

# Political Science 3

## Introduction to International Relations

*Winter 2015*

Instructor: Timothy Taylor  
Schedule: MW 2:10-4:00pm  
Location: Olson 207  
Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00pm-2:00pm, and by appointment  
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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

When politicians make speeches and provide recommendations regarding American foreign policy, what tools should we use to evaluate those arguments? When we read the news, what should we look for to better understand the current and potential behavior of states and other actors in the international system? What motivates countries to engage in conflict and cooperation with other states?

The primary purpose of this course is to help students understand the challenges and opportunities that states face in the international system. The study of international relations concerns itself with major political, military, economic, and cultural factors that affect interactions among states and other international actors. As an introduction to the study of international relations, this course will encompass a myriad of topics such as war, terrorism, WMDs, and genocide, as well as cooperation, international organizations, human rights, and the environment.

Many of you may have the opportunities to shape policy either through your careers or through your vote. The more aware and informed you are about problems the world faces, the more you may be able to promote policies that decrease conflict and encourage cooperation and development. This course is aimed at improving students' substantive knowledge of international relations as well as providing necessary tools and historical background to think critically and analytically about states international interactions.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Identify and distinguish between main theories in international relations.
2. Evaluate the usefulness and validity of different IR theories in light of historical and current events.
3. Explain the causes and consequences of international conflict.
4. Understand the effects of interdependence upon states' behavior.
5. Critique and devise policy solutions to current or hypothetical problems in international relations.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### Required:

1. Mingst, Karen A. and Ivan M. Arrenguín-Toft. (2014) *Essentials of International Relations, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*. New York: WW Norton Company. [M&AT]
2. Additional required readings
  - Some weeks feature additional readings with relevance for the topics under discussion. Most of these readings will be available through the library's electronic journals; others will be posted to the course site on *SmartSite*.
3. *Statecraft* Simulation Account
  - The subscription cost of the simulation is \$35. You will need sign up and pay at [www.statecraftsim.com](http://www.statecraftsim.com) before *January 19*. To sign up click "Create Account" and follow the directions provided. The unique code for this course is "TaylorWinter2015". If you have questions about the simulation, use the "contact us" button on the website.

### Recommended:

1. Stiles, Kendall. (2013) *Case Histories in International Politics, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*. New Jersey: Person Education.
2. Newspapers (available online and through the UC Davis Library)
  - *New York Times*
  - *BBC*
  - *The Economist*
  - *Wall Street Journal*
  - *Council on Foreign Relations*
  - *Al Jazeera*
  - *Foreign Affairs*

## ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Term paper            | 25% |
| 2. Midterm exam (Feb. 4) | 30% |
| 3. Final exam (March 18) | 30% |
| 4. Participation         | 10% |
| 5. Short response essays | 5%  |

### *Grading Scale*

A	94 - 100%	C	74 - 76.99%
A-	90 - 93.99%	C-	70 - 73.99%
B+	87 - 89.99%	D+	67 - 69.99%
B	84 - 86.99%	D	63 - 66.99%
B-	80 - 83.99%	D-	60 - 62.99%
C+	77 - 79.99%	F	59.99% and below

### *Term Paper*

- The paper is a research-based paper of 6 to 8 pages (one inch margins, double spaced). You will be assigned one ongoing events (listed below) and asked to analyze this topic from the three main IR perspectives. Students must use reliable news and academic sources to complete the assignment. Each of the three topics has a unique due date. Students may select their preferences for assigned topics in class on **January 12**, students not present will be automatically assigned a paper topic. Further guidelines will be provided during the course.
  - Topic #1: Kashmir: India-Pakistan *due February 11*
  - Topic #2: Korean Peninsula *due February 18*
  - Topic #3: Ukraine: Russia-Europe *due February 25*

### *Exams*

- Each exam will be administered in our regular class location. The midterm will be conducted during regular class time on February 4. The final exam will take place on March 18 from 8:00am - 10:00am. Students must bring a blue book to each exam.

### *Short Response Essays*

- There will be 2-3 short papers assigned in the course. Each paper will not exceed two typed pages.

