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Spring 2018

POSC 232

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POSC 232: FUNDAMENTALS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Prof. Ed Fogarty
Spring 2018

Class: Tu./Th. 1:20 (A), 2:45 (B), 27 Persson
OH: Tu. 4–5pm; Wed. 1–4pm

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This course is an intensive introduction to the study of international politics—the enduring patterns in relations among states. It centers on two main themes:

1. What concepts and theories do we use to understand how international politics works?
2. How can we use these concepts and theories to think critically about past, present, and future issues in world politics?

The course begins with the conceptual foundations and major theoretical traditions in international relations (IR), including the historically dominant theory of realism and other theories that are all in their own way responding to it. The subsequent section of the course addresses questions of war and peace: the types and causes of international conflict—such as in the world wars, the Cold War, and, more recently, cyber warfare. Next comes a brief survey of international political economy and globalization. The final section covers transnational issues—including climate change, humanitarian intervention, and terrorism—that challenge states' capacity to cope as well as our basic assumptions about how international politics works.

The goals of the course are (1) to teach you the core concepts used to describe IR, and (2) to get you to *think critically* about different explanations for what happens in IR.

Course format. Our two weekly meetings will generally be lectures with some discussion.

Course requirements include attending and actively participating in class meetings, reading assigned materials, and completing all class assignments.

Readings include one assigned book—Robert Art and Robert Jervis, eds. *International Politics*, 13th ed.—as well as articles and other materials I've put on the course's Moodle site. The Art & Jervis book is available for purchase at the bookstore and on two-hour reserve at library.

I also expect you to keep up with current events in international politics. Good sources for international news include BBC News, NPR, the *Economist*, *Financial Times*, *New York Times*, and *Wall Street Journal*. I often post topical news articles on Moodle, which you should read before the appropriate class.

Grades will be based on the following:

- Quiz: 5%
- Midterm essays (x2): 45%
- Final exam: 30%
- Class participation: 20%

Effective participation involves not only coming to class ready to discuss readings and lecture materials—attendance is mandatory and repeated absences will hurt your grade—but also:

- Completion of three response papers
- Participation in the three class debates

Details on each of the above items will follow later in the semester; for now you should just make note of when assignments and exams occur.

Additional logistics

Enrollment. The class is full. Students seeking to add should monitor enrollment online.

General policies

- Be here on time. Turn off your phone.
- I generally communicate via email. I try to respond to all messages within 24 hours—and expect you to do the same.
- If you miss class—for reasons legitimate or otherwise—it is your responsibility to get the notes and assignments from a classmate.
- I don't give extensions on papers or other assignments.
- I have a zero-tolerance policy toward academic dishonesty.

NB: It's YOUR responsibility to properly observe course rules and meet course requirements. If something comes up that hinders your ability to do so, contact me right away. The earlier you deal with things, the kinder I'll be.

* Reading available on Moodle

INTRODUCTION

Jan. 22: Introduction

Jan. 23 – Feb. 1: Foundations of IR: concepts, levels of analysis, and theory

Week 1

- Art & Jervis, pp. 1-9
- *Carr, *The Twenty Years' Crisis, 1919-1939*, chapters 1 & 2
- *Haass, "How to respond to a disordered world"

Week 2

- *Spanier & Wentzel, "Levels of analysis"
- Kang, "Hierarchy and hegemony in international politics," in Art & Jervis
- Nye, "What is power in global affairs?" in Art & Jervis
- *Walt, "International relations: one world, many theories"
- *Orwell, "Politics and the English language"

QUIZ ON THURSDAY, FEB. 1

THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Feb. 6–8: Realism

- Thucydides, “The Melian dialogue,” in Art & Jervis
- Morgenthau, “Six principles of political realism,” in Art & Jervis
- Waltz, “The anarchic structure of world politics,” in Art & Jervis
- *Mearsheimer, “Anarchy and the struggle for power”

