Course Description and Goals

Full course for one semester. This course introduces the study of international relations. It examines central questions in world politics from a variety of different perspectives— including realism, liberalism, and feminism—and provides a working knowledge of world affairs.

Students will learn to perform basic research and analysis through writing and thinking about events in world politics from multiple different perspectives. Readings are drawn from historic and contemporary scholars of international relations, cover a wide variety of issues, and are grouped together in conflicting pairs where possible. Assignments are a mixture of analysis, research, and experiential learning.

Requirements

Class Participation
Students will have the opportunity participate in the class both during and outside of classroom hours. Each student will be assigned to three days during the semester in which they will co-author a short memo (300-400 words) comparing and contrasting that day’s readings and posing questions for discussion. These memos should be posted in the forums on the course website by 8 PM the day before the readings are to be discussed. Students are encouraged to respond to the memos as part of their participation.

Readings
Readings for the course are drawn from two books (one of which is a collection of condensed articles) and E-Readings, which can either be downloaded off the course website or through library E-Reserves. Most of the E-Readings can even be downloaded directly from the links on the syllabus. Two books are for sale at the bookstore and are also on reserve at the library:


Students are also expected to keep up with world events through daily reading of international news. Recommended news sites will be posted on the course web site and on the online library research guide, available at <http://library.reed.edu/instruction/politicalscience/pol240.html>.
**Course Website**
Frequent reading of the course website [https://moodle.reed.edu/course/view.php?id=6](https://moodle.reed.edu/course/view.php?id=6) will be helpful for success in the class. Discussion and collaboration with your peers in both sections of the class is available to you through the website; supplemental and core readings will be made available there; and assignments will be turned in electronically using the site.

**Simulations**
Two of the four assignments will center around simulations. The first will take place during class hours on September 15th on the front lawn of Eliot. The second will take place from October 26th-28th and will take about a total of nineteen hours. Participating in these simulations is required for completing the first and third assignments and therefore the course. If you cannot participate in these simulations, you must come talk to me immediately.

**Assignments**
There are four formal assignments for this course.

- The first assignment (due the beginning of week 4) will be a short (600-800 word) essay analyzing the simulation at the end of week 3.

- The second assignment (due the beginning of week 7) will be a 1000-1200 word essay; students will analyze a contemporary conflict from a list of options using the theories we’ve covered in class up to that point.

- The third assignment (due at the end of week 10) will be another essay; students will analyze the arms control negotiation that they participated in at the end of week 9. This will be an account (from a personal or national point of view) of the negotiations and an analysis of why the negotiations ended the way they did. This assignment, 1400-1600 words, should be based on the negotiation record, which will be compiled from email correspondences.

- The fourth assignment (due at what would be the beginning of what would be week 16) will be a 1800-2000 word essay; students will pick a topic from a list of options.

**Citation and Plagiarism**
A major goal of this course is to encourage good reading, research, and citation habits. Good research requires good documentation of sources and the ability to put one’s own analysis and thoughts into a paper rather than relying on others. Plagiarism and cheating are violations of academic integrity and thus violations of Reed’s Honor Principle. As specified by Reed’s academic conduct policy, such violations will result in disciplinary actions, including suspension or permanent dismissal from the College. For the purposes of this class, plagiarism is submitting a piece of work which in part or in whole is not entirely the student’s own work without attributing those same portions to their correct source. For more information see: [http://web.reed.edu/academic/gbook/comm_pol/acad_honesty.html](http://web.reed.edu/academic/gbook/comm_pol/acad_honesty.html).

**Accommodations**
If you’d like to request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Assistant Dean of Student Services, Adrienne Wolf-Lockett, Eliot 109, (503)777-7534. If you have a letter from Student Services, please let me know so we can discuss those accommodations.
1 Power and Morality

08/28/06: Introduction

08/30/06: Power and Morality, 31 pages


09/01/06: Dena Hutto

2 Anarchy

09/04/06: Labor Day - No Class

09/06/06: Anarchy, 55 pages


09/08/06: Realism and Levels of Analysis, 41 pages

3 Mitigating Anarchy

09/11/06: Alliances and Dominoes, 25 pages


09/13/06: Cooperation, 37 pages


09/15/06: Anarchy in Practice: Croquet, 8 pages

- *Rules of Backyard Croquet*. United States Croquet Association
  <http://croquetamerica.com/usca-backyardrls.asp>

4 Critiques of Realism

09/18/06: Discussion; Assignment 1 due at the beginning of class

09/20/06: Institutions, 57 pages


09/22/06: Feminism, 26 pages


• Reread Tickner *International Politics*, 15–28


5 Domestic Theories of IP

09/25/06: Constructivism, 41 pages


• Wendt *International Security*, 71–81


09/27/06: Democratic Peace, 58 pages


6 World Wars

10/02/06: World War I, 75 pages


10/04/06: World War II, 61 pages


10/06/06: The Bomb and the Cold War, 35 pages


7 Cold War

10/09/06: Discussion; Assignment 2 due at the beginning of class

10/11/06: Atomic Strategy, 66 pages


10/13/06: End of the Cold War, 68 pages


8 Fall Break - No Class

9 Nuclear Weapons

10/23/06: Spread of Nuclear Weapons, 182 pages

- Sagan and Waltz

10/25/06: Diplomacy and Nonproliferation, 24 pages


10/26/06: Simulation Day 1: Country meetings, 5 PM–8 PM

10/27/06: Simulation Day 2: Simulation, 1 PM–9 PM

10/28/06: Simulation Day 3: Simulation, 9 AM–6 PM

10 Post-Proliferation

10/30/06: Discussion of Simulation

11/01/06: Proliferation Networks, 51 pages


11/03/06: No Class; Assignment 3 Due by 9 PM

11 Networked Politics

11/06/06: Human Rights, 52 pages


11/08/06: Terrorism, 27 pages


11/10/06: Crime, 37 pages


12 IPE

11/13/06: Intro to IPE, 35 pages


11/15/06: International Law, 38 pages


11/17/06: The Cost of Iraq, 40 pages


13 Globalization

11/20/06: What is Globalization, 29 pages

11/22/06: Globalization: Good or Bad, 36 pages

11/24/06: Thanksgiving Break - No Class

14 Contemporary Problems

11/27/06: Global Ecological Politics, 26 pages

11/29/06: Clash of Civilizations, 36 pages

12/01/06:American Empire, 34 pages


  <http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&an=2623490>, ISSN 00157120

15 Morality and Power Redux

12/04/06:Genocide, 39 pages

  <http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&an=5050892>, ISSN 10727825

• Richard K. Betts (1994) The Delusion of Impartial Intervention. *Foreign Affairs*. 73(6), 20–33
  <http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&an=9411180049>, ISSN 00157120

12/06/06:Just and Unjust War, 13 pages


12/11/06:Final Assignment Due by 9 PM