### *Participation*

- Participation grades will be worth a total of 100 points (weighted at 10% of course grade). This grade is determined by two components: 1) preparation/performance in the simulation, and 2) participation in discussions and simulation time. Grades are outlined below:

#### **1. Statecraft simulation: 70 points**

- *Simulation Setup Quizzes*: 30 points
  - 2 quizzes worth 15 points each
- *Simulation Performance*: 40 points possible (plus extra credit)
  - 0-5 performance: 0 points
  - 6-10 performance: 8 points
  - 11-14 performance: 16 points
  - 15-17 performance: 25 points
  - 18-23 performance: 30 points
  - 24-29 performance: 35 points
  - 30-35 performance: 40 points
  - 36-40 performance: 40 points, plus 1% course extra credit
  - 41-45 performance: 40 points, plus 2% course extra credit
  - > 45 performance: 40 points, plus 3% course extra credit

#### **2. Active attendance: 30 points**

- *Attendance*: 20 points
- *Discussion*: 10 points
  - Participating in lecture and the discussion activities. This includes asking/answering questions, and participating in your country group.

## COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES

1. Prepare for and attend the lectures and discussions. This includes reading and thinking about the material so that you can come to class ready to engage with the material. All material presented in class meetings and in the text will be fair game for the exams.
2. Students are responsible for all announcements made in class.
3. Participate in class discussions. Please ask questions and make comments!
4. Students are encouraged to challenge ideas discussed in class. In all discussions, everyone must provide his or her fellow students with full respect and courtesy.
5. Cheating and plagiarism will be punished to the fullest extent. See UCD's "Meaning and Prevention of Plagiarism" (<http://cai.ucdavis.edu/plagiarism.html>)
6. All lectures, handouts, assignments, and exams may not be published on the internet or in another other manner without the instructor's permission.
7. Be professional. Unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated (e.g. arriving late and leaving early, talking/texting on cell phones, distracting internet browsing, side conversations). If you have to leave early or arrive late, please email me in advance to inform of the event.

### Late Policy:

- All assignments are to be printed, stapled, and submitted at the beginning of class (2:10pm). All late submissions will be docked 5 percentage points and will be deducted an additional 5 percent for each business day they are late. Late assignments must be submitted to the **Main Office** of the Department of Political Science in Kerr 469.

### Re-grading Policy:

- If you want to request a re-grade for a paper or exam, you must submit your request in writing within one week of receiving the assignment back. All requests must include an explanation outlining why you think your answer/paper deserved a higher grade. If no such request is made within the allotted time, your grade will be considered final. Re-grading is done as a whole and assignments may be readjusted at a higher or lower grade.

### Incompletes:

- The grade incomplete shall be assigned only when the student's work is of passing quality and the student has completed all work up to the time of the final exam. Moreover, provided that these other requirements are fulfilled, an incomplete will only be given in cases of medical or family emergency.

### Exam Dates:

- You must be available these dates:
  - **February 4 - Midterm exam**
  - **March 18 - Final exam**

## TOPICS AND COURSE SCHEDULE

Note: *I recommend **skimming** the reading before its assigned date and then fully reading after lecture dates.*

### Week 1: An Introduction to IR

**January 5:** Introduction, Overview, and Components

- M&AT: p2-17; p77-79; p131-136

**January 7:** Geographical and Historical Context

- M&AT: p19-70

### Week 2: Competing Perspectives of IR

**January 12:** Theory and realism

- M&AT: p73-86; p107-116
- Thucydides. (431 BC). "The Melian Dialogue." *History of the Peloponnesian War*. <https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/melian.htm>
- Statecraft simulation manual: p1-26
- **Paper topics due**

**January 14:** Liberalism and Social Theories

- M&AT: p86-105; p116-129
- Statecraft simulation manual: p27-45
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 11

### Week 3: Conflict and Security

**January 19:** MLK Day (*NO CLASS*)

- Walt, Stephen M. 1998. "International Relations: One World, Many Theories." *Foreign Policy* 110: 29-32.
- **Deadline to sign up for Statecraft student account**

**January 21:** Causes and Types of War

- M&AT: p249-283
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 5
- *Turn 0 of Statecraft begins*

### Week 4: Conflict and Security (continued)

**January 26:** Managing and Preventing Conflict

- M&AT: p283-303
- Keir, Lieber and Darryl Press. 2006. "The Rise of U.S. Nuclear Primacy." *Foreign Affairs*.
- *Turn 1 of Statecraft begins*

