* (Sept. 18, 2005) (Website)**

Class 3 POWER POLITICS AND REALISM

Friday, June 29, 2007

- **MAP QUIZ: EUROPE**
- **FILM: GUNS, GERMS AND STEEL, PART II**

Required Readings:

- ***IR*, Chapter 2, "Power Politics," p. 45-76**
- ***IR*, Chapter 3, "Alternatives to Power Politics," pp. 77-102**

Class 4 ALTERNATIVE IR THEORIES

Monday, July 2, 2007

- **MAP QUIZ: AFRICA**
- **FILM: HIROSHIMA WWII**
- **Case In Point: Remembering Auschwitz (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- ***IR*, Chapter 3, "Alternatives to Power Politics," cont'd pp. 102-120**
- ***Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics***
 - **ISSUE 4: "Should the US Decrease its Global Presence?"**
- ***Globalization and World Politics*, Barnett, Michael, "Social Constructivism," pp. 258-269 (Reserve)**
- ***Annual Editions: Global Issues*, Kavita Ramdas, "Feminists and Fundamentalists," pp. 17-20 (Reserve)**
- **Mohammad El Baradei, "Address on Winning the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize" (Website)**

INDEPENDENCE DAY-NO CLASS

Wednesday, July 4, 2007

Class 5 INTERNATIONAL SECURITY: CONFLICT AND WAR

Friday, July 6, 2007

- **POSSIBLE DEBATE: Should the US Promote Democracy Abroad?**
- **MAP QUIZ: MIDDLE EAST**
- **Case In Point: Counterinsurgency Warfare in Iraq (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- **IR, Chapter 4, “Conflict and War,” pp. 121-173**
- ***Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics***
 - **ISSUE 10 “Was the War with Iraq Justified”**
- **JFK on “Cuban Missile Crisis” (Website)**
- **Vietnam: “My Lai Massacre” (Website)**
- **The Gulf of Tonkin Incident—Two Classified NSA Installments released to the public (Website)**

Class 6 POST-COLD WAR SECURITY AND TERRORISM

Monday, July 9, 2007

- **MAP QUIZ: ASIA**
- **MOVIE: WHY DO WE FIGHT?**
- **Case In Point: Counterinsurgency Warfare in Iraq (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- ***Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics***
 - **ISSUE 14 “Is Preemptive War an Unacceptable Doctrine”**
 - **ISSUE 15 “Is the War on Terrorism Succeeding”**
- **Michael Cox, “From the Cold War to the War on Terror,” pp. 131-156 (Reserve)**
- ***Cases in IR*, “The Perils of Proliferation: Iran and North Korea,” pp. 188-205 (Reserve)**
- **Munson, “Lifting the Veil: Understanding the Roots of Islamic Militancy,” pp. 125-127 (Reserve)**
- **9/11 Commission Final Report (Read Chapter 2: The Foundation of the New Terrorism) (Website)**

Class 7 INTERNATIONAL LAW

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

- **DEBATE: Iraq War-withdrawal, War on Terror, and International Law**
- **Case In Point: United Nations Reform (video segment)**
- **Case In Point: UN Aid in Darfur, Sudan (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- **IR, Chapter 6, “International Organization and Law,” pp. 263-283**
- ***Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics***
 - **ISSUE 17 “Is the United Nations Fundamentally Flawed ”**
 - **ISSUE 18 “Should the United States Ratify the International Criminal Court Treaty”**
- **Annan, “Strategies for World Peace: The View of the UN Secretary-General,” pp. 155-158 (Reserve)**

Class 8 HUMAN RIGHTS, INTERVENTION AND WAR CRIMES

Friday, July 13, 2007

- **DUE: GENOCIDE SHORT PAPER**
- **Midterm Review**
- **FILM: GHOSTS OF RWANDA**
- **Case In Point: War Crimes in Sudan (video segment)**
- **Case In Point: Confronting the Past in Chile (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- *Global Issues*, Chapter 3, "Human Rights," pp. 76-107 (Reserve)
- *Cases in IR*, "War Crimes: The Past in the Present in the Future," pp. 55-73 (Reserve)
- Prunier, "The Politics of Death in Darfur," pp. 131-138 (Reserve)