Feb. 13–15: Liberalism

- Keohane, “International institutions: Can interdependence work?” in Art & Jervis
- Schelling, “Game theory: a practitioner’s approach,” in Art & Jervis
- Doyle, “Kant, liberal legacies, and foreign affairs,” in Art & Jervis

Feb. 20 – 22: Constructivism

- Wendt, “Anarchy is what states make of it,” in Art & Jervis
- Hurd, “Legitimacy in international politics,” in Art & Jervis
- *Finnemore & Sikkink, “International norm dynamics and political change”

MIDTERM ESSAY #1 DUE FRIDAY, FEB. 23 AT 5PM

Feb. 27: Anarchy, institutions, and cooperation

- *Mearsheimer, “The false promise of international institutions”
- *Keohane & Martin, “The promise of institutionalist theory”
- *Wendt, “Constructing international politics”

Mar. 1: DEBATE—ANARCHY, INSTITUTIONS, AND COOPERATION

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mar. 6–8: War, coercion, and international stability

- Schelling, “The diplomacy of violence,” in Art & Jervis
- Jervis, “Offense, defense, and the security dilemma,” in Art & Jervis
- *Waltz, “Why Iran should get the bomb”
- Sokolski, “Our not-so-peaceful nuclear future,” in Art & Jervis

Mar. 13–15: SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS

Mar. 20: The balance of power, alliances, and collective security

- Walt, “Alliances: balancing and bandwagoning,” in Art & Jervis
- *Bull, *The Anarchical Society*, pp. 97-107
- *Kupchan and Kupchan, “The promise of collective security”

Mar. 22: Asymmetric coercion and manipulation

- World Bank, “The shape of violence today,” in Art & Jervis
- Hoffman, “What is terrorism,” in Art & Jervis
- Lin, “Cyber conflict and national security,” in Art & Jervis
- *Ruttenberg, “RT, Sputnik, and Russia’s new theory of war”

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Mar. 27 & 29: IPE theory: mercantilism, liberalism, and Marxism

- Gilpin, “The nature of political economy,” in Art & Jervis
- *Rosecrance, *The Rise of the Trading State*, chapter 7
- *Wallerstein, “The rise and future demise of the world capitalist system”

Apr. 3: The origins and challenges of globalization

- *Kindleberger, *The World in Depression, 1929-39*, chapter 14
- Naím, “What globalization is and is not,” in Art & Jervis
- Brynjolfsson et al., “Labor, capital, and ideas in the power economy,” in Art & Jervis

MIDTERM PAPER DUE ON FRIDAY, APR. 6 AT 5PM

Apr. 5: Development and North-South relations

- *Krasner, *Structural Conflict*, chapter 1
- *Marber, “Globalization and its contents”

NB: THIS CLASS WILL BE RESCHEDULED

Apr. 10: DEBATE—GLOBALIZATION AND NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS

EMERGING ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Apr. 12–17: Challenges to the state—nonstate actors and transnational networks

- *Strange, “States, firms, and diplomacy”
- Keck & Sikkink, “Transnational activist networks,” in Art & Jervis
- *Wood, “What ISIS really wants”

Apr. 19: The world politics of energy and environmental resources

- Hardin, “The tragedy of the commons,” in Art & Jervis
- *Victor, “International cooperation on climate change”
- *Victor & Yanosek, “The next energy revolution”

Apr. 24: Human rights and humanitarian intervention

- Howard and Donnelly, “Human rights in world politics,” in Art & Jervis
- *Glanville, “The antecedents of ‘sovereignty as responsibility’”
- Annan, “Civil wars, regime change, and humanitarian intervention,” in Art & Jervis

Apr. 26: DEBATE—NEW ISSUES IN WORLD POLITICS

May 1–3: The changing distribution of power and an uncertain future

- *Brooks & Wohlforth, “The rise and fall of the great powers in the 21st century”
- *Colgan & Keohane, “The liberal order is rigged”
- *Wendt, “Why a world state is inevitable”

FINAL EXAM

1:20 (A) SECTION: TUESDAY, MAY 8, 9–11AM

2:45 (B) SECTION: MONDAY, MAY 7, 3–5PM