

INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL POLITICS

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Class: Mon., Wed., Fri., 9:05 a.m.–9:55 a.m.,
230 Anderson Hall
Office Hours: Wed., 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.,
or by appointment

Teaching Assistants

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*If students cannot make these office hours, they should contact
the TAs to set up alternate appointment times.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Around 15 years ago, President George H.W. Bush proclaimed that the United States would lead a multinational alliance to forge a “new world order.” Ten years later, President George W. Bush sought to craft a multinational alliance against “terrorists of global reach,” promising to “smoke ’em out and hunt ’em down.” In the wake of the Cold War, the world seemed poised on the edge of an unprecedented era of international peace. By the turn of the millennium and especially after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, such heady optimism was but a dim memory. While the industrialized West has constituted a zone of peace, the previous decade has brought ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Kosovo, genocide in Rwanda, failed humanitarian intervention in Somalia, the collapse of the Middle East peace process, continued bloodshed and chaos in sub-Saharan Africa, nuclear standoffs between India and Pakistan, occasional crises with China, and, of course, the destruction wreaked by al-Qaeda. The past decade saw tremendous gains in economic productivity and wealth in the industrialized world, increasing globalization of the means of production, and immense technological progress, but it also brought monetary meltdowns in Russia and East Asia, economic crises across Latin America, a mixed record on common environmental challenges, and so on.

One might be tempted to conclude that the more things change, the more they stay the same. This course will be devoted to analyzing how things have changed and how they have stayed the same in global politics. It will examine the perennial problems of international politics and how recent trends have transformed their dynamics. The course will explore, among other issues, the causes of war and peace, the limited use of force, humanitarian intervention, nuclear proliferation, nationalist conflict, international ethics, the politics of international trade and finance, foreign aid, globalization, the prospects for environmental cooperation and human rights norms, terrorism, and the future of world politics.

Students will be introduced to theoretical traditions, but the course will focus primarily on explaining and understanding current and historical problems and cases in world politics. (For a more theoretical course, see POL 3835, International Relations.) By the end of the term, students should be familiar with all these issues and others, should have developed their own views on these controversial questions, and should be able to apply basic analytical frameworks and tools to answer them.

REQUIREMENTS

Readings. The average weekly reading load is around 75 pages (though often substantially less and sometimes a bit more). **All assigned readings should be completed before the lecture.** Lectures will at times use current events as illustrations. You are strongly encouraged to read regularly the international section of a major daily newspaper, such as the *New York Times* or the *Washington Post*. These are available for free on-line or, at substantially reduced rates for students, by subscription.

Sections. Learning cannot be passive. It requires students to engage actively with this course's ideas and readings, to apply this course's concepts to debates about contemporary international affairs, and to argue with each other. None of that is possible, of course, within a large lecture. Depending on the size of the course, we will have a fair amount of discussion during class. But on three Fridays over the course of the term, identified in the syllabus by **SECTION**, we will break the class up into two smaller groups to facilitate discussion. Attendance in sections is required, and students will be held responsible for the readings and in-class discussions associated with the section. You will receive details regarding your section assignment before the first section meeting, to be held on February 17.

Assignments. This course will have two midterm exams, a final exam, and several short papers and quizzes.

- The first midterm exam will cover all class meetings (and corresponding readings) held between January 18 and March 10.
- The second midterm exam will cover all class meetings (and corresponding readings) held between March 20 and April 12.
- The final exam will be cumulative and will require you to integrate ideas explored throughout the course. But it will have a particular emphasis on class meetings and corresponding readings from April 17 through the end of the course.
- Details regarding the exams' structure and the instructor's expectations will be presented in class as the exams approach.

NB: The instructor reserves the right to administer brief quizzes in any class meeting (lecture or section) or in a take-home format on the assigned reading.

Make-up Exams. Make-up exams will *not* be offered except in rare circumstances. Should you have an unanticipated emergency that causes you to miss the scheduled exam, contact the instructor as soon as possible by email or telephone. Note that you may be expected to provide evidence (e.g. a doctor's note).

GRADING

Midterm I:	20%
Midterm II:	20%
Final Exam:	40%
Other (participation, short papers/quizzes):	20%

MISCELLANY

Academic Dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is broadly defined as submitting work that is not your own without attribution, and it is not acceptable in this or any other course. Any academic dishonesty found on an assignments will result in an F for that assignment and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent permissible under the University's guidelines. For further guidance on what constitutes academic dishonesty, see <http://www.osai.umn.edu/gopher.html>.

Student Disabilities. Any student with a documented disability and who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations for exams and lectures should contact the instructor and Disability Services (6-1333, ds@umn.edu) at the beginning of the semester.

READINGS

The following **books** are **required**. They have been ordered for purchase at the University bookstore in the Coffman Memorial Union.

- Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, eds., *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 7th ed. (Longman, 2005). (hereafter, A&J)
- Alan C. Lamborn and Joseph Lepgold, *World Politics Into the Twenty-First Century*, 1st ed. (Prentice Hall, 2003). (hereafter, L&L)

All **other required readings** are located on the course web-site. To log-in to the course web-site, go to www.myu.umn.edu, log in, and access the course link on the “Toolkit” page. Some of these files are quite large: if you do not have a high-speed connection at home, you should access them while you are on campus and either read them on screen or print them out. If you have any problems accessing the course web-site, please let me know immediately.

COURSE WEB-SITE

Students registered for this class may access the course web-site through the “Toolkit” page on their MyU portal (www.myu.umn.edu). If you have any problems accessing the course web-site, please let me know immediately. On this web-site, you will find:

- the syllabus
- lecture outlines (which will, as a rule, be posted at the latest by 9 p.m. on the preceding day)
- handouts and select overheads
- required readings not available in either of the required books

You should check the web-site regularly, as I will often post announcements and articles of interest there.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Jan. 18 Introduction: What is Global Politics?

- L&L, pp. 1-30.

Jan. 20 Theory and Practice in International Politics

- L&L, pp. 55-75.
- Take-home quiz will be distributed by e-mail on 1/19; due 1/23.***

I. Theories of International Politics and the Causes of War and Peace

- Jan. 23 The International System: Definitions, Types, and Origins
- L&L, pp. 50-53, 77-83, 131-154.
- Jan. 25, 27, 30 Realism: Anarchy and the Security Dilemma
Polarity and the Balance of Power
The Quest for Hegemony
- L&L, pp. 31-36, 492-503.
 - John J. Mearsheimer, “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power,” pp. 50-60. (A&J)
 - Robert Art, “The Fungibility of Force,” pp. 215-231. (A&J)
- Recommended*
- Kenneth Waltz, “The Anarchic Structure of World Politics,” pp. 29-49. (A&J)
- Feb. 1, 3, 6 Liberalism: Institutions, Interdependence, and Democracy
- L&L, pp. 36-40.
 - Robert Keohane, “International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?” pp. 119-126. (A&J)
 - Adam Roberts, “The UN and International Security,” pp. 127-136. (A&J)
 - Michael Doyle, “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs,” pp. 83-95. (A&J)
 - Walter Lippmann, “The Malady of Democratic States,” in his *Essays in the Public Philosophy* (Boston: Little, Brown, 1955) pp. 16-27, 31-36.
- Feb. 8, 10 Marxism: Modes of Economic Organization
Constructivism: Norms and Ideas in International Politics
- L&L, pp. 40-50.
 - Alexander Wendt, “Anarchy is What States Make of It,” pp. 61-68. (A&J)
 - Nina Tannenwald, “The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use,” *International Organization*, vol. 53:3 (summer 1999) pp. 433-468.
- **Do not sweat the details here. Think about the Tannenwald article as an example of constructivist research.**
- Feb. 13, 15 Foreign Policy Decision-Making: Bureaucracy and Psychology
Individuals and International Politics
The Levels of Analysis and the Causes of War
- L&L, pp. 77-83.
 - Robert Jervis, “Hypotheses on Misperception,” *World Politics* 20:3 (April 1968) pp. 454-479.
 - Robert Sapolsky, “A Natural History of Peace,” *Foreign Affairs* (January/February 2006) pp. 104-120.

Feb. 17
SECTION

What is globalization? What are its implications for world politics?

- L&L, pp. 510-513.
- Jessica T. Mathews, "Power Shift," *Foreign Affairs* (January/February 1997) pp. 50-66.
- Stephen D. Krasner, "Sovereignty: The State is Alive and Well," *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2001) pp. 20-26.

Feb. 20, 22

China: A New Threat?

***What are the implications of China's rise according to different theoretical approaches? And what would adherents of these theories recommend?**

- Zbigniew Brzezinski vs. John J. Mearsheimer, "Clash of the Titans," *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2005) pp. 46-50.
- Aaron L. Friedberg, "The Struggle for Mastery in Asia," *Commentary* (November 2000) pp. 17-26.
- Evan S. Medeiros and M. Taylor Fravel, "China's New Diplomacy," *Foreign Affairs* 82:6 (November/December 2003) pp. 22-35.
- George J. Gilroy, "The Myth Behind China's Miracle," *Foreign Affairs* 83:4 (July/August 2004) pp. 33-48.
- Joshua Kurlantzick, "How China is Changing Global Diplomacy," *The New Republic*, 27 June 2005.

Recommended

- Jane Perlez, "Across Asia, Beijing's Star is in Ascendance," *New York Times*, 28 August 2004.
- Jane Perlez, "Chinese Move to Eclipse U.S. Appeal in South Asia," *New York Times*, 18 November 2004.
- David Barboza and Daniel Altman, "That Blur? It's China Moving Up in the Pack," *New York Times*, 21 December 2005.
- Howard W. French, "Another Chinese Export Is All the Rage: China's Language," *New York Times*, 11 January 2006.

