Political Science 130, Purdue University  
Introduction to International Relations  
Spring 2015 10:30-11:45, BRNG 2280  

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Instructor and T.A. Office Hours  

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Clark BRNG2252</th>
<th>Lauterbach BRNG2247</th>
<th>Shim BRNG2245</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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If these times are not convenient for you, please ask for an appointment.

Please note: The syllabus is subject to change. Changes will not be frequent, but be aware that the most recent version of the syllabus will always be the version posted on Blackboard. The day of the most recent update will be in the top right corner, as above.

Textbooks


Supplemental readings will be listed on the syllabus, to be posted on Blackboard.
Course Content

This is an introduction to international relations as political scientists approach it. The political science study of international relations focuses on interactions at the global level:

- WHO acts at the global level?
- WHAT regular patterns of activity can be identified?
- WHEN do new relations and actors emerge?
- WHERE do conflict, economic growth, and global decision-making occur?
- WHY are international political interactions peaceful or conflictual?

You will become familiar with some of the main theories about power and cooperation in international politics. Why do some scholars think that international politics can never be peaceful? Why do others think it may be possible to overcome violent conflict and achieve a more just and peaceable world? Are war and insecurity inevitable? What are different ways to define and pursue security?

This class does not assume that you are a political science major, although if you are, it will give you a basis for further study in international relations. The primary objective of this course is to expose you to the conceptual tools that political scientists use to approach the analysis of international politics -- tools that can also be helpful to the average citizen -- and to enable you to apply those perspectives to international political issues. A second objective is for the class to grapple with some thought-provoking issues related to the problem of war and how we might better achieve international justice and peace.

This course aims for each student to demonstrate the following outcomes by the end of the semester. They roughly match the order of topics and activities in the course:

1. Understanding the major features of classical and current approaches to international relations in the field of political science, with a particular focus on historical and contemporary problems of international security.
2. Understanding the facts and chronology related to the emergence of the global system of nation-states and the position of non-state actors.
3. Becoming aware of how historic global-, national-, group-, and individual-level differences in political interests, identities and material circumstances affect international cooperation and conflict.
4. Acquiring and using tools for interpreting and evaluating international political events and issues, with a view to becoming responsible global citizens and professionals.

Course Format

The course will challenge you to use and strengthen your reading, listening, and writing skills. Please understand that class sessions are constructed to supplement course readings and assignments outside of class. Class material often contains active learning as well as introducing concepts and ideas to think about, and you will lose out if you have not prepared or are not in class. I cannot stress strongly enough that when it comes to learning the material, there is no substitute for class attendance.

Detailed written class notes are not provided for this class. However, we do make use of Purdue’s ability to provide audio and video of lectures for download (“Boilercast”), in case you wish to review a lecture. There will be a link on our blackboard site for getting access.

Purdue’s Blackboard

The web-based component resides on Blackboard, the system Purdue uses to provide on-line access to some of your course materials.

You are expected to consult the web site between class sessions – for course announcements, reading links, handouts, and to view your grades. This should be part of your class preparation. Any
comments or suggestions you have for the course web site at any time are welcome.

**Contacting Us**

Email is a very good way to reach Prof. Clark and the teaching assistants, and so is visiting one of us during office hours. Our offices are right around the corner from the classroom.

We will do our best to respond promptly to your email. Prof. Clark is also available via her office telephone during office hours and some other times. When you email us, please always include “POL130” in the subject line. If we do not respond right away, you can expect that we will do so during our next scheduled office hours – and we will usually respond faster than that.

Please be aware that Purdue privacy policy is, by law, very restrictive in order to protect your privacy. That means we do not share grade information or private information on email, and neither should you share this or other personally identifying information (like student id numbers) on email. Whenever you want to discuss a grade-related matter, we ask you to speak with us personally.

**Course Requirements and Evaluation**

Grades will be assigned according to the following numeric guide:

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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98-100</td>
<td>B+ = 88 - 89.99</td>
<td>C+ = 78-79.99</td>
<td>D = 60-69.99</td>
<td>F = below 60</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>92– 97.79</td>
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<td>C = 72-77.99</td>
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**Grading components**

Exam I (March 12): 25%
Writing Assignment (due April 9): 25%
Reading quizzes (three; dates on syllabus) (5% each): 15%
Exam II (April 23): 25%
Attendance: 5%
HotSeat and Badge(s): 5%

*Important: Please be aware that EXAM I for this course will be given during the class session (Thursday) before Spring Break. Make sure you do not make any spring break plans that conflict with this exam date.

