

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
V1601.001 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Fall 2013 Course Syllabus

M, W 10:10-11:25 a.m.
Schermerhorn 501

Professor Tonya Putnam
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Office Hours: W 2:15-4:15pm

Course Objective: This course offers an introductory survey of major topics and approaches to the study of, international relations. The readings explore how scholars have engaged important questions such as: How do the dynamics of international politics affect the development prospects and strategies of poorer states? And why do countries sometimes go to war with one another to resolve their differences? The last unit of the course applies the theories and concepts explored in the first three units to two current challenges—international terrorism and global climate change.

Requirements: Course grades will be based on (1) one ‘in class’ midterm examination (25%); (2) one ~1500 word policy discussion paper based on critical analysis of course readings (20%); (3) a final examination (40%), and (4) participation in weekly discussion sections (15%). The final examination will have an ‘in class’ component that will be administered on the last day of class (Monday, December 9) and a take-home essay portion that will be distributed on December 9 and will be due the following Monday, December 16 at 9 am.

PLEASE NOTE: it is a firm policy that no late assignments will be accepted without official documentation of a medical or family emergency.

Materials: The following texts are required and can be purchased at Book Culture on 112th Street:

- *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions* (Second Edition) Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schulz, W.W. Norton & Company (2013) [FLS on the reading list]
- *Essential Readings in World Politics*, 4th Ed. (Mingst & Snyder, eds.), W.W. Norton & Company (2011) [MSR on the reading list]

Columbia’s representative at W.W. Norton has kindly arranged for members of this class to get *Essential Readings in World Politics* (Third Edition) free with the purchase *World Politics* (Second Edition). The two books are bundled under a single ISBN at Book Culture.

All other readings will be available on the Course Wiki through links or for downloading in PDF format. Anyone who is registered for the course can access the Course Wiki through the following weblink: <http://polsv1601-001-2013-3.wikispaces.columbia.edu>. The Course Wiki also contains the syllabus, the course policies presented above, and office hours and contact information for me and for the course TAs.

TOPICS and READINGS

Part I: Basic Concepts

September 4: *What is Distinctive About International Politics?*

- Thucydides. “The Melian Dialogue”, *MSR*, pp. 10-11
- Hedley Bull. “Does Order Exist in World Politics”, *MSR* pp. 105-109

September 9: ‘Isle of Bob’ Exercise

- FLS, Chapter 1, pp. 2-37

September 11: *The Concept of ‘Anarchy’ and Its Importance*

- Hans Morgenthau, “The Balance of Power”, *MSR* pp. 26-30
- John Mearsheimer, “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power” *MSR* pp. 31-49
- Alexander Wendt, “Anarchy is What States Make of It”, *MSR*, pp. 64-88

September 16: *Overcoming Anarchy*

- FLS, Chapter 2, pp. 38-79
- Robert Jervis, “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma”, *MSR* pp. 335-348

Part II: War and Deadly Conflict

September 18: *War—What Is It Good For?*

- Carl Von Clausewitz, “War as an Instrument of Policy” *MSR* pp. 322-324
- FLS, Chapter 3, pp. 80-93
- Greg Cashman. 1993. “Empirical Theory and the Causes of War” in *What Causes War?* pp. 1-13

September 23: *What Causes War?*

- FLS, Chapter 3, pp. 93-123
- James D. Fearon, “Rationalist Explanations for War” *MSR* pp. 349-374
- Dominic Johnston and Dominic Tierney. 2011. “The Rubicon Theory of War: How the Path to Conflict Reaches the Point of No Return” *International Security* 36:1, pp. 7-24

September 25: *Domestic Politics and War*

- FLS, Chapter 4, pp. 124-167
- Erik Gartzke. “Capitalist Peace or Democratic Peace?” in Karen Mingst and Jack Snyder (eds.) *Essential Readings in World Politics* (5th Edition) Norton Publishers, pp. 535-539

September 30: *International Institutions and War*

- FLS, Chapter 5, pp. 168-213
- Henry Farrell. 2010. “Good Writing in Political Science: An Undergraduate Student’s Short Illustrated Primer”, pp. 1-7

October 2: *Individuals and Leadership*

- Dominic Johnston and Dominic Tierney. 2011. “The Rubicon Theory of War: How the Path to Conflict Reaches the Point of No Return” *International Security* 36:1, pp. 24-40
- Karen Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft, 2013. *Essentials of International Relations*, Chapter 6, pp. 176-200

October 7: *Case Study—Japan’s Decision to Enter World War II*

- Frank McDonough. 1997. “From Peace to Global War, 1933-41”, *The Origins of the First and Second World Wars*, Chapter 4, pp. 69-89
- Scott D. Sagan. 1988. “Origins of the Pacific War” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 18 (Spring) pp. 893-922

October 9: *Nuclear Proliferation, Deterrence, and the Risk of War* [Essay Option #1]

- FLS, Chapter 14, pp. 538-547
- Stephen Peter Rosen, “After Proliferation: What to Do If More States Go Nuclear” *Foreign Affairs*, 85 (September/October 2006) 9-14
- Barry R. Posen, “A Nuclear Armed Iran: A Difficult but Not Impossible Policy Problem” *MSR*, 375-389
- Richard K. Betts. 2013. “The Lost Logic of Deterrence: What the Strategy that Won the Cold War Can—and Can’t—Do Now” *Foreign Affairs* (May/June), pp. 87-9

