

INTA 1110: Introduction to International Relations

Fall 2011

Instructor:

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Office Hours: Thursdays, 11am -12 noon

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Course Description

This is a survey course intended to introduce you to the main traditions and contemporary issues of international politics. The semester will commence with an introduction to the different ways in which international politics is studied. Once you are shown these perspectives of international politics, we will continue on to explore world politics today. We will look into the various organizations and actors that dominate international politics today, and study the contemporary global issues of security, human rights, political economy, poverty, and the environment.

Our world today is increasingly characterized by complex links among even distant communities and power relations that span beyond nations and continents. This transformation is called globalization, and throughout this course our studies will enrich our understanding of what the conduct of politics is like in our era of globalization.

Required Texts and Interactive Aids

The following required text is available at the Engineers' Bookstore:

Steven L. Lamy, John Bayliss, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens, *Introduction to Global Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011)

All other required readings will be placed on T-Square or are available online at the given Internet address.

While participating in this class, you are expected to have a reasonable familiarity with current world events. This can be accomplished by reading a major newspaper daily, such as *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*. I would

highly recommend that reading from among such periodicals become a regular part of your daily routine for the rest of your life, if it has not already.

Course Evaluation

In-class Quizzes:	25%
In-class Midterm Exam:	33%
In-class Final Exam:	33%
Class Attendance:	9%

The quizzes, midterm exam and final exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. They will cover both class lectures and course readings. Although the final exam will not be cumulative, it will be difficult for you to do well on the final if you did not learn or understand the material covered for the midterm. There will be no makeup exams. If you miss an exam or quiz you will get 0% on it. Only if you have an excused absence for an exam, the grade from your other exam will be applied to the missed exam. Only if you have an excused absence for a quiz, the average grade from your other quizzes will be applied to the missed quiz. You will need to document an serious illness to have an excused absence for missed exams or quizzes.

Class attendance is mandatory for this course. You will be allowed 3 unexcused absences. Every absence after the third absence will result in 3% being taken off your final grade, up to 9% taken off your final grade. This is a strict policy and will be firmly enforced. If you are too ill to come to class or have a personal emergency then you must submit a written absence request with appropriate documentation, such as a doctor's note.

Reading and Lecture Schedule

The lecture schedule is subject to additions or removals of readings in accordance with course needs as the semester progresses. Refer to our T-Square site for the latest schedule.

Note: **The readings under class dates should already be read before that class.** Be prepared to discuss the readings for each class, to be able to answer questions that I may pose about the readings, and to answer quiz questions on the readings.

Week 1

August 23: Introduction

August 25: History of Global Politics I

Advance reading:

1. Chapter 1

Week 2

August 30: History of Global Politics II

Advance reading

1. Chapter 2

September 1: **Quiz 1** and History of Global Politics III

Week 3

September 6: In-Class Film, *Lawrence After Arabia*

September 8: In-Class Film, *Lawrence After Arabia*

Week 4

September 13: Realism

Advance reading:

1. Chapter 3

September 15: Liberalism

Week 5

September 20: Marxism
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 4

September 22: **Quiz 2** and Theory Continued

Week 6

September 27: Constructivism

September 29: Feminism and Poststructuralism

Week 7

October 4: States and Foreign Policy
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 5

October 6: **Quiz 3** and States and Foreign Policy II

Week 8

October 11: Global and Regional Governance
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 6

October 13: International Organizations and Organizational Reform

Week 9

October 18: No class

October 20: Transnational Actors
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 7

Week 10

October 25: ****Midterm Exam****

October 27: Midterm Review and In-class film, *The Quiet American*

Week 11

November 1: In-class film, *The Quiet American*

November 3: International Security and Military Power
Advance reading: Chapter 8

Week 12

November 8: **Quiz 4** and Terrorism and Globalization
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 9

November 10: Human Rights
Advance Reading:
1. Chapter 10

Week 13

November 15: International Political Economy
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 11

November 17: **Quiz 5** and Global Trade and Finance
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 12

Week 14

November 22: Poverty
Advance reading:
1. Chapter 13

November 24: No class

Week 15

November 29: In-Class Film, *The Constant Gardener*

December 1: In-Class Film, *The Constant Gardener*

Week 16

December 6: Environmental Issues

Advance reading:

1. Chapter 14

December 8: Exam Review

**** The in-class final exam will be held on Thursday, December 15 at 11:30 am****