

# INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

## **COURSE INFORMATION:**

Course: PS 321 F01/FH1 International Politics  
Credits: 3  
Schedule of Classes: Friday, September 4 – Monday, December 14, 2015  
Finals Week: Wednesday, December 16 – Saturday, December 19, 2015  
Days / Time: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 11:45 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.  
Class Location: 122 Bunnell Building

## **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

Instructor: Dr. Brandon Boylan  
E-Mail: [bmboylan@alaska.edu](mailto:bmboylan@alaska.edu)  
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:30 – 11:30 A.M., and by appointment  
Office Location: 603A Gruening Building

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to the key theories, terms, issues, debates, and challenges in the field of international relations. It provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic interactions that take place between important actors in the international system, such as states, organizations, and groups. The course is broken down into four sections: 1) introduction to international relations, 2) international security, 3) international political economy, and 4) international law and organization. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to apply their acquired knowledge to better understand global events and identify global political patterns.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course, students should have:

- gained greater knowledge of major political and historical events in world affairs since World War II;
- learned theories and concepts that help them recognize patterns of interstate interactions;
- developed knowledge of how states try to organize for security and economic success;
- learned how the United States in particular has historically been situated in world affairs; and
- developed their reading, speaking, presentation, and critical thinking skills.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **Academic Honesty**

You are expected to adhere to the provisions of the “Student Code of Conduct” as outlined in the UAF catalog, available at [www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html](http://www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html). In particular, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will lead to an F for the course, at a minimum. This includes plagiarism, cheating, collusion, or fabrication. Please talk to me if you are unsure about whether or not your approach constitutes academic dishonesty.

## Use of Electronics

Use of cell phones is strictly prohibited during class. Failure to comply with this policy will lower your reading, preparation, and participation grade (see below). Laptop computers may be used for note-taking purposes only. If you are caught browsing the web, checking e-mail, etc., you will be asked to put your laptop away and your reading, preparation, and participation grade will be lowered.

## Campus Resources

You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the many resources available at UAF to help you succeed in this course. These services include:

- ***The Writing Center***  
801 Gruening Building  
(907) 474-5314  
fywrc@uaf.edu  
<http://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/>
- ***The Speaking Center***  
507 Gruening Building  
(907) 474-5470  
fyspeak@gmail.com  
<http://www.uaf.edu/speak/>
- ***Student Support Services***  
512 Gruening Building  
(907) 474-6844  
trio.sss@alaska.edu  
<http://www.uaf.edu/ss/>
- ***The Office of Disability Services***  
208 Whitaker Building  
(907) 474-5655  
uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu  
<http://www.uaf.edu/disability/>
- ***Student Health and Counseling Center***  
210 Whitaker Building  
(907) 474-7043  
uaf-sh-cc@alaska.edu  
<http://www.uaf.edu/chc/>

## COURSE MATERIALS

### *Required Textbook*

- Henry R. Nau, *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, Ideas*, 3rd ed. (Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2012).

### *Blackboard*

- All supplemental materials are posted on BlackBoard.

### **GRADING SCALE**

A	=	93-100	C+	=	78-79
A-	=	90-92	C	=	73-77
B+	=	88-89	C-	=	70-72
B	=	83-87	D	=	60-69
B-	=	80-82	F	=	≤ 59

### **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

#### **Reading, Preparation, and Participation (60 points)**

You must come to class prepared to contribute to discussions and talk about assigned readings. The effectiveness of the course is determined largely by how well you engage the reading material, assess key concepts, and participate. Your participation grade will be calculated by how much and how well you contribute to class discussions. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices (apart from laptops for note-taking purposes) during class is prohibited and will lower your reading, preparation, and participation grade.

- *From time to time, you will be asked in advance to come to class prepared to discuss a current event related to the week's theme.*

#### **Prompt Responses (100 points)**

At the beginning of each week, I will post in Blackboard a prompt related to the week's topic and readings. Simply download the prompt from Blackboard and respond to it with an essay that is at least 500 words. You must print out and turn in your response to me in class on that week's Friday. You will not submit a prompt response in the weeks when you have an exam. Late responses will not be accepted.

