

## **Poli 150-003: International Relations and World Politics**

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:45 Phillips Rm 367

**Spring 2017**

**Instructor:** Menevis Cilizoglu

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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 11:00-12:30 & Thursdays 11:00-12:30 or by appointment

**Office Hours Location:** Hamilton 303

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to achieve two objectives: (1) to introduce you to some of the most central issues and puzzles in the study of international relations, and (2) to provide you with some analytic concepts that can be used to study world politics. A significant portion of the course is designed to develop a theoretical framework through which we understand international politics. We will also apply that framework, and various analytical concepts, to recent events and contemporary foreign policy debates. We will frequently refer to important historical and current events as examples and applications of the theories and concepts taught in this course and keeping up with international news is another important element of this course. I recommend The Economist, BBC World News, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times or Foreign Policy (all available online).

### **Course Requirements**

Course grades are based upon class in-class examinations, class participation and attendance and response papers.

**Grading Scale:** The following 10-point grading scale is used for this course:

93 and above: A	90-92: A-	87-89: B+	83-86: B
80-82: B-	77-79: C+	73-76: C	70-72: C-
67-69: D+	64-66: D	61-63: D-	60 and below: F

**Exams: (% 20 x 3 = %60)**

There will be two midterms and a final exam. Each exam is worth %20 of your final grade. Exams will be a combination of short answer, multiple choice, and essay questions taken from the lectures, readings, and class discussions. The final exam will be cumulative. The format and content of each exam will be discussed in more detail closer to the exam dates. Current events are also likely to make an appearance in exams. The format and content of each exam will be discussed in more detail closer to the exam dates.

*Policy on Unexcused Absences and Exams:* You are required to be present for all scheduled exams. The only allowable exception to this policy is a documented emergency. If you have other unexpected emergency situations that force you to miss a scheduled exam or paper, please contact me.

### **Position Papers: (%10 x 2 = %20)**

Students are also required to write two short response papers (approximately 1500 words each). The prompts of both papers, as well as additional advice on writing a good response paper will be uploaded on Sakai. Please hand-in a hard-copy of your papers at the start of the class. The goal of these papers is to demonstrate that you have thought critically about the readings and lectures and that you can generate and defend a solid written argument. I do not want you to hand in a five-page summary of the readings. Paper grades are dependent on the quality of your argument as well as on the quality of your writing (grammar, organization, etc.) Late papers will not be accepted; please talk to me as soon as possible *prior to the due date* if you anticipate any issues.

Writing is one of the most important skills one can learn in college. If you are struggling with writing, please come to office hours to discuss strategies to improve your writing. I will NOT read paper drafts prior to the paper due date, but I am happy to discuss outlines, paper arguments, and writing strategies at any time. For additional writing resources, do not hesitate to take advantage of **UNCs Writing Center**.

### **Participation: (%15)**

*Attendance Policy:* Your attendance is important both to your ability to master course material and to the overall quality of class discussion. You are permitted two (2) unexcused absences throughout the semester without penalty. For every following unexcused absence, your participation grade will be reduced by four (4) points.

*Class Discussion:* Class time will be divided between lecture and in-class discussions or activities. Discussion is a central part of this class and each student is expected to do the readings prior to the class and come to each class ready to ask questions and discuss key points of all assigned readings. Participation points are assigned based upon the quantity and quality of a student's contributions to the class. Perfect attendance does not constitute a perfect participation grade; students must be present and active in discussions in order to earn an A in participation. I recommend not only reading all assigned works but also writing down questions/reactions to reading assignments so you are ready to engage fully in discussion. If I determine that students are not doing the expected reading, I reserve the right to give pop quizzes.

### **Current Events Presentations: (%5)**

The presentation should be a couple minutes long (no more than 5) highlighting the event, any relevant context or history, and most importantly how this event demonstrates, relates to, or reminds you of the relevant topic. Current events should relate to the assigned

readings of the day, if possible. Students are expected to send me the current event by 9:00am on the morning of class. Finally, current events are likely to make an appearance on exams; in other words, pay attention to the current events your classmates present and get in the habit of regularly following world news. More detailed expectations will be posted on Sakai.

### **Important Dates**

- Exam 1: **February 14**
- Paper 1: **March 7**
- Exam 2: **March 23**
- Paper 2: **April 11**
- Final: **May 5 (8 am)**

## **Course Materials**

The following required book is available in the UNC Bookstore. The book is also available from other sources; so please be sure to purchase the correct edition of the book. All other readings are available electronically on the course Sakai website.

- Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2015. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions and Institutions*, 3rd edition. New York: W.W. Norton Company. (Referred to below as “FLS”)

Note that this book is also offered directly from W.W. Norton as a package, as well as in e-book form. It is frequently used by UNC faculty teaching POLI 150, so the UNC Bookstore is likely to buy it back at the end of the semester.

## **Additional Expectations**

### **Technology**

The use of laptops/tablets/phones are not allowed during lectures. Besides being distracting, existing research proves that taking notes by hand improves learning outcomes.

### **E-mail Policy**

Email is a useful way to ask quick clarification questions. However, if you want to discuss substantive questions or other issues, please come by my office hours.

### **Honor Code**

The Honor Code is in effect in this class and all others at the University. I am committed to treating Honor Code violations seriously and urge all students to become familiar with its terms set out at <http://instrument.unc.edu>. If you have questions, it is your responsibility to ask me about the Codes application. All exams, written work, and other projects must be submitted with a statement that you have complied with the requirements of the Honor Code in all aspects of the submitted work.

