

International Politics
Spring 2015

Course Number: Political Science 170

Course Instructor: John A. Doces, Ph.D.

Class Meeting: T/Th 9:30-10:52, ACWS 115

Office Hours: W 11-12; T/Th 12-1, ACWS 233

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Course Description

Political Science 170 is an introduction to the field of international politics covering the concepts, theories, and processes that collectively make up the field of international politics/relations or world politics. Over this semester, we will study a number of interesting and important topics ranging from the causes of war to the determinants of economic development. A variety of methods—e.g., lectures, films, group work, and discussions—will be used to develop and enhance your understanding of the material. Please note that this is an introductory course so no prior background is needed or assumed.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this class, you will have a more complete understanding of the following topics:

- ideas, cultures, and ideologies that have influenced historical events in international politics (1820-current)
- traditional theories of IR including realism, liberalism, and Marxism
- formal theoretical models including an introduction to game theory
- why countries fight wars (international and civil)
- history of globalization
- politics of international trade and finance, and exchange rates
- determinants of long-run economic growth and development
- role of international institutions and associated controversies (e.g., UN, IMF, WTO, and World Bank)
- transnational issues including those related to international law, human rights, and the environment

Department Objectives

The Political Science Department has several learning objectives which we believe all political science students should develop while they are at Bucknell. Accordingly, the Department's faculty believes our students must be able to:

- understand basic political processes and any related economic, social, and cultural processes
- think systematically about political and economic interactions in local, national, and international contexts
- think systematically about the ethical dimensions of politics
- argue effectively both in writing and orally

- synthesize, analyze, and evaluate arguments; assess sources; apply findings to new situations
- make connections across literatures
- become engaged in public affairs
- gain intellectual skills

Bucknell University Honor Code

As a student and citizen of the Bucknell University community:

- I will not lie, cheat or steal in my academic endeavors
- I will forthrightly oppose each and every instance of academic dishonesty
- I will let my conscience guide my decision to communicate directly with any person or persons I believe to have been dishonest in academic work
- I will let my conscience guide my decision on reporting breaches of academic integrity to the appropriate faculty or deans

Class Rules

- Do not use anything in class that plugs into an electrical socket or has a battery; do not use a calendar in class; do not go to the bathroom in the middle of class; do not daydream in class or think about texting your bff@#urrad. If you do any of these things, or anything that disrupts the class in general, then you will sing, with great enthusiasm, *Thunder Struck* by AC/DC or another song you know well (karaoke style).
- Do the readings, come to class, and be ready to learn and/or teach the class
- Be nice

Bucknell University Expectations for Academic Engagement

Courses at Bucknell that receive one unit of academic credit have a minimum expectation of 12 hours per week of student academic engagement. Student academic engagement includes both the hours of direct faculty instruction (or its equivalent) and the hours spent on out of class student work. Half and quarter unit courses at Bucknell should have proportionate expectations for student engagement.

Texts

The book for this course is available at Bucknell's bookstore; all other readings will be made available for you in my public space or online.

- World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions (2nd edition) by Frieden, Lake, Schultz (abbreviated FLS). Also on reserve at the library.

Course Requirements

- Exams (50%). There will be two exams this semester consisting of key term identification, true/false, and essay questions. Key terms will be taken from the end of each chapter in FLS, and essay questions will be based on readings and class discussions. Over the semester, I will

pass out discussion questions and these will constitute the material that will be asked on the exams.

- Exam I covers all material through the exam on 3/3 (20%).
- Exam II is comprehensive and will be on the day of our scheduled final exam (30%). Final is scheduled for May 6th at 8 a.m.
- Quizzes (10%). Quizzes based on the current day's reading/s or lecture will be given periodically over the semester and there will be no make-ups. I will drop your lowest grade.
- Essays (30%). Based on the material covered in class, you will write two 5-6 page essays (typed, stapled and double-spaced). Essay topics will be assigned in class. The content of your paper must be well-written including fully developed paragraphs organized around clear topic sentences, complete integration of supporting text, linking of your ideas and thoughts, and use of transitions. No quoting is permitted. Start early, definitely not at the last minute, and if you need help with your essay please make an appointment at the writing center. More details will be provided as the semester progresses.
- Class Participation (10%). For every class, you should read and then review the assigned readings prior to class. You should be prepared to not only participate but also to teach the class too. If you do this then you will receive full credit for participation, but if not then you will receive less than full credit. Those students who are not prepared and do not contribute to the class will receive low if any credit for participation.
- Summary
 - Exams 50%
 - Quizzes 10%
 - Essays 30%
 - Class Participation 10%

Make-Up Policy

No make-up work will be allowed unless excused for athletic reasons or due to a serious emergency. If you miss the midterm then the final will count for 50% of your final grade, and all students will take the final on May 6th at 8 a.m.

