

# Political Science 160

## Introduction to International Relations

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Office: 6756 Haven Hall  
Office Hours: Thursday 2-4pm, by appointment

Class time: 12PM–1PM MWF  
Class location: 2306 Mason Hall

### The Content of the Course

This course introduces students to the study of international politics. Students will acquire analytical tools for understanding various events and patterns in international relations. Topics covered include war, terrorism, international economic relations, international environmental politics, and human rights.

### Course Requirements and Grading

The assignments will have the following weights in the calculation of final grades for the course:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Date</u>
First Paper	15%	
Second Paper	15%	
Forum Post & Responses	15%	
Group Presentation	10%	
In-class Activities/Assignments	20%	
Participation	15%	

### Course Structure

This course includes reading, writing, discussion, group activities, simulations, lectures, and online discussion. Readings are primarily articles in political science. They are difficult to read, and may take more than one pass. Writing assignments are short, and should be written with purpose, clarity, and concision. Each week will introduce a new topic. Often, but not always, Mondays will be largely lecture, Wednesdays will be primarily discussion, and Fridays will be simulations and group presentations. Readings are available on the course website (ctools), organized by day. They are subject to revision.

### Course Policies

Late Papers: Late papers will receive a deduction of *at least* one letter grade. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances. As with excused absences, a note from a doctor or other person of authority will be necessary. Please discuss the situation with me *as soon as possible* after it arises.

Re-grades: Grade complaints must be made **in writing**. This shall take the form of a detailed explanation for why you believe your answer is correct, including citations from the textbook or other sources (e.g. the lecture slides) supporting your answer.

Academic Integrity: You must always acknowledge the work of others in your own writing – if you use a direct quote, a paraphrase, or even just the general ideas or theories of others, you must properly cite your sources (see <http://www.lib.umich.edu/acadintegrity/students/citing/index.htm> for help on citing sources). Buying, borrowing, or stealing a paper written by another student or an outside source is also plagiarism. **Plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and will be subject to university procedures.** If you have any questions regarding what constitutes plagiarism, please ask! On how to recognize and avoid plagiarism, see: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r\\_plagiar.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html).

Accommodations: Those students who have been approved by the Office of Student Services for special considerations in taking examinations should bring that paperwork to me as soon as possible so we can make arrangements to accommodate your needs.

Communication: My office hours are listed above and I strongly suggest you take advantage of these times to ask clarification questions, get feedback, prepare for papers and exams, or just to chat. If you cannot make office hours due to a class conflict or another unavoidable circumstance, contact me about setting up an appointment.

Email is a good way to contact me with simple questions or to request/cancel an appointment. Except in rare circumstances, I will respond within 24 hours on weekdays. **When you email me, you must include PS 160 in the subject so I know it's not spam!** I have also set up an email list for this class. The subject of each email will always begin with PS160 – be sure to check these emails as they will often include important information. Finally, check this class's CTools website ([ctools.umich.edu](http://ctools.umich.edu)) often. I will post handouts, helpful hints, and announcements.

## **Outline of Topics**

### **Week 1: The International System**

Wagner – War and the State – Chapter 1 (provided)  
Waltz chapter (provided)

Lake, "Anarchy, Hierarchy, and the Variety of International Relations," *International Organization* 50(1996):1-34.

Wendt, "The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory," *International Organization* 41(1987):335-70.

### **Week 2: Bargaining and Conflict**

Wagner, R. Harrison. 2000. "Bargaining and War." *American Journal of Political Science* 44(July):469-484.

PL Sullivan. "War Aims and War Outcomes: Why Powerful States Lose Limited Wars." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 2007

Fearon, "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49(1995):379-414.

### **Week 3: Domestic Politics and Conflict**

Kenneth A. Schultz, "'Do Democratic Institutions Constrain or Inform? Contrasting Two Institutional Perspectives on Democracy & War,'" *IO* 53 (spring 1999): 233-266.

Bueno de Mesquita and Siverson, "War and the Survival of Political Leaders," *American Political Science Review* 89(1995):841-855.

Dan Reiter & Allan C. Stam, "Democracy, War Initiation, and Victory," *APSR* 92 (June 1998): 377-389.

Fearon, "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes." *American Political Science Review* 88(1994):577-592.

### **Week 4: Arming and Alliances – Presentation Week**

Jervis, "Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma," *World Politics* 30(1978):167-214.  
Morrow on alliances

Morrow, "Arms Versus Allies," *International Organization* 47(1993):207-233.

Morrow, "Alliances and Asymmetry," *American Journal of Political Science* 35(1991):904-33.

### **Week 5: Civil Wars and Asymmetric Conflict**

*Paper 1 (Threats and Promises) Due*

Fearon and Laitin, "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," *American Political Science Review* 97,1(2003):75-90.

Walter, "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement," *International Organization*. 51,3(1997):335-364.

### **Week 6: Terrorism and Counter-terrorism – Presentation Week**

Symposium on "Understanding Suicide Terror," *Perspectives on Politics*, 5,1(2007):117-140.

Ethan Bueno de Mesquita The Quality of Terror - American Journal of Political Science, 2005

Robert Powell. Defending against Terrorist Attacks with Limited Resources - American Political Science Review, 2007

Robert Powell. Allocating Defensive Resources with Private Information about Vulnerability - American Political Science Review, 2007

### **Week 7: International Institutions – Presentation Week**

Axelrod and Keohane, “Achieving Cooperation Under Anarchy,” *World Politics* 38(1985):226-54.

Simmons, "Compliance with International Agreements," *Annual Review of Political Science* 1(1998):75-94.

Morrow, "Modeling the Forms of International Cooperation," *International Organization* 48(1994):387-423.

Fearon, "Bargaining, Enforcement and International Cooperation," *International Organization* 52(1998):269-306.

### **Week 8: International Law & Norms and Sovereignty – Presentation Week**

Koh, “Why Do Nations Obey International Law?”, *Yale Law Journal*, 106(1997):2599-2659.

Abbott and Snidal, “Hard and Soft Law in International Governance,” *International Organization*, 54(2000):421-56.

Simmons, “International Law and State Behavior,” *American Political Science Review*, 94(2000):819-36.

Morrow, “When Do States Follow the Laws of War?”, *American Political Science Review* 101(2007).

### **Week 9: International Political Economy – Presentation Week**

Krasner, “State Power and the Structure of International Trade,” *World Politics* 28(1976):317-47.

Rogowski, "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade," *American Political Science Review* 81(1987):1121-38.

Hiscox, "Class versus Industry Cleavages," *International Organization* 55(2001):1-46.

Clark and Hallerberg, "Mobile Capital, Domestic Institutions, and Electorally Induced Monetary and Fiscal Policy," *American Political Science Review* 94,2(2000):323-346.

**Week 10: IPE continued/Wrap-up**

*Paper 2 (Cooperation Problems) Due*

Stephen M. Walt, "The Relationship between Theory and Policy in International Relations," *Annual Review of Political Science* (2005): 23-48.

**June 23: Paper 2 due**