

**PSCI 3328**  
**International Relations**  
**FALL 2015**

**Instructor:** Vito D'Orazio

**Time and Location:** T, Th 10:00-11:15am, GR 2.530

**Contact:** dorazio@utdallas.edu 972-883-6212

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 1:00-2:00pm, Thursday 11:30-12:30pm, GR 3.108D

**Teaching Assistant:** Jingnan Bi

**Contact:** jxb152630@utdallas.edu

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 9:00-10:00am, GR 3.318

**Teaching Assistant:** Ryan Lux

**Contact:** rjl140330@utdallas.edu

**Office Hours:** Monday 12:00-1:00pm, GR 3.314

## Course Goals and Overview

This is the introductory political science course on international relations. This course has three major goals: (1) to learn what it means to study international relations (and political science more generally) *scientifically*; (2) to understand general theories (explanations) for international behavior and apply those theories to real-world events; (3) to develop and expand your knowledge base on important topics in international relations, including civil and international conflict, international economics and development, and human rights and the global environment.

These three learning objectives will be assessed throughout the course's homework assignments, the midterm, and the final exam. Each of these are writing assignments, and the goal for each student is to demonstrate an analysis and synthesis of course materials.

## Course Requirements

You will be required to complete reading assignments before every class, with the exception of Days 5, 15, and 23. There will be eleven graded homework assignments, a midterm, and a final exam.

### Final Grade Composition

Eleven Homeworks	30% (3% each, 1 bonus)
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%
Attendance & Participation	10%

**Attendance and participation (10%)**

These are the easiest points you can get. Show up, be attentive, and participate to get full credit.

**Short