## Course Schedule<sup>1</sup>

Students are expected to keep up with the reading assignments and do the readings before coming to class. Readings that are NOT labeled FLS (the Frieden, Lake, and Schultz textbook for this course) are uploaded on Sakai.

### Part I. Foundations of IR: Theories and Framework

- January 12 (Thurs): Introduction
  - Review Syllabus
- January 17 (Tues): What is International Relations? Grand Theories
  - FLS, Introduction pp. xx-xxxiii
  - Mearsheimer - “Anarchy and Struggle for Power” pp.54-67
  - Snyder - “One World, Rival Theories”
- January 19 (Thurs): International Order
  - Ikenberry, Chapter 2: “Varieties of Order: Balance of Power, Hegemonic, and Constitutional” pp.21-49
  - Mandelbaum, “David’s Friend Goliath”
- January 24 (Tues): Cooperation and Bargaining
  - FLS, Chapter 2: “Understanding Interests, Interactions and Institutions”, pp.42-79
- January 26 (Thurs): Prisoners Dilemma: Cooperation under Anarchy
  - FLS, A Primer on Game Theory pp. 82-87

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<sup>1</sup>This course is just a sampling of topics covered within the field of international relations. If there is any topic you would like to learn about that is not on the syllabus (such as global health issues, human trafficking or the European Union) or a topic that you would like to cover in more detail, please let me know and I can point you toward relevant readings or courses at UNC.

- January 31 (Tues): Overcoming the Prisoner’s Dilemma: International Institutions
  - Mitchell, “Cooperation in World Politics: The Constraining and Constitutive Effects of International Organizations” pp. 1-10, *skim the rest*
  - Keohane “International institutions: Can Interdependence work?”
- February 2 (Thurs): United Nations and Collective Security
  - FLS, Chapter 5 pp. 203-231
  - Patrick, “What’s Wrong With the United Nations”
- February 7 (Tues): NATO and Collective Defense
  - FLS Chapter 5 pp. 184-203
  - Goldgeier - pp. 14-31
- February 9 (Thurs): Sovereignty
  - Krasner, “Sharing Sovereignty: New Institutions for Collapsed and Failing States” pp. 85-105
  - March and Revkin, “Caliphate of Law: ISIS’ Ground Rules”
- February 14 (Tues): Exam 1

## Part II. Conflict in the International System

- February 16 (Thurs): Domestic Politics and War
  - FLS Chapter 4
  - Rand Corp, “The Democratic Peace Idea”
  - Berman - “The Promise of the Arab Spring”
  - Jones - “The Mirage of the Arab Spring”
- February 21 (Tues): Interstate Wars
  - FLS, Chapter 3
- February 23 (Thurs): No Class: International Studies Association Annual Conference
- February 28 (Tues): Civil Wars
  - FLS, Chapter 6 pp. 237-264

– Collier - “ The Market for Civil War”

- March 2 (Thurs): Syrian Civil War

– Readings TBD

- March 7 (Tues): Humanitarian Intervention and Peacekeeping

– Mandelbaum - “Reluctance to Intervene”

– Valentino - “The True Costs of Economic Intervention”

– Listen to (or read) NPR’s Talk of the Nation “The Responsibility to Protect in Syria and Beyond”

<http://www.npr.org/2012/02/06/146474734/the-worlds-responsibility-to-protect>

**\* \* \* Paper 1 Due**

- March 9 (Thurs): Non-state Actors and Terrorism

– FLS, Chapter 6

– Cronin - “ISIS Is Not A Terrorist Group”

- March 14 (Tues): No Class: Spring Break

- March 16 (Thurs): No Class: Spring Break

- March 21 (Tues): Nuclear Weapons and WMDs

– Waltz - “Why Iran Should Get the Bomb?”

– Kahl - “Iran and the Bomb”

– FLS, Chapter 14 - pp. 579-590

- March 23 (Thurs): Exam 2

### Part III. International Political Economy

- March 28 (Tues): Introduction to IPE and Trade

– FLS, Chapter 7 pp. 290-313

- March 30 (Thurs): Trade Institutions

– FLS, Chapter 7 pp. 313-331

– Schwab - “After Doha: Why the Negotiations are Doomed and What We Should Do About it”

- April 4 (Tues): Financial Institutions: the IMF and the World Bank
  - FLS, Chapter 8 pp.340-362
  - Riddell - “Things Fall Apart Again: Structural Adjustment Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa”
- April 6 (Thurs): Globalization, Global Imbalances and Equity
  - FLS, Chapter 10
  - Spence - “The Impact of Globalization on Income and Employment”
- April 11 (Tues): Foreign Aid
  - Miliband and Gurumurthy - “Improving Humanitarian Aid”
  - Easterly - “Foreign Aid for Scoundrels”

**\* \* \* Paper 2 Due**

#### **Part IV. Emerging Challenges to the Contemporary Order**

- April 13 (Thurs): International Law and Norms
  - FLS Chapter 11
  - Hafner-Burton and Tsutsui - “Justice Lost! The Failure of International Human Rights Law to Matter Where Needed Most”
- April 18 (Tues): Human Rights Violations
  - FLS Chapter 12
  - Simmons - “The Future of the Human Rights Movement”
- April 20 (Thurs): The Rise of the BRICS
  - Ikenberry - “The Rise of China and the Future of the West”
  - Patrick - “Irresponsible Stakeholders? The Difficulty of Integrating Rising Powers”
- April 25 (Tues): The Environment
  - FLS Chapter 13
- April 27 (Thurs): Conclusion
- May 3, Wednesday Q&A Session - optional
- May 5, Friday (8 am): Final Exam