Grading Scale

94+=A, 93-90=A-, 89-87=B+, 86-84=B, 83-80=B-, 79-77=C+, 76-74=C, 73-70=C-, 69-67=D+, 66-64=D, 63-60=D-, <59=F. No rounding, i.e. 86.5, 86.6, 86.7 is an 86 and a B not a B+.

Schedule		
Date	Topic	Required Reading
1/15	Review of syllabus	
Historical and Theoretical Context		
1/20	Basic Ideas	-FLS "Introduction" -"Bridge over troubled water." <i>The Economist</i> 11/15/2014. -Kenny, Charles. "Marx is Back." <i>Foreign Policy</i> 1/21/2014.
1/22	Historical Framework	-FLS Ch.1 pp. 2-22 -Bring a quarter to class
1/27	Historical Framework cont	-FLS Ch.1 pp. 22-35 -"Not Always With Us." <i>The Economist</i> 6/1/2013.
1/29	Interests, Interactions, and Institutions	-FLS Ch. 2 including pp.74-75
Conflict: Causes and Consequences		
2/3	Causes of War	-FLS Ch. 3 pp. 80-93 -Huntington, Samuel. "The Clash of Civilizations." Read pp. 22-35 and skim rest of article. -"Terror in Paris." <i>The Economist</i> 1/10/2015.
2/5	Causes of War continued	-FLS Ch.3 pp. 93-123 -Gettleman, Jeffrey. "The World's Worst War." <i>New York Times</i> 12/15/2012. -Fielding-Smith, Abigail. "Profiteers become another obstacle to peace in Syria" <i>Financial Times</i> 12/1/2013.
2/10	Domestic Causes of War	-FLS Ch. 4 pp. 124-154
2/12	Democracy and War	-FLS Ch. 4 pp. 154-167 -Mansfield and Snyder. "Democratization and War." <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 74(3): 79-97.
2/17	Rwanda Genocide	-Film: Ghosts of Rwanda
2/19	International Institutions	-FLS Ch.5 -Nekrassov, Alexander. "Ukraine Crisis: What's the UN doing about it?" <i>Al Jazeera</i> 4/21/2014. Read online at http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2014/04/ukraine-crisis-what-un-doing-ab-201441761310213603.html
2/24	Civil Wars	-FLS Ch. 6 pp. 214-242 -"How to stop the fighting, sometimes." <i>The Economist</i> 11/9/2013.
2/26	Terrorism	-FLS Ch.6 pp. 242-263
3/3	Midterm	
International Political Economy		
3/17	International Trade	-FLS Ch. 7 pp. 264-287
3/19	International Trade	-FLS Ch. 7 pp. 287-305 and pp. 306-311 -Driskill, Robert. "Deconstructing the argument for free trade."
3/24	International Finance	-FLS Ch. 8 pp. 312-337 -Hakim, Danny. "Investors Are Eager for African

		Sovereign Debt, Despite Plenty of Risks.” <i>The New York Times</i> 10/28/2014.
3/26	International Finance	-FLS Ch.8 pp. 337-348 -Grillo, Ioan. “Desperate Voyagers.” <i>Time</i> 8/18/2014.
3/31	Monetary Issues	-FLS Ch.9 pp. 350-364
4/2	Monetary Issues	-FLS Ch. 9 pp. 364-385
4/7	Development	-FLS Ch.10 pp. 386-406 -Polgreen, Lydia. “As Coal Boosts Mozambique, the Rural Poor Are Left behind.” <i>New York Times</i> 11/12/2012.
4/9	Development	-FLS Ch.10 pp. 406-419
4/14	Foreign Aid and Development	-“U.S. Foreign Aid” <i>Center for Global Development</i> . -Ayittey, George. “The myth of foreign aid.” <i>Unpublished manuscript</i> . -Sachs, Jeffrey. “The Case for Aid.” <i>Foreign Policy</i> Januray 21, 2014. -Easterly, William. “The flaw in Bill Gates’ approach to ending global poverty.”
The Environment, International Law, and Human Rights		
4/16	The Environment	-FLS Ch. 13 pp 493-516
4/21	The Environment cont	-FLS Ch. 13 pp 516-524 & 526-533 -Film: China Revs Up
4/23	Human Rights	-FLS Ch. 12 pp 452-457 & 463-490
Conclusions		
4/28	Review	-FLS Ch.14