

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA
Department of Political Science
Political Science 0400 (formerly 150)
International Relations Theory and Practice
Fall 2022

Professor Edward D. Mansfield
318 Ronald O. Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics
emansfie@sas.upenn.edu

Purpose of the Course:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of international relations. The first part of this course provides an overview of some central concepts and theories in this field. The second part of the course applies these theories to various issues pertaining to international relations, including international security, the causes of war, the international political economy, human rights, international law, and economic development.

Course Requirements:

The requirements for this course are: (1) reading The New York Times on a daily basis, (2) active participation in recitation sections, (3) two midterm exams, (4) making a short video (no more than eight minutes) on an article drawn from The New York Times, and (5) a comprehensive final exam. Please note that the recorded lectures and readings will take up many of the same issues, but the lectures often will cover material that is not addressed in the readings.

Grading:

Your performance on the assignments that are listed above will determine your final grade. They will be weighted as follows:

Participation in recitations: 20%

Midterm exams: 20% each

Video: 10%

Final exam: 30%

Required Reading:

The text for this course is:

Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, editors, International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues (New York: Pearson Longman, 2017, 13th edition).

This book can be ordered directly from Pearson Longman as a pdf. In addition, the assigned articles for the course are available on the course's Canvas site. Almost all of them can also be downloaded from the internet.

Class Schedule

Introduction

August 31: Introduction

September 7: Interests and Levels of Analysis

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 1-47.

Theoretical Approaches to International Relations

September 12 and 14: Realism and Cooperation under Anarchy

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 48-77, 87-94, 104-138; Stephen Kotkin, "Realist World: The Players Change, but the Game Remains," Foreign Affairs (July/August 2018).

September 19 and 21: Alternative Approaches to International Relations

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 78-86, 153-188, 454-460, 491-499; Michael Doyle, Ways of War and Peace, pp. 205-50; Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," Foreign Policy (November/December 2004); and "Idealism and Practicality," Atlantic Monthly (July/August 2006).

Bargaining and the Use of Force

September 26 and 28: Bargaining and Deterrence

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 189-258; Richard K. Betts, "The Lost Logic of Deterrence: What the Strategy that Won the Cold War Can—and Can't—Do Now," Foreign Affairs (March/April 2013).

October 3 and 5: The Use of Force

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 259-274; Victor Cha and Katrin Fraser Katz, "The Right Way to Coerce North Korea: Ending the Threat Without Going to War," Foreign Affairs (May/June 2018); Scott D. Sagan, "The Korean Missile Crisis: Why Deterrence is Still the Best Option," Foreign Affairs (November/December 2017).

October 10: Midterm Exam

Foreign Policy Decision-Making

Week 6: October 12 and 17

Reading: Graham Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis," American Political Science Review (September 1969); Joseph R. Biden, Jr., "Why America Must Lead Again: Rescuing U.S. Foreign Policy After Trump," Foreign Affairs (March/April 2020); Randy Schweller, "Three Cheers for Trump's Foreign Policy: What the Establishment Misses," Foreign Affairs (September/October 2018).

International Security and the Causes of War

October 19 and 24: The Causes of War

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 95-103, 376-407; Avery Goldstein, "China's Real and Present Danger: Now is the Time for Washington to Worry," Foreign Affairs (September/October 2013).

October 26: The Causes of War

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 139-152, 299-306, 408-413, 434-453, 461-473; Edward D. Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Prone to Violence: The Paradox of the Democratic Peace," The National Interest (Winter 2005/06).

International Political Economy

October 31 and November 2: International Political Economy

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 275-313; Douglas A. Irwin, "The Truth About Trade: What

Critics Get Wrong About the Global Economy,” Foreign Affairs (July/August 2016); Adam S. Posen, “The Post-American World Economy: Globalization in the Trump Era,” Foreign Affairs (March/April 2018).

November 7: International Political Economy

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 314-368; Robert D. Blackwill and Jennifer M. Harris, “The Lost Art of Economic Statecraft: Restoring an American Tradition,” Foreign Affairs (March/April 2016); Jack Snyder, “The Broken Bargain: How Nationalism Came Back,” Foreign Affairs (March/April 2019).

November 9: Midterm Exam

Globalization, Environmental Politics, International Law, Human Rights, and Development

November 14 and 16: Globalization

November 21 and 23: Thanksgiving Break (No Class)

November 28: Environmental Politics

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 480-491, 541-550; Veerabhadran Ramanathan, Jessica Seddon, and David G. Victor, “The Next Front on Climate Change: How to Avoid a Dimmer, Drier World,” Foreign Affairs (March/April 2016); James A. Baker III, George P. Schultz, and Ted Halstead, “The Strategic Case for U.S. Climate Leadership,” Foreign Affairs (May/June 2020).

November 30: International Law and Human Rights

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 414-433, 474-479; David Miliband and Ravi Gurumurthy, “Improving Humanitarian Aid: How to Make Relief More Efficient and Effective,” Foreign Affairs (July/August 2015); Michael Barnett and Peter Walker, “Regime Change for Humanitarian Aid: How to Make Relief More Accountable,” Foreign Affairs (July/August 2015); Sarah Margon, “Giving Up the High Ground: America’s Retreat on Human Rights,” Foreign Affairs (March/April 2018).

December 5 and 7: Economic Development and North-South Relations

Reading: Art and Jervis, pp. 500-531; Steven Radelet, "Prosperity Rising: The Success of Global Development—and How to Keep it Going," Foreign Affairs (January/February 2016); Rachel Vogelstein, "Let Women Work: The Economic Case for Feminism," Foreign Affairs (January/ February 2018).

Conclusion

December 12: Race, Gender, and International Relations

Reading: Robbie Shilliam, "When Did Racism Become Solely a Domestic Issue?" Foreign Policy (June 23, 2020), pp. 1-3; Gurminder K. Bhambra et al. "Why is Mainstream International Relations Blind to Racism?" Foreign Policy (July 3, 2020), pp. 1-11; Kelebogile Zvobgo and Meredith Loken, "Why Race Matters in International Relations," Foreign Policy (June 19, 2020), pp. 1-6.