#### **Three Tests (150 points – 50 points each)**

After each sub-field section (international security, international political economy, and international law and organization), you will have an exam on class and reading material. There are three tests altogether. Each will consist of a mixture of questions, such as fill in the blank, short answer, and short essay. Make-up tests will not be given.

#### **Final Exam (90 points)**

The final exam is a comprehensive take-home exam in essay format. You will have one week to complete it. I will distribute it (with detailed instructions) on Friday, December 11, and it will be due via e-mail on Friday, December 18, by 11:59 P.M. Expect a confirmation e-mail. The exam will cover topics from class, so the readings and lectures will be an invaluable resource to help you complete the final. Late finals will not be accepted.

*\*For Those Registered for the Honors Section of This Course Only:*

#### **Research Paper (50 points)**

In addition to the above requirements, you will write a paper describing how each of the three theories (realism, liberalism, and constructivism) explains a conflict or peaceful relationship of your choice. In your paper, you must argue which perspective best explains the conflict and choose a specific level of analysis (individual, domestic, or systemic).

*Technical Requirements for the Paper:*

\*At least ten pages in length (not including cover page or references)

\*12-point font

\*Double-spaced

\*1-inch margins

\*Include section headers

\*Cover page (not included in page requirement)

\*References (not included in page requirement)

\*Include page numbers (the cover page is NOT page 1 – the first page of your writing is!)

*Due Date:*

You can turn in the paper at any point during the semester but no later than class on Friday, December 11, 2015.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

### Week 1: Friday, September 4

#### Introduction to the Course

##### Readings

- N/A

## PART I: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### Week 2: Monday, September 7 – Friday, September 11

#### International Relations Theories

##### Readings:

- Chapter 1 (pp. 21-67)
- Jack Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories,” *Foreign Policy* No. 145 (2004), 52-62.

*Friday, September 11*

- Due: Prompt Response

### Week 3: Monday, September 14 – Friday, September 18

#### Key Concepts in International Relations

##### Readings:

- Kenneth N. Waltz, “Chapter 2: The First Image,” *Man, the State, and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959): 16-41.
- Kenneth N. Waltz, “Chapter 4: The Second Image,” *Man, the State, and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959): 80-123.
- Kenneth N. Waltz, “Chapter 6: The Third Image,” *Man, the State, and War* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1959): 159-186.

*Friday, September 18*

- Due: Prompt Response

## PART II: INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

### Week 4: Monday, September 21 – Friday, September 25

#### The Cold War

##### Readings:

- Chapter 5 (pp. 160-198)
- George F. Kennan, “The Sources of Soviet Conduct,” *Foreign Affairs* 25, no. 4 (1947), 566-582.

*Friday, September 25*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 5: Monday, September 28 – Friday, October 2**  
**From 11/9 to 9/11**

Readings:

- Chapter 6 (199-226)
- Francis Fukuyama, “The End of History?” *The National Interest* (1989).
- Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?” *Foreign Affairs* 72, no. 3 (1993), 22-49.

*Friday, October 2*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 6: Monday, October 5 – Friday, October 9**  
**The Post 9/11 World: Terrorism**

Readings:

- Chapter 7 (pp. 227-259)
- Max Abrahms, “What Terrorists Really Want: Terrorist Motives and Counterterrorism Strategy,” *International Security* 32, no. 4 (2008), 78-105.

*Friday, October 9*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 7: Monday, October 12 – Friday, October 16**  
**The Post 9/11 World: Nuclear Weapons Proliferation**

Readings:

- Kenneth N. Waltz, “Chapter 1: More May Be Better,” *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate Renewed*, 2nd ed. (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2003), 3-45.
- Scott D. Sagan, “Chapter 2: More Will Be Worse,” *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate Renewed*, 2nd ed. (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2003), 46-87.

