GOVT – 0060- 20 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Dr. Arie M. Kacowicz (Professor of International Relations),
Summer 2021, Summer II Session, July 12 - August 12, 2021
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, 830-1030
Magire 102
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1. Goals and Contents of the Course (Description)

International relations, as a field of political science and a discipline in the social science, attempts to explain and understand in a systematic fashion relationships among human beings and institutions in the global arena, such as international (inter-state) relations and relations including non-state actors, such as international organizations and non-governmental organizations. This course will introduce the student to the basic theoretical concepts, historical material, and problems and issues that affect contemporary foreign affairs and international relations, especially since the end of the Cold War twenty years ago. In doing this, a number of aspects will be examined: international political economy, foreign policy, international ethics, the use of force, human rights, international organizations, globalization, and the relationship between the industrialized states and the developing countries.

The course is divided into three parts. The first part introduces the study of international relations in general, including theories of international relations as well as the major actors: nation-states, great powers, non-state actors, and the international system and society. The second part refers to international security (war and peace) and to international political economy. Finally, the third part refers to globalization and to global issues (such as environment, demography, and human rights), suggesting avenues for future research and alternative futures for global politics.

2. Students’ assignments and grades

Students’ assignments include the following:

A. Active participation in the lectures, which include discussion of the readings in class. Students are expected to actively participate in class. The attendance policy includes attendance in 80% of the classes (sixteen sessions). Missing classes beyond the number of permitted absences will affect the grade assigned to participation in class (which is 20% of the final grade).

B. A final exam (multiple choice) that refers to the material learned in class and in the readings. The exam will take place on August 12th, the last day of classes.
The grade will be distributed as follows:

1. Participation in class: 20%
2. Final exam: 80%
3. **Accomodation for students with disabilities**

   Students with disabilities are strongly encouraged to contact the Academic Resource Center (ARC, Leavey Center, Suite 335; 202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu) before the start of classes to allow that office time to review their documentation and to make recommendations for appropriate accommodations, including note takers, books on tape, extended time on the final exam, interpreting services, and enlarged texts among others. The procedure for requesting an accommodation can be found online at ldss.georgetown.edu/procedure.cfm, and a list of possible accommodations can be found at ldss.Georgetown.edu/services.cfm.

   For further information, please consult the following website: scs.Georgetown.edu/academic-affairs/students-with-disabilities

4. **The Georgetown University Honor Code and Honor System**

All students are required to abide by the Honor System regardless of whether or not they have been required to state or write it, or whether they are visiting students. The Honor System includes detailed provisions for investigating and adjudicating allegations of academic misconduct. The Honor Code and Honor System will be respected throughout the course, and especially at the time of the final exam (a multiple choice test).

For further information, please consult the following websites:

scs.georgetown.edu/academic-affairs/honor-code

http://gervaseprograms.georgetown.edu/honor/system/

5. **Textbooks**

The following textbooks should be available for purchase:


6. Lecture Topics and Schedule of Classes

A. Introduction, IR Theory and Actors in World Politics

1. Mon July 12: Introduction and levels of analysis
2. Tue July 13: Nation-states and great powers
3. Wed July 14: Non-state actors in international relations.
4. Thu July 15: Theories of world politics
5. Mon July 19: Power and influence in international relations
6. Tue July 20: The international system
7. Wed July 21: World order and international society
8. Thu July 22: Foreign policy and decision-making models
9. Mon July 26: Interdependence, cooperation, and international regimes

B. International Security and International Political Economy

10. Tue July 27: Causes of war
12. Thu July 29: Nuclear deterrence, arms control, and terrorism
13. Mon August 2: Regional security and the Third World
14. Tue August 3: IPE and the contemporary system
15. Wed August 4: North-South relations

C. Globalization, Global Issues and the Future of World Politics

16. Thu Aug 5: Globalization and international relations
17. Mon Aug 9: Global issues: ecology and demography
18. Tue Aug 10: International ethics and human rights
19. Wed Aug 11: International relations after the Cold War
20. Thu Aug 12: Final exam
7. Reading List (Syllabus)

A. Introduction, IR Theory and Actors in World Politics

1. Introduction and Levels of Analysis (July 12)


Daniel Drezner, Theories of International Politics and Zombies, pp. 1-32.

J. David Singer, “The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations,” in Williams et al., Classic Readings.


2. Nation-States and Great Powers (July 13)


3. Non-State Actors in International Relations (July 14)


Richard Mansbach, Yale Ferguson, and Donald Lampert, “Towards a New Conceptualization of Global Politics,” in Williams et al., Classic Readings.


Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, “Advocacy Networks in International Politics”, in Williams et al., Classic Readings.

4. Theories of World Politics (July 15)


Drezner, Theories of International Politics and Zombies, pp. 33-76.

Woodrow Wilson, “The Fourteen Points”, in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.

Michael Doyle, “Kant’s Perpetual Peace,” in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.


Alexander Wendt, “Anarchy is What States Make of It”, in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.

5. **Power and Influence in International Relations** (July 19)


6. **The International System** (July 20)

Kegley and Raymond, *The Global Future*, Chapter 8, p. 188-194 [the balance of power]


7. **World Order and International Society** (July 21)


William D. Coplin, “International Law and Assumptions about the State System,” in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*. 


8. **Foreign Policy and Decision-Making Models** (July 22)


Drezler, Theories of International Relations, pp. 77-107.

Ole R. Holsti, “Models of International Relations and Foreign Policy,” in Williams et al., Classic Readings.

Graham T. Allison, “Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis,” in Williams et al., Classic Readings.

9. **Interdependence, Cooperation, and International Regimes** (July 26)


B. **International Security and International Political Economy**

10. **Causes of War** (July 27)


11. Causes of Peace and Peaceful Change  (July 28)


12. Nuclear Deterrence, Arms Control, and Terrorism  (July 29)


Albert Wohlstetter, “The Delicate Balance of Terror,” in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.

Bruce Hoffman, “Terrorism Today and Tomorrow”, in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.


13. Regional Security and Third World  (August 2)


14. International Political Economy and the Contemporary System  (August 3)


15. North-South Relations  (August 4)

Theotonio Dos Santos, “The Structure of Dependence,” in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.

C. **Globalization, Global Issues, and the Future of Global Politics**

16. **Globalization and International Relations** (August 5)


Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, “Advocacy Networks in International Politics”, in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.

17. **Global Issues: Ecology and Demography** (August 9)


18. **International Ethics and Human Rights** (August 10)


19. **International Relations after the Cold War** (August 11)

Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations,” in Williams et al., *Classic Readings*.


