POLI 4048: International Conflict and Cooperation
Fall 2015

Professor: Joe Clare
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Classroom: E131 Howe Russell
Course Hours: T/TH 10:30-Noon
Office Hours: T/TH 9:00-10:00 am
and by appointment

Course description
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major theoretical approaches in the systematic study of international conflict. The emphasis of this course is on theory, not current events. The semester begins with an introduction to the theoretical and methodological foundations of the international relations subfield, which includes an in-depth treatment of how to evaluate theoretical arguments. This introduction becomes the backdrop for our discussions of several relevant topics in the study of international conflict, such as the role of military power and alliances, the sources of threat credibility in deterrence and coercive bargaining, and other theories. We conclude the class with an examination of issues such as U.S. grand strategies, the problem of terrorism, the ethics of force, and peacekeeping and peacemaking. The goal is not only to familiarize you with the theoretical approaches to international conflict and cooperation, but also to develop the skills to analytically and critically approach the literature in this area.

Reading Materials
There is no required textbook for this course. The required readings are articles and book chapters that are available as PDF files available on Moodle.

Course Requirements and Grading Scheme
The final grade in this course will be based on three main components: (1) two in-class examinations, (2) Four in-class quizzes, and (3) class participation.

1. Two in-class midterm examinations (70% total; 35% each)

- The exams will be a combination of short-answer identification/definition questions and essay questions. Each exam will be worth a total of 35% of the student's final grade. Questions will be based on the student's comprehension of both the assigned reading materials and the class lectures.

2. Four in-class quizzes (20%)

- The quizzes are multiple choice and the questions will be based on the class readings and lectures. The dates of the quizzes are not announced, so if you know in advance that you will be missing a class for a university excusable reason, let me know early.

3. Class participation (10%)

- Class participation is based on active participation in class discussions. The students are expected to come to class having read the material and able to answer questions and/or engage in informed discussion. This can only be done if you conduct yourselves in a professional manner and are tolerant of other students' ideas, even if they directly contradict you own personal views.

The breakdown for final grades is as follows:

97-100% (A+);	93-96.9% (A);	90-92.9% (A-);
87-89.9% (B+);	83-86.9% (B);	80-82.9% (B-);
77-79.9% (C+);	73-76.9% (C);	70-72.9% (C-);
67-69.9% (D+);	63-66.9% (D);	60-62.9% (D-);
< 60% (F)		

Deadline Extensions and Make-Up Exams

Deadline extensions and make-up exams will not be granted except in properly documented situations of serious illness or major family emergency. The request needs to be made in a timely manner and not later than the second day after the missed deadline or exam. Otherwise, the extension/make-up will not be granted.

Electronic Communication

I encourage students to visit me during my office hours for any questions and inquiries. If the circumstances necessitate it, you can also e-mail me on weekdays. The project assignments must also be submitted initially through e-mail. Please adhere to the following courtesy policy for this course when e-mailing me: (1) use only your LSU e-mail address; (2) do address me properly in the message and sign it with your full name; (3) keep your message brief and, when submitting the project, provide the information about the project's topic and the files you are attaching; (4) do not forget to attach the project files and make sure to wait for my confirmation (see "Project" file on Moodle for further details). To protect the privacy of each student, please note that I do not provide any grade or similar personal information through e-mail or by phone, regardless of who is requesting it.

Plagiarism Statement

"Academic Misconduct" includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give an unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructors, providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or attempts to commit such an act. Students should be familiar with the definition of academic misconduct and the Code of Student Conduct: http://saa.lsu.edu/code-student-conduct. If a student is found to have committed an act of academic misconduct, s/he will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs and penalized appropriately.

Copyright Statement

Unless otherwise noted, the handouts used in this course are copyrighted. By "handouts," I mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, web pages, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because these are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless I expressly grant permission.

Students with Disabilities Policy
If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a Coordinator in the Office of Disability Services so that such accommodations may be arranged. After you receive your Accommodation Letters, please meet with someone in that office to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible. For additional information, check the Office of Disability Services Faculty Handbook.

Equal Opportunity Statement
LSU's PS 1 assures equal opportunity for all qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, marital status, sexual orientation, or veteran's status in admission to, participation in, and treatment or employment in the programs and activities that the University operates. *This policy statement applies equally to the teaching and learning environment within all university recognized courses, curriculum and co-curriculum programs*.

Course Schedule and Readings

PART I: THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

August 25
CLASS INTRODUCTION

August 27 – September 1
THEORY AND EVALUATING THEORY
Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 2003. *Principles of International Politics: Peoples Power, Preferences, and Perceptions*. Washington, DC: CQ Press.
— Read Chapter 2 (pp. 51-81).
Wagner, R. Harrison. 2001. "Who's Afraid of 'Rational Choice Theory'?" Typescript: University of Texas-Austin.
Zagare, Frank C. 1990. "Rationality and Deterrence." World Politics 42(2): 238-260.
—Read pp. 238-251.

