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Summer 6-1-2006

PSC 130E.01: International Relations

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Political Science 130
Summer 2006
M-Th 11:30-1:20
LA 338

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Introduction to International Politics

Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces the study and practice of international politics. It examines the way that states and other international actors interact in their pursuit of security and prosperity, as well as the theoretical tools scholars use to understand why states and other international actors interact as they do. With this practical and theoretical background, you will be able to understand contemporary international politics and make informed predictions about the important international issues of the coming decades.

Course Texts

There are two required books, both of which are available for purchase at the UC Bookstore:

- Joshua S. Goldstein, *International Relations* 6th edition (New York: Longman, 2005).
- Robert Jackson, ed., *Global Issues 05/06* (New York: McGraw Hill/Dushkin, 2006).

In addition to reading these books as noted on the schedule below, you are required to keep up with and develop an in-depth understanding of current international-political actors, events, issues, and problems by reading the *New York Times* on a daily (Monday - Friday) basis. You may either read the *New York Times* at the library or on the World Wide Web (<http://www.nytimes.com>).

Other ways to keep up with current events are to:

- Read other national daily newspapers such as the *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Wall Street Journal*, as well as international papers such as the *London Times*, *Guardian*, and *Le Monde* or compilations of international news such as <http://worldpress.org/>.
- Read weekly news magazines such as *The Economist*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *US News and World Report*.
- Listen to National Public Radio programs such as "Morning Edition," BBC World Service," and "All Things Considered" on KUFM 89.1 (for schedule, go to <http://www.mtpr.net/>).
- Watch national nightly and weekly television news programs. On PBS, these include "The News Hour," "NOW," and "Frontline," which are available on both KUFM Channel 11 (<http://www.montanapbs.org/>) and KSPS Channel 32 (<http://ksps.org/>). The ABC, CBS, and NBC evening news, as well as ABC's "Nightline," can also be helpful.

Whenever possible, I encourage you to consult these and other additional sources. Please note, however, that they will not substitute for daily reading of the *New York Times*, which is the best single source for in-depth international coverage and a wide range of opinion, and upon which current event questions on the midterm and final will be based.

Course Requirements

You are expected to attend class regularly and complete all of the assigned reading, including the previous day's *New York Times*, before each class. Your grade in the class will be determined as follows:

- 25% research paper (due at the beginning of class on Monday, June 5)
- 35% midterm (Monday, June 12, in class)
- 40% final (Thursday, June 22, in class)

In the research paper, you will analyze a current international conflict in terms of the various levels of analysis and theories of international politics discussed in class. Papers must be typewritten, double-spaced, and between 3-5 pages. They must cite at least three articles from approved newspaper or magazine sources. Papers will be graded on the extent to which they fulfill the assignment and the accuracy, clarity, and thoughtfulness with which they are written. The paper assignment will be distributed in class.

The midterm and final will test your understanding of and ability to analyze material from the books, lectures, and *New York Times*. They will consist of multiple choice questions, short answers, and essay questions. Be prepared to recall what you have learned and to write clear, thoughtful, and well-supported answers to challenging questions.

Make-Up Policy

Make-up exams will be scheduled only for students directly involved in extreme, documented emergencies. Late papers will only be accepted in such situations as well. If you find yourself in the midst of an emergency, it is your responsibility to notify me as soon as possible (in advance of the exam or due-date if possible) that you will be unable to attend the scheduled exam or submit the paper on time. To do so, send me an email explaining the circumstances of your emergency and giving me a way to contact you. I reserve the right to deny petitions for make-up work, and to administer makeup assignments substantially different from those of the scheduled exams and papers.

Note: Since I accept make-up work only in the event of extreme, documented emergencies, if you miss an exam or fail to submit your paper for any other reason you will receive a 0 for the assignment. This will put you at risk of failing the course.

Grading

The plus/minus grading system will be used. Grades may be curved, but the following distribution is the lowest I will use (*i.e.*, if you earn 92% of all possible points you are assured of an A in the course):

92-100	A	82-87	B	72-77	C	62-67	D
90-91	A-	80-81	B-	70-71	C-	60-61	D-
88-89	B+	78-79	C+	68-69	D+	0-59	F

Course Communications

Throughout the course, I will communicate with you by email and by posting announcements and materials on the Blackboard website. To ensure that you receive my emails, you should either check your UM email account on a regular (preferably daily) basis or have email from there forwarded to an account you do check regularly. For Blackboard instructions and information on forwarding your email, consult the handout, "Using Blackboard & Forwarding Email."

Study Tips

1. *Do the assigned reading (including previous day's NYT) before the class in which it will be discussed.*
 - a. As you read, highlight and/or take notes.
 - b. After you read, answer the "Thinking Critically" and "Let's Debate" questions in the textbook, and quiz yourself on key terms.
 - c. Write down any questions you have and bring them to class or office hours.

2. *Attend lectures.*
 - a. Take notes. Use the outlines I provide to help you organize the notes you take in class.
(Because the outlines simply list topics in the order they will be discussed, they will not substitute for your own note taking.)
 - b. Ask questions.
 - c. Participate in classroom discussions.

3. *Review your reading and lecture notes and integrate them by revisiting your answers to the "Thinking Critically" and "Let's Debate" questions and mulling over the additional questions raised in class. (You will be tested on both readings and lectures.)*

4. *Prepare for the midterm and final by practicing writing short answer and essay questions.*
 - a. Short answer questions will ask you to define and give an example of a term, define and explain the significance of a term, compare and contrast two terms, or something of that nature. 1-2 paragraphs should suffice. You will have 10-15 minutes per question.