Brief essay (3 pp.) due 2/20. Topics to be distributed on 2/13.

II. The Utility of Theory? International Politics, 1914 – 1992

***Do theories regarding the causes of war and peace help explain the origins of World War I, World War II, the Cold War, and the end of the Cold War?**

Feb. 24, 27 World War I, the Interwar Period, and World War II
March 1, 3, 6

- L&L, pp. 154-194.
- David Stevenson, *Cataclysm: The First World War as Political Tragedy* (New York: Basic Books, 2004) chapter 1, “The Destruction of Peace,” pp. 3-36.
- Richard J. Overy, *The Origins of the Second World War*, 2nd ed. (New York: Longman, 1998) 1-46, 63-83, 96-100.

March 6, 8, 10 The Cold War and its End

- L&L, pp. 194-222.
- Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth, “Power, Globalization, and the End of the Cold War: Reevaluating a Landmark Case for Ideas,” *International Security* 25:3 (winter 2000/01) pp. 5-53.

Recommended

- Human Security Centre (University of British Columbia), *Human Security Report 2005: War and Peace in the 21st Century*

End of material for Midterm I (to be administered on March 24).

March 13-17 Spring Break: No Class

III. International Security

Mar. 20, 22 The Uses of Force: Deterrence, Compellence, and the Nuclear Age
Case: Gulf War I—Failure of Deterrence? Failure of Compellence?
Case: Gulf War II—The Debate over Deterrence

- L&L, pp. 223-234.
- Robert J. Art, “The Four Functions of Force,” pp. 141-148. (A&J)
- Thomas C. Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence,” pp. 149-162. (A&J)
- John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, “An Unnecessary War,” *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2003) pp. 51-60.
- Kenneth M. Pollack, “Why Iraq Can’t Be Deterred,” *New York Times*, 26 September 2002.

March 24 Midterm I

March 27 Nuclear Deterrence and Nuclear Proliferation

- L&L, pp. 243-248.
- “Nuclear Iran,” *Atlantic Monthly* (December 2003) pp. 44-45.
- William Langewiesche, “The Point of No Return,” *Atlantic Monthly* (January/February 2006).
- Jacques Hymans, “Think Again: Nuclear Proliferation,” *Foreign Policy* (November 2005) web-exclusive.

Recommended

- William Langewiesche, “The Wrath of Khan,” *Atlantic Monthly* (November 2005) pp. 62-85.
- Scott D. Sagan, “Nuclear Instability in South Asia,” pp. 251-262. (A&J)
- Kenneth N. Waltz, “Nuclear Stability in South Asia,” pp. 263-274. (A&J)
- Victor Cha and David Kang, *Nuclear North Korea* (Columbia UP, 2003).

March 29, 31 Nationalism, Civil War, and Intervention

April 3 Debating Iraq and Democracy Promotion: Should the US have invaded Iraq in 2003? To what end? What should be done now? [SECTION]

- Michael E. Brown, “The Causes of Internal Conflict,” in Brown et al., eds., *Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1996/97) pp. 3-25.
- Paul Collier, “The Market for Civil War,” pp. 489-495. (A&J)
- Samantha Power, “Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen,” *Atlantic Monthly* (September 2001) pp. 84-108.
- Scott Straus, “Darfur and the Genocide Debate,” *Foreign Affairs* (January/February 2005) pp. 123-133.
 ***Don't sweat the details. When reading about Rwanda or Darfur, focus on: Why does communal conflict, and even genocide, occur? Why did the West and the UN do next-to-nothing in Rwanda? Has the West learned the lessons of Rwanda?* **
- James Dobbins, “The United States and Nation-Building,” pp. 518-524. (A&J)
- Daniel L. Byman, “Democratic Dominoes,” *Atlantic Monthly* (June 2005) pp. 42-43.
- Michael Ignatieff, “Who Are Americans to Think That Freedom Is Theirs to Spread?” *New York Times Magazine*, 26 June 2005.
- Linda Bilmes, “The Trillion-Dollar War,” *New York Times*, 20 August 2005.
- Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., “How to Win in Iraq,” *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2005) pp. 87-104.
- Barry R. Posen, “Exit Strategy,” *Boston Review* (January/February 2006).