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Attendance, why it’s important: Regular attendance and active participation are important elements of the learning experience. Although as an individual it can be a challenge to feel you are an essential part of a fairly large class like this, you are! Coming to class prepared (having done the reading), asking questions, joining in discussion, and listening carefully to others during class all contribute to a classroom environment where thought and discussion are enjoyable and rewarding. Attendance is very important in this class for another reason: the class has been designed so that much information sharing and "information processing" takes place during class time. Attendance, how it’s evaluated: Occasional attendance will be taken (on unannounced days), and this credit will contribute 5% to your final grade. The metric being used for attendance will be posted on Blackboard early in the course.

One other thing. A ground rule of class conduct is that use of social media and the web for non-class purposes during class is considered out of bounds. Think about it: it definitely distracts you, it distracts your instructor, and it also distracts those around you. Please be responsible for your own
conduct in this regard.

**Policies for exams and assignments:**

**Makeup exams** will be given only in the case of serious illness, accident, or emergency (accompanied by a formal medical excuse in the case of illness, or other formal documentation in the case of accident or emergency.) In such a case, contact Prof. Clark in advance of the scheduled exam. If you cannot reach Prof. Clark in person, leave a message by phone (765-494-7437) and send an email.

Detailed guidelines for the **writing assignment** will be provided early in the semester. The writing assignment is a short but well organized and well-written paper that should represent your best effort. The topic will be a current international news event that illustrates an aspect of the theories we use in the course: realism, liberalism, constructivism or another approved by the instructor. **Late assignments:** Writing assignments received late (any time after class on the due date) will be penalized by one-half grade (5 percentage points) per day.

The three quizzes are brief, multiple-choice check-ups on the reading. **Makeup quizzes** are not offered for any reason. This is a firm policy. However, for one quiz grade, you may choose to complete a brief web-based makeup assignment. This can be useful if you miss a quiz or do not do as well as you would have liked. For each quiz, this option will be available for 10 days after the quiz has been given. Details will be provided in class and posted on the web site.

The **HotSeat** app will be used, usually outside of class, and **Badges (for “Passport”)** are in development for this course this semester. Completing them satisfactorily will counts for 5% of your grade. **HotSeat participation** will be available after most class sessions. At least one competency “Badge” will be available for completion for a specific period during the semester. More details will be available early in the course.

A course grade of "Incomplete" will be given only in rare and extreme cases. Also, please read "A Word about Academic Honesty" below.

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**A word about academic honesty:** Honesty, along with freedom of expression and mutual respect, are age-old values of university life. Honesty includes academic honesty. Please note that university regulations prohibit the "cheating, lying, stealing, and deceiving in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of ghost-written papers, the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations)." (See Purdue University, *Student Regulations*, Part 5, Section III.B.2.a., “Misconduct Subject to Disciplinary Penalties”:

http://www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/student_conduct/regulations.html)

Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's written work or ideas (including internet material) as your own, or using such material in your own work without giving due credit to the original source. Please understand that cutting and pasting material from the web without quotation marks, or closely paraphrasing significant portions of text whether giving credit to the original author or not, is unacceptable research practice. Make sure your work is your own. Think about what you are reading and use your own words. When in doubt, **cite**. Keep careful notes as you work and don’t leave your cites and bibliography until the last minute!
Course Outline and Assignment Schedule – Spring 2015

Each date lists the topic and the material to be read for class that day. For example, before class on January 22, read the assignment listed at “Jan. 22.” Note that this can also serve as your guide when you need to review something using Boilercast, since course Boilercasts will be indexed by date.

I. Course Introduction

Jan. 13. Course introduction. After class, read course syllabus carefully and visit the class webpage. Also read Global Politics (referred to below as “textbook”), Chapter 1, pp. 1-11 only.

Jan. 15. Feature film, No Man’s Land. (Film will finish on Jan. 20). Begin reading Hedges, War Is a Force that Gives Us Meaning (required course text), Introduction and Chapter 1, pp. 1-42.