*Friday, October 16*

- Test 1 on International Security

**PART III: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY**

**Week 8: Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23**  
**Globalization and Bretton Woods Institutions**

Readings:

- Chapter 10 (pp. 328-359)
- Jorge G. Castañeda, “NAFTA’s Mixed Record: The View from Mexico,” *Foreign Affairs* 93, no. 1 (2014), 134-141.

*Friday, October 23*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 9: Monday, October 26 – Friday, October 30**  
**Transnational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment**

Readings:

- David N. Balaam and Bradford Dillman, “Chapter 17: Transnational Corporations: The Governance of Foreign Investment,” *Introduction to International Political Economy*, 6th ed. (Boston: Pearson, 2014): 432-457.
- Nathan M. Jensen, “Democratic Governance and Multinational Corporations: Political Regimes and Inflows of Foreign Direct Investment,” *International Organization* 57, no. 3 (2003): 587-616.

*Friday, October 30*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 10: Monday, November 2 – Friday, November 6**  
**Development in Asia and Latin America**

Readings:

- Chapter 11 (pp. 361-391)
- World Bank, “The East Asian Miracle: Economic Growth and Public Policy” (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993), pp. 1-26.

*Friday, November 6*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 11: Monday, November 9 – Friday, November 13**  
**Development in MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa**

Readings:

- Chapter 12 (pp. 393-417)
- Robert T. Blanton, David Mason, and Brian Athow, “Colonial Style and Post-Colonial Ethnic Conflict in Africa,” *Journal of Peace Research* 38, no 4 (2001), pp. 473-491.

*Friday, November 13*

- Test 2 on International Political Economy

**PART IV: INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ORGANIZATION**

**Week 12: Monday, November 16 – Friday, November 20**  
**League of Nations and United Nations**

Readings:

- “President Woodrow Wilson’s Fourteen Points” (1918). Available at <[http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/wilson14.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/wilson14.asp)>.
- “The Covenant of the League of Nation” (1924). Available at <[http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/leagcov.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/leagcov.asp)>.

- “Charter to the United Nations” (1945) Available at <<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>> (PERUSE ONLY)

*Friday, November 20*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 13: Monday, November 23 – Friday, November 27**  
**European Union**

Readings:

- David N. Balaam and Bradford Dillman, “Chapter 12: Toward a More Perfect (European) Union,” *Introduction to International Political Economy*, 6th ed. (Boston: Pearson, 2014): 292-318.
- Matthias Matthijs and R. Daniel Kelemen, “Europe Reborn: How to Save the European Union from Irrelevance,” *Foreign Affairs* 94, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 2015): 96-107.

*Friday, November 27*

- No class (Thanksgiving Break)

**Week 14: Monday, November 30 – Friday, December 4**  
**Global Governance and Global Civil Society**

Readings:

- Chapter 15 (pp. 463-487)
- Mary Kaldor, “The Idea of Global Civil Society,” *International Affairs* 79, no. 3 (2003), 583-593.
- Jens Bartelson, “Making Sense of Global Civil Society,” *European Journal of International Relations* 12, no. 3 (2006), 371-395.

*Friday, December 4*

- Due: Prompt Response

**Week 15: Monday, December 7 – Friday, December 11**  
**Organizing for Environmental, Demographic, and Health Challenges**

Readings:

- Chapter 14 (pp. 441-462)
- Cass R. Sunstein, “Of Montreal and Kyoto: A Tale of Two Protocols,” *Harvard Environmental Law Review* 31, no 1 (2007), 1-66.

*Friday, December 11*

- Test 3 on International Law and Organization
- The final exam will be distributed

**Week 16: Monday, December 14 – Saturday, December 19**

*Monday, December 14*



Readings:

- TBD

*Wednesday, December 16 – Saturday, December 19*

Finals Week

*Friday, December 18 by 11:59 P.M.*

- Due: Final Exam (via e-mail)

*Disclaimer: The course schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. If changes are made, students will be given ample time to adjust accordingly.*