- April 5, 7 Terrorism
- Robert A. Pape, “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism,” pp. 232-250. (A&J)
 - Alan Krueger and Jitka Maleckova, “Does Poverty Cause Terrorism?” *New Republic*, 24 June 2002, pp. 27-32.
 - Gregory Gause, “Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?” *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2005) pp. 62-76.
 - Joseph Joffe, “A World Without Israel,” *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2005) pp. 36-42.
 - Robert S. Leiken, “Europe’s Angry Muslims,” *Foreign Affairs* (July/August 2005) pp. 120-135.
 - Olivier Roy, “Britain: Homegrown Terror,” *Le Monde Diplomatique* (August 2005).
 - Benjamin Friedman, “Think Again: Homeland Security,” *Foreign Policy* (July/August 2005) pp. 22-28.
- Recommended*
- James Fallows, “Success Without Victory,” *Atlantic Monthly*, January/February 2005.
- Apr. 7, 10 Ethics and the Use of Force
- George Kennan, “Morality and Foreign Policy,” *Foreign Affairs* 64:2 (winter 1985/86) pp. 205-218.
 - Rhoda Howard and Jack Donnelly, “Human Rights in World Politics,” pp. 558-570. (A&J)
- Apr. 12 The Ethics of Terrorism: Should the United States have dropped the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki?
- Henry L. Stimson, “The Decision to Use the Atom Bomb,” and Martin J. Sherwin, “The Bomb, the War, and the Russians,” in Amy Gutmann and Dennis Thompson, eds., *Ethics & Politics*, 2nd ed. (Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1990) pp. 3-25.
- Apr. 14 **Midterm II**

IV. International Political Economy

Apr. 17, 19, 21 The Politics of International Trade and Finance

- L&L, pp. 299-353 (recommended: pp. 257-298).
- Robert Gilpin, “The Nature of Political Economy,” pp. 281-297. (A&J)
- Daniel W. Drezner, “The Outsourcing Bogeyman,” *Foreign Affairs*, 83:3 (May/June 2004) pp. 22-34.
- Fred Kaplan, “China Expands. Europe Rises. And the United States...” *New York Times*, 26 December 2004.
- Niall Ferguson, “Our Currency, Your Problem,” *New York Times Magazine*, 13 March 2005.
- Kenneth Rogoff, “Let It Ride,” *Foreign Policy* (March/April 2005) pp. 74-75.
- Alexei Barrionuevo and Keith Bradsher, “Sometimes a Bumper Crop Is Too Much of a Good Thing,” *New York Times*, 8 December 2005.

Apr. 24, 26 Globalization and Global Inequality

- L&L, pp. 353-366.
- Jeffrey Frankel, “Globalization of the International Economy,” pp. 325-340. (A&J)
- Peter F. Drucker, “The Changed World Economy,” pp. 341-351. (A&J)
- Niall Ferguson, “Sinking Globalization,” *Foreign Affairs* (March/April 2005) pp. 64-77.
- Richard Florida, “The World is Spiky,” *Atlantic Monthly* (October 2005) pp. 48-51.
- Bruce R. Scott, “The Great Divide in the Global Village,” pp. 311-324. (A&J)

Recommended

- Oxfam, *Rigged Rules and Double Standards: Trade, Globalization, and the Fight Against Poverty* (2002).
- Tina Rosenberg, “Think Again: AIDS,” *Foreign Policy* (March/April 2005) pp. 22-27.
- Robert D. Kaplan, “The Coming Anarchy,” *Atlantic Monthly* (February 1994) pp. 44-76.

Apr. 28
SECTION Debating Economic Globalization

- Dani Rodrik, “Trading in Illusions,” pp. 365-373. (A&J)
- John Micklethwait and Adrian Wooldridge, “Why the Globalization Backlash is Stupid,” pp. 374-380. (A&J)
- William Finnegan, “The Economics of Empire,” pp. 381-392. (A&J)

V. The Future of International Cooperation and Conflict

May 1 Environmental Cooperation and Conflict

- L&L, pp. 404-431 (skim).
- Julian L. Simon, “The Infinite Supply of Natural Resources,” pp. 531-538. (A&J)
- Thomas Homer-Dixon, “Cornucopians and Neo-Malthusians,” pp. 539-541. (A&J)
- John Browne, “Beyond Kyoto,” *Foreign Affairs* 83:4 (July/August 2004) pp. 20-32.

May 3 American Hegemony and World Politics

- Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth, “American Primacy in Perspective,” *Foreign Affairs* 81:4 (July/August 2002) pp. 20-33.
- Stephen M. Walt, “Taming American Power,” *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2005) pp. 105-120.
- Michael Mandelbaum, “David’s Friend Goliath,” *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2006) pp. 51-56.

May 5 Primed for Peace or Ready to Explode?

- L&L, pp. 513-520.
- Robert Jervis, “The Era of Leading Power Peace,” pp. 399-414. (A&J)
- Samuel Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations,” pp. 415-430. (A&J)
- Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, “Democratization and War,” *Foreign Affairs* 74:3 (May/June 1995) pp. 79-97.

FINAL EXAM — Tuesday, May 9 — 1:30–3:30 p.m. (230 Anderson Hall).