



COURSE OVERVIEW

NATO intervention in Libya, Iran's nuclear weapon program, the Israeli Palestinian conflict, the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars, the European financial crisis, or the civil war in Syria – these are just a few of many reasons why everyone should care not only about what is going on in the world, but also how these events affect us. While it can be argued that the United States is currently the world's only super power, the country certainly is affected by events in other countries. With travel becoming cheaper and easier, globalization is on the rise, and technological innovations both connect and inform people of events occurring around the globe. Thus, the United States and people living in this country will feel the impact of other countries.

This course is designed to help students understand how international relations work in order to best explain how global phenomena affect everyday life: When does war occur? How can countries be secure from terrorist threats? What roles do international organizations and social movements play? Are human rights able to protect people from abusive governments? Will Iran acquire the nuclear weapon? What role should the United States play in managing global politics?

Overall, the goal of this course is an introduction to international relations: the relations between countries or external relationships of individual countries such as diplomacy, foreign policy or war and peace. This course is divided into two parts. The first part of this course will introduce the student to the main concepts and theories utilized in the field of international relations. Particularly, we will focus on realism, liberalism, and constructivism. The second part will apply these concepts and theories to current research topics as well as current events. We will discuss topics such as war, peace, national security, terrorism, human rights, international organizations, nuclear proliferation, and humanitarian interventions .

Contact Information: Malliga Och

Office: TBA

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10 - 11 am

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REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

John Baylis, Steve Smith, & Patricia Owens, **The Globalization of World Politics**, Oxford: Oxford University Press 2011

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

Students must complete all course requirements. Any assignment that is not completed will receive a grade of zero. Failure to complete all course requirements will therefore result in a failing grade for the course. Academic dishonesty on any exercise will result in a grade of zero for that assignment.

1. Participation and Attendance

A successful student-centered course requires that students contribute to the learning process in a meaningful way. Students are expected to attend class and actively engage in course activities. Students who make regular and thoughtful contributions to class discussions, display a willingness to help others work through course concepts, and/or with particularly sophisticated responses on the reflection papers can expect good participation grades. When deciding on your final grade, I will take your participation into account. Students may consult with the instructor at any time for an assessment of participation.

- I expect every student to come to class prepared. This means you have read the required chapters in the textbook AS WELL AS any additional readings on Canvas. I will call on students during class so be prepared to answer questions!
- I will accept *three excused absences*. Any more absences will negatively affect your attendance grade.
- You will start with an attendance grade of 100%. After three excused absences, *I will abstract 5% for each missed class or for each unexcused class*. Excused means that you emailed me BEFORE class with a reason why you cannot attend class.
- Attendance will be taken in every class. You must sign the attendance sheet. If you are late, you need to see me after class to add your name. Because being on time for important appointments (such as a class) is a valuable life skill, being late at three occasions will count as one absence.

2. Current Events Contribution

Every class during Part II of the quarter, I will ask you to bring a current events article to class that addresses the issue we are discussing in class. You will need to print that article, provide the source, and be prepared to discuss your article in class. I will call on people to do so. Each article submission is worth 4 point of a total of 20 points.

Acceptable news sources: New York Times, Foreign Policy Magazine, Herald Tribune, Foreign Affairs Magazine, the Economist, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, BBC, CNN, and Al Jazeera

I reserve the right to change the content of the syllabus at any time during the quarter.

3. Midterm

The Midterm Exam will cover all of the content studied up to the date of the exam. It will consist of multiple choice questions. I will provide a study guide. Make-up exams will only be given for valid excuses (approved university activities, documented illnesses), and only if you contact me before the exam. Please contact me in person or by email.

4. Final Exam

The Final Exam will cover the complete content of the course. It will consist of multiple choice and short answers. I will provide a study guide.

EXAM AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Every Class during Part II	Current Events Contribution
April 20th	Midterm Exam
TBA	Final Exam

GRADING POLICY

20%	Current Events Contribution
20%	Attendance
30%	Midterm
30%	Final Exam

Please do come see me, before and after class, during office hours or, if those do not work for you, at other times. Please do not hesitate to speak with me if you have questions or concerns.

CLASS SCHEDULE

March 21: Welcome and Overview of Course

March 23: Introduction to International Relations

Required Readings: Chapters 1-4

Part 1: Theories of International Relations

March 28: Realism

Required Readings: Chapter 6 and additional readings on Iran on Canvas

Application: Iranian Nuclear Crisis

March 30: Liberalism

Required Readings: Chapter 7 and EU booklet on Canvas, chapter 1-6 (browse rest)

Application: The European Union

April 4: Neorealism and Neoliberalism

Required Readings: Chapter 8, 'veto syria' article and familiarize yourself with Syrian Conflict <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-17258397>

Applied: Syria - the Role of the United Nations

April 6: Social Constructivism

Required Readings: Chapter 10

Applied: The End of the Cold War

Part 2: Key Concepts in International Relations

April 11: War - Causes and Transformation

Required Readings: Chapter 14 and Think Again - War (on Canvas)

Applied: The Rise of China - a war coming?

April 13: Peace

Required Readings: 'peace' chapter, democracy export (on Canvas)

Applied: Can Democracy be exported?

April 18: International Security

Required Readings: Chapter 15 and 29

Issue: Human Security

**** April 20: MIDTERM ****

April 25: The United Nations

Required Readings: Chapter 20

April 27: Transnational Actors and International Organizations

Required Readings: Chapter 21

On Our Watch (Movie on Rwandan Genocide)

Part 3: Issues in International Relations

May 2: Humanitarian Intervention

Required Readings: Chapter 31 and R2P short history (on Canvas)

Applied: Responsibility to Protect

May 4: Human Rights

Required Readings: Chapter 30 and Think Again Human Rights (on Canvas)

Applied: Are Women's Rights Human Rights?

May 09: Gender and International Relations I

Required Readings: Chapter 17

May 11: Gender and International Relations II

Applied: Half the Sky (documentary)

May 16: Nuclear Proliferation I

Applied: Countdown to Zero (Documentary and Class Discussion)

May 18: Nuclear Proliferation II

Required Readings: Chapter 24 and please familiarize yourself with the Global Zero Campaign: <http://www.globalzero.org/>

May 23: Terrorism

Required Readings: Chapter 23, My Drone War and 10 Things you did not know about drones (both on Canvas)

May 25: Final Exam Review

May 28 - June 2: Final Exam Week