 - b. Essay questions will ask you to write an essay (with introduction, thesis statement, argument, evidence, and conclusion) in which you analyze an international political issue and compare and contrast your argument to the arguments of other scholars. You will have 30-45 minutes per essay.

5. *Start thinking about your research paper now.*

6. *Ask questions in class or during office hours.*

Course Outline and Schedule

Readings marked GI are in the Global Issues book. Those marked with an asterisk (*) are online. To access the online readings, go to the UM library homepage (<http://www.lib.umt.edu/>), click on "Journals," type in the name of the newspaper or journal, select the electronic index that contains the issue in which the article appeared, and search for the article using the title and/or author's name.

I. International Politics: The Basics (5/22-5/23)

Goldstein, Chapter 1, pp. 3-53.

II. Theoretical Perspectives on International Politics

A. Realism (5/22-5/23)

Goldstein, Chapter 2, pp. 55-99.

*Benjamin Schwartz and Christopher Layne, "A New Grand Strategy," *The Atlantic Monthly*, January 2002, available through Academic Search Premier (7 pp).

B. Liberalism (5/24)

Goldstein, pp. 101-111.

Johan Norberg, "Three Cheers for Global Capitalism," in GI, pp. 52-60.

Walter Russell Mead, "America's Sticky Power," in GI, pp. 8-10.

Kofi Annan, "Strategies for World Peace," in GI, pp. 161-163.

C. Marxism and Dependency Theory (5/25)

Goldstein, pp. 459-478.

James M. Cypher, "Is Chile a Neoliberal Success?," in GI, pp. 92-96.

James S. Henry, "Where the Money Went," in GI, pp. 80-84.

D. Feminism, Constructivism, and Peace Studies (5/25)

Goldstein, pp. 112-141.

Swanee Hunt and Cristina Posa, "Women Waging Peace," in GI, pp. 201-206.

III. Foreign Policy (5/30-5/31)

Goldstein, Chapter 4, pp. 143-169.

Elizabeth Economy, "Changing Course on China," in GI, pp. 146-151.

IV. International Security

A. Causes of International Conflict (6/1)

Goldstein, Chapter 5, pp. 171-211.

Robert Bauer, "The Fall of the House of Saud," in GI, pp. 97-105.

Andrew C. McCarthy, "The Great War on Militant Islam," in GI, pp. 141-145.

Mark Juergensmeyer, "Holy Orders," in GI, pp. 18-21.

Henry Munson, "Lifting the Veil," in GI, pp. 138-140.

*****PAPER DUE at the beginning of class on Monday, June 5*****

B. The Use of Force in International Conflicts

1. Decisions States Must Make About Military Force (6/5-6/6)

Goldstein, Chapter 6, pp. 213-253.

*Marcus Corbin *et al.*, "A Unified Security Budget for the United States, 2006," available at <http://www.fpif.org/papers/0505usb.html>. Read the Executive Summary and Introduction, and skim the rest.

2. Nuclear Weapons (6/5-6/6)

Bill Keller, "Nuclear Nightmares," in GI, pp. 128-137.

*Kenneth N. Waltz, "Peace, Stability, and Nuclear Weapons," available at <http://repositories.cdlib.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1055&context=igcc>, pp. 1-14.

Victor D. Cha and David C. Kang, "The Korea Crisis," in GI, pp. 152-156.

Graham Allison and Andrei Kokoshin, "The New Containment," in GI, pp. 176-181.

C. Alternatives to International Conflict

1. International Organizations (6/7)

Goldstein, pp. 255-277 and 297-299.

Review Kofi Annan, "Strategies for World Peace," in GI, pp. 158-160.

2. International Law (6/8)

Goldstein, pp. 277-296.

Shashi Tharoor, "Are Human Rights Universal?," in GI, pp. 186-189.

*Marlise Simons, "Sudan Poses First Big Trial for World Criminal Court," *New York Times*, April 29, 2005, available through Lexis Nexis.

3. Midterm Review (6/8)

*****MIDTERM EXAMINATION, in class on Friday, June 12*****

V. International Political Economy

A. International Trade (6/13)

Goldstein, Chapter 8, pp. 301-341.

Matthew Forney, "How Nike Figured Out China," in GI, pp. 112-114.

B. International Finance (6/14)

Goldstein, Chapter 9, pp. 342-379.

Michael Pettis, "Will Globalization Go Bankrupt?," in GI, pp. 67-71.

C. International Integration (6/15)

Goldstein, Chapter 10, pp. 381-414.

Richard Rosecrance, "Croesus and Caesar," in GI, pp. 77-79.

D. Environmental Issues (6/19)

Goldstein, pp. 417-457.

Bill McKibben, "A Special Moment in History," in GI, pp. 3-7.

Lester R. Brown, "Deflating the World's Bubble Economy," in GI, pp. 35-38.

Tom Knudson, "Shifting the Pain," in GI, pp. 39-40.

E. International Development (6/20)

Goldstein, pp. 478-542.

Muhammad Yunus, "The Grameen Bank," in GI, pp. 189-192.

Mahmood H. Butt, "India's Hype, Hope, and Hazards," in GI, pp. 108-111.

VI. The Future of International Politics (6/21)

Goldstein, Chapter 14, pp. 545-547.

David Pearce Snyder, "Five Meta-Trends Changing the World," in GI, pp. 13-17.

Richard Florida, "America's Looming Creativity Crisis," in GI, pp. 193-200.

John Barkdull, "Why Environmental Ethics Matter to International Relations," in GI, pp. 211-215.

1. Final Review (6/21)

******FINAL EXAMINATION, in class on Friday, June 22******