PART II: THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT

September 3 - 8
(NEO)REALISM AND THE BALANCE OF POWER
Morgenthau, Hans Joachim. 2006. *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*. 7th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.
— Read Ch. 1: "A Realist Theory of International Politics".
Waltz, Kenneth. 1988. "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18 (4): 615-628.

September 10 - 15
ALLIANCES AND WAR
Snyder, Glenn H. 1984. "The Security Dilemma in Alliance Politics." *World Politics* 36 (4): 461-495.

September 17 - 22
POWER TRANSITION AND HEGEMONIC STABILITY
Blainey, Geoffrey. 1988. *The Causes of War.* New York: Free Press.
— Read Chapter 8: "The Abacus of Power"
Gilpin, Robert. 1981. *War and Change in World Politics*. Cambridge University Press.
—Read Chapter 5: "Hegemonic War and International Change"
Tammen, Ronald L. Et al. 2000. *Power Transitions: Strategies for the 21st Century.* New York: Chatham House.
— Read Chapter 1: "Power Transition Theory for the Twenty-First Century"

September 24 – October 1
CRISIS BARGAINING
Schelling, Thomas. 1966. *Arms and Influence*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
—Read Chapter 1: "The Diplomacy of Violence"

Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49 (Summer): 379-414.

October 6 - 13

STRATEGIC BARGAINING AND DETERRENCE

Schelling, Thomas. 1966. *Arms and Influence*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
—Read Chapter 2: "The Art of Commitment"

Danilovic, Vesna. 2002. *When the Stakes Are High: Deterrence and Conflict among Major Powers.* Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
—Read Chapter 1: "Introduction" and Chapter 3: "Deterrence and Conflict"

EXAM #1
Thursday, October 15

October 20 - 22

DOMESTIC POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT

Doyle, Michael W. 1986. "Liberalism and World Politics." American Political Science Review 80 (4): 1151-69.

Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations.* New York, NY: W.W. Norton.
—Read Chapters 1 and 2

October 27

GRAND STRATEGY

Posen, Barry R., and Andrew L. Ross. 1996/97. "Competing Visions for U.S. Grand Strategy." *International Security* 21 (3): 5-53.

Art, Robert J. 1998/99. "Geopolitics Updated: The Strategy of Selective Engagement." *International Security* 23 (3): 79-113.

Krauthammer, Charles. 2002/03. "The Unipolar Moment Revisited." *National Interest* 70 (Winter): 5-17.

October 29

NO CLASS: FALL HOLIDAY

November 3 - 5

TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM

Rapoport, David C. 2004. "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism." In Cronin, A. K. & Ludes, J. M. (eds.) *Attacking Terrorism: Elements of a Grand Strategy.* Washington, DC.: Georgetown University Press, Chapter 2 (pp. 46–73).

Cronin, Audrey Kurth. 2002/03. "Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism." *International Security* 27 (3): 30-58.

Mueller, John. 2006. "Is There Still a Terrorist Threat?" *Foreign Affairs* 85 (5): 2-8.

November 10 - 12

ETHICS AND FORCE

Skidelsky, Robert. 2004. "The Just War Tradition." *Prospect,* December 2004.

Myers, Robert J. 1996. "Notes on the Just War Theory: Whose Justice, Which Wars?" *Ethics & International Affairs* 10 (1): 115-130.

Crawford, Neta C. 2003. "Just War Theory and the U.S. Counterterror War." *Perspectives on Politics* 1 (1): 5-25.

November 17 - 19

PEACEKEEPING AND PEACEBUILDING

Goulding, Marrack. 1993. "The Evolution of United Nations Peacekeeping." *International Affairs* 69 (3): 451-464.

Stedman, Stephen John. 1997. "Spoiler Problems in Peace Processes." *International Security* 22 (2): 5-53.

Prunier, Gérard, 2006. "The Politics of Death in Darfur." *Current History* 105 (May): 195-202.

November 24 – December 1

NEW SOURCES OF CONFLICT?

Klare, Michael. 2001. "The New Geography of Conflict." *Foreign Affairs* 80(3): 49-61.

Busby, Joshua. 2008. "Who Cares About the Weather?: Climate Change and U.S. National Security." *Security Studies*17(3): 468-504

December 3

REVIEW SESSION

FINAL EXAM
Monday, December 7
10:00 - Noon

~ Have a Good Summer Break ~