October 14: *Failed States and Internal Conflicts*

- FLS, Chapter 6, pp. 219-241
- The Failed State Index 2012, http://www.foreignpolicy.com/failed_states_index_2012_interactive
- Barry R. Posen, “The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict” in *Essential Readings in World Politics*, 3rd Ed. (Mingst & Snyder, eds.), 2008, W.W. Norton & Company, pp. 388-397
- Marc Lynch. 2011. “After Egypt: The Limits and Promise of Online Challenges to the Authoritarian Arab State” *Perspectives on Politics* 9:2, pp. 302-310

October 16: *The Promise and Pitfalls of International Humanitarian Intervention* [Essay option #2]

- Richard K. Betts, “The Delusion of Impartial Intervention” *Foreign Affairs*, (November/December 1994), pp. 20-33
- Samantha Power. “Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen” *MSR* pp. 319-339

- Stewart M. Patrick. June 2013. “Does Syria Mean the End of the Responsibility to Protect?” *The Atlantic* (online) <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2013/06/does-syria-mean-the-end-of-the-responsibility-to-protect/276866/>

October 21: *The Unipolar Moment—and Its Demise?*

- G. John Ikenberry, Michael Mastanduno, and William C. Wolfarth. “Unipolarity, State Behavior, and Systemic Consequences” *MSR* pp. 110-129
- Randall P. Schweller and Xiaoyu Pu. “After Unipolarity: China’s Visions of International Order in an Era of U.S. Decline” in Karen Mingst and Jack Snyder (eds.) *Essential Readings in World Politics* (5th Edition) Norton Publishers, pp. 129-154
- FLS, Chapter 14, pp. 548-556

October 23: *International Law and Order?*

- FLS, Chapter 11, pp. 420-433
- Jack Snyder and Leslie Vinjamuri “Trials and Errors: Principles and Pragmatism in Transitional Justice” *MSR* pp. 596-615
- Ian Hurd. “Is Humanitarian Intervention Legal? The Rule of Law in an Incoherent World” in Karen Mingst and Jack Snyder (eds.) *Essential Readings in World Politics* (5th Edition) Norton Publishers, pp. 369-383

October 28: *** **IN CLASS MIDTERM EXAMINATION** ***

Part III: International Political Economy

October 30: *What Does Economics Have To Do With Politics—And Vice Versa?*

- Daniel W. Drezner and Kathleen R. McNamara. 2013. “International Political Economy, Global Financial Orders, and the Origins of the 2008 Financial Crisis” *Perspectives on Politics* 11:1, pp. 155-166
- Flores-Macias, Gustavo and Sarah Kreps. 2013. “The Foreign Policy Consequences of China’s Commercial Relations with Africa and Latin America” *Journal of Politics* 75:2, pp. 357-371

November 4: *University Holiday* (no class)

November 6: *International Trade*

- FLS, Chapter 7, pp. 264-311
- The Routes of Trade, World Trade Organization Video (10 minutes) http://wto.streamlogics.com/2009_09_03_Openday_e.wmv

November 11: *International Investment and Its Impacts*

- FLS, Chapter 8, pp. 312-349

November 13: *International Monetary Affairs*

- FLS, Chapter 9, pp. 350-385

November 18: *Case Studies—The IMF and World Bank in Action*

- Ngaire Woods. 2006. *The Globalizers: The IMF, the World Bank, and Their Borrowers*, (“The Mission in Mexico”) pp. 84-103, and (“Mission Unaccomplished in Africa”) pp. 141-178.

November 20: *A Failed International Agenda for the Poor?* [Essay Option #3]

- FLS, Chapter 10, pp. 386-419 and Chapter 14, pp. 557-567
- Dani Rodrik. 2001. “Trading in Illusions” *Foreign Affairs* 123, (March/April) 54-62
- John Micklethwait and Adrian Woodridge. 2001. “The Globalization Backlash” *Foreign Policy* 126, pp. 16-28

November 25: *Transnational Non-State Actors and Processes: The Good, Bad, and Ugly* [Essay Option #4]

- FLS, Chapter 11, pp. 434-451
- Moses Naim, “The Five Wars of Globalization” *MSR*, pp. 535-542
- Peter Andreas. 2013. “Gangsters’ Paradise: The Untold History of the United States and International Crime” *Foreign Affairs* (March), pp. 22-29

Part IV: Issues Fusing Security and Economics

November 27: *International Terrorism*

- FLS, Chapter 6, pp. 242-261
- Max Abrams, “Why Terrorism Does Not Work” *MSR*, 418-440
- Audrey Kurth Cronin. 2007. “Ending Terrorism” in Robert J. Art & Robert Jervis (eds.) *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* (Eleventh Edition), Pearson, pp. 402-415

December 2: *The International Politics of Climate Change Mitigation*

- FLS, Chapter 13, pp. 492-533
- Quirin Schiermeier. 2012. “Hot Air” *Nature* 491, pp. 656-658

December 4: *Climate Change, Natural Resource Scarcity, and Conflict*

- Alan Dupont. 2008. “The Strategic Implications of Climate Change” *Survival: The IISS Quarterly* 50:3 (June/July), pp. 31-47.
- Scott G. Bogerson “The Coming Arctic Boom: As the Ice Melts the Region Heats Up” *Foreign Affairs* (July/August 2013), pp. 76-89

December 9: *** *SHORT ANSWER PORTION OF FINAL EXAM* ***