   Intro to “HotSeat” app. Bring your cell phones!
   Note: The President’s State of the Union Address is tonight.

Jan 22. Introduction to Theories of International Relations. Read: Chap. 1 of textbook, pp. 21-28 only; and Chapter 3 of textbook, pp. 68-79 only. Please bring textbook to class today.

II. Theoretical Approaches to International Politics: Realism, or power politics

Jan 27. Read: Thucydides, full "Melian Dialogue," from supplemental readings (Blackboard). Also review textbook Ch. 1, pp. 68-79. NOTE: The readings for today and the next couple of class sessions are dense, so you may need to read them over more than once.

Jan. 29. Read: Machiavelli, "In What Ways Princes Must Keep Faith," and Hobbes, "Of the Naturall Condition of Mankind, as concerning their Felicity, and Misery," from supplemental readings (Blackboard).

Feb. 3. Read: Morgenthau, "Six Principles of Political Realism," from supplemental readings (Blackboard). Quiz on realism readings.

IV. Theoretical Approaches to International Politics: Liberalism (Liberal Idealism)

Feb. 5. Read Kant, “Perpetual Peace,” from supplemental readings (Blackboard). Also read textbook ch. 3, pp. 82-89.

Feb. 10. Read Clark, "Amnesty International in International Politics" (pp. 1-11 of Chapter 1).
V. Theoretical Approaches to International Politics: Constructivism and other approaches


V. Foreign Policy and Levels of Analysis

A. The Individual Level of Analysis (The influences of human behavior, biology, and psychology on international relations)
Feb. 24. Read Chap. 4, introduction and the individual level of analysis, pp. 109-130.

B. The State Level of Analysis (The influences of government type and country-level factors on foreign policy)

C. The System Level of Analysis (Large-scale patterns in countries’ behavior)
Mar. 3. Review ch. 3 on structural realism, pp. 76-79; and review “systemic factors” and “global factors” on pp. 128-129. Other reading TBA (Blackboard).

VI. History of International Society: The old world and the modern world

Mar. 5. Sovereignty and the shift from the old world to the modern. Review the definition of sovereignty on pp. 71-72, and read *Treaty of Westphalia* (1648), (Blackboard).


Mar. 12. **EXAM I. Held in class, during class time.**

----- March 16-20: Spring Break ----

VIII. Origins and Effects of Conflict and Insecurity

A. “The Plague of Nationalism”
March 24. Read Hedges, Chapters 2 and 3, “The Plague of Nationalism” and “The Destruction of Culture.”

B. What is Security?
March 26. Read Chap. 6, pp. 189-221, and Hedges, Chapter 4.
B. What is Security? – continued
March 31. Read Hedges, Chapter 5 and 6. Quiz on Hedges (Chapters 1-6 only).

Apr. 2. Reading TBA.

IX. Remedies: Building Peace and Security

A. International Law and Non-state Actors

1. Overcoming anarchy through Law and International Organizations
Apr. 7. Read Chap. 5, 145-184, and excerpt from Grotius, Preface from Of the law of warre and peace (Blackboard). Grotius’ Preface is sometimes referred to as the Prolegomena.

Apr. 9. Review case study on baby milk advocacy network in ch. 5, p. 177.

*** Paper due in class at beginning of class. ***

2. Transnationalism, human rights, and human security

B. Strengthening well being: international economics

1. Global Economics and Trade
Apr. 16. Read Chap. 8, pp. 256-275. [pp. 276-282 optional]

3. Poverty and Development: coffee case study

Apr. 23. ** EXAM II. Held in class, at class time. **

Tuesday Apr. 28. Final class session: Calls for Love and Justice. Read Hedges, Chapter 7 (concluding chapter).

Apr. 30. No class meeting. Second badge and/or final HotSeat entry to be completed by today.

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Emergency Planning Statement. As recommended by Purdue, this statement is included with the syllabus, so you will be aware that changes may be made to the course in the event of a major campus emergency. If an emergency occurs, information will also be posted on Purdue’s web site.

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor’s control. The following are ways to get information about changes in this course: the course’s Blackboard web page, where the latest update will always be posted, and Prof. Clark’s email address: clarkam@purdue.edu.