**January 28:** Foreign Policy

- M&AT: p140-162
- *Recommended:* Allison, Graham. (1969) "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." *American Political Science Review* 63(3): 689-718.
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 1

**Week 5: Midterm**

**February 2:** Midterm Review

- Email questions no later than 12 hours before class.
- *Turn 2 of Statecraft begins*

**February 4: MIDTERM EXAM**

**Week 6: Cooperation and IGOs**

**February 9:** International Cooperation and the Prisoner's Dilemma

- M&AT: p88-90
- Jervis, Robert. 1978. "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics* 30(2).
- *Turn 3 of Statecraft begins*

**February 11:** Institutions and International Law

- M&AT: p203-246
- "Episode 224: The Cotton Wars." *NPR Planet Money*. 2013. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/money/2013/05/03/180912847/episode-224-the-cotton-wars>
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 19
- *Paper Topic #1 Due at beginning of class*

**Week 7: International Political Economy**

**February 16:** Presidents Day (*NO CLASS*)

- M&AT: p177-201
- *Round 4 of Statecraft begins*

**February 18:** Trade Policy and Interdependence

- M&AT: p305-320; p331-340
- Asimov, Isaac *The Foundation*. Part V. [to be posted to *SmartSite*]
- Recommended: "Episode 320: How Fear Turned a Surplus into a Shortage." *NPR Planet Money*. 2013. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/money/2013/01/22/169708534/episode-320-how-fear-turned-a-surplus-into-scarcity>
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 13
- *Paper Topic #2 due at beginning of class*

## **Week 8: International Political Economy (continued)**

### **February 23:** Exchange Rates and the 2008 Financial Crisis

- M&AT: p340-348
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 17
- *Round 5 of Statecraft begins*

### **February 25:** Foreign Aid, Development and Inequality

- M&AT: p320-331
- Dollar, David and Aart Kraay. 2002. "Spreading the Wealth." *Foreign Affairs* 81(1)
- Dollar and Kraay Reply *Foreign Affairs* 81(4): 182-183. [to be posted on *SmartSite*]
- *Paper Topic #3 due at beginning of class*

## **Week 9: Sovereignty and its Effects**

### **March 2:** Transnational Issues

- M&AT: p229-233; p242-245; p385-429
- "Ecuador to World: Pay Up To Save the Rainforest. World to Ecuador: Meh." *NPR Planet Money*. 2013. <http://www.npr.org/blogs/money/2013/09/02/216878935/ecuador-to-world-pay-up-to-save-the-rainforest-world-to-ecuador-meh>
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 12
- *Round 6 of Statecraft begins*

### **March 4:** Sovereignty and Human Rights

- M&AT: p351-382
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 20

## **Week 10: Genocide and Problems for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

### **March 9:** Genocide and Intervention

- Valentino, Benjamin. 2000. "Final Solutions: The Causes of Mass Killing and Genocide." *Security Studies* 9(3): 1-59.
- Recommended: Finnemore, Martha. "Constructing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention" [posted on course *SmartSite*]
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 6
- *Round 7 of Statecraft begins*

### **March 11:** Terrorism, WMDs, and Cyber Warfare

- M&AT: p271-273; p278-283
- Huntington, Samuel. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72(3): 22-49.
- "What Does Its Chosen Banner Say About ISIS?" *NPR All Things Considered*. 2014. <http://www.npr.org/2014/11/22/365993105/what-does-its-chosen-banner-says-about-isis>

- "ISIS and the Corporatization of Terrorism." *NPR All Things Considered*. 2014. <http://www.npr.org/2014/11/29/367424785/isis-and-the-corporatization-of-terrorism>
- "An In-Depth Look at the U.S. Cyber War, the Military Alliance and its Pitfalls." *NPR All Things Considered*. 2014. <http://www.npr.org/2014/11/17/364718523/an-in-depth-look-at-the-u-s-cyber-war-the-military-alliance-and-its-pitfalls>
- Recommended: Clark, Benjamin, Nicholas Zingale, Joseph Logan, and Jeffrey Brudney. 2013. "A Framework for using Crowdsourcing in Government."
- Recommended: Stiles, Chapter 7
- ***Statecraft ends March 14 at 11:45pm***

**March 16:** Statecraft Debriefing and Final Exam Review

- Email questions no later than 12 hours before class.

## **Exam Week**

**March 18:** FINAL EXAM

- Olson 207, 8am - 10am