Class 9 MIDTERM

Monday, July 16, 2007

- **MIDTERM EXAM**

Class 10 Liberalization and Globalization

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

- **FILM: LIFE AND DEBT**
- **Case In Point: The Falling Dollar (video segment)**
- **Case In Point: The International Monetary Fund (video segment)**
- **Case In Point: Ethnic Conflict and Globalization (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- *IR*, Chapter 5, "Trade and Money," pp. 174-230
- *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*
 - ISSUE 2 "Does Globalization Threaten Cultural Diversity"
- Naim, "The Five Wars of Globalization," pp. 65-70 (Reserve)
- Yunus, "The Grameen Bank," pp. 162-165 (Reserve)

Class 11 North-South Relations

Friday, July 20, 2007

- **DEBATE: Global Liberalization (pro globalization vs. anti-globalization)**
- **Case In Point: Taking On Global Poverty (video segment)**
- **Case In Point: Fair Trade on Campus (video segment)**
- **Case In Point: Cotton Subsidies (video segment)**

Required Readings:

- *IR*, Chapter 7, "North-South Relations," pp. 284-349
- *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*
 - ISSUE 12 "Is Capitalism the Best Model for Global Economy"
 - ISSUE 13 "Should the Rich Countries Forgive All the Debt Owed by the Poor Countries"
- Stiglitz, "Social Justice and Global Trade," pp. 62-64 (Reserve)

Class 12 Global Environment Issues

Monday, July 23, 2007

- **Case In Point: China's Coal Mine** (video segment)
- **Case In Point: U.S. Resistance on Climate Change** (video segment)
- **MOVIE: GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE**

Required Readings

- *IR*, Chapter 8, "Environment Section only," pp. 350-371
- *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*
 - ISSUE 20 "Do Environmentalists Overstate Their Case" (SKIM)
 - ISSUE 22 "Are U.S. Efforts to Control Global Warming Gas Emissions Adequate"
- McKibben, "A Special Moment in History," pp. 3-6 (Reserve)
- *Cases in IR*, "Warm and Getting Warmer: Global Warming and the Fate of the Kyoto Protocol," pp. 227-242 (Reserve)
- *The Weathermakers*, Flannery, Chapter 2, "The Great Aerial Ocean," pp. 19-26 (Reserve)
- *The Weathermakers*, Flannery, Chapter 3, "The Gaseous Greenhouse," pp. 27-35 (Reserve)

Class 13 Global Governance: Transcending the State

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

- **DEBATE: Global Environmental Change (Climate Change)**
- **Case In Point: Netherlands Vote on the EU Constitution** (video segment)

Required Readings

- *IR*, Chapter 6, "International Organization and Law," pp.231-263
- *IR*, Chapter 8, "Environment and Technology," pp. 371-385
- *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*
 - ISSUE 3 "Will State Sovereignty Survive Globalism?"

Class 14 Globalization of Disease and Crime

Friday, July 27, 2007

- **Case In Point: The Next Flu Epidemic** (video segment)
- **Case In Point: Women and Aids** (video segment)
- **Case In Point: Preventing Malaria with Mosquito Nets** (video segment)

Required Readings

- *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*
 - ISSUE 21 "Are Adequate Preparations Underway For a Possible Avian Influenza Pandemic"
- *Global Issues*, Chapter 10, "Global Crime," pp. 322-348 (Reserve)
- *Global Issues*, Chapter 11, "The Globalization of Disease," pp. 349-378 (Reserve)
- Michael T. Osterholm, "Preparing for the Next Pandemic," *Foreign Affairs (FA)* 84:4, 24 (July-August 2005) (Reserve)
- Nicholas Eberstadt, "The Future of AIDS," *Foreign Affairs(FA)*81:6, 22 (Nov.-Dec. 2002) (Reserve)

Class 15 Future Global Order

Monday, July 30, 2007

- **DEBATE: Future Global Order (the case of optimism?)**
- **DUE: GOOD DEED SHORT PAPER**
- **Final Review**

Required Readings

- *Skim (know major points):*
 - *Kaplan* “The Coming Anarchy,” pp. 81-118 (Website)
 - *Fukujama*, “The End of History,” pp. 1-29 (Website)
 - *Ajami*, “The Summoning,” pp. 71-80 (Website)
- *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issues*
 - Issue 18: “Are Cultural and Ethnic Wars the Defining Dimension of 21st Century Conflict?” pp. 311-336 (Reserve)
- *Global Issues*, “Challengers to American Hegemony,” pp. 57-71 (Reserve)
- *Diamond*, “The Ends of the World as We Know Them,” pp. 21-23 (Reserve)
- *McKibben*, “A Deeper Shade of Green,” pp. 181-183 (Reserve)

Class 16 FINAL

**Wednesday, August 1, 2007
11:00AM-12:50PM**

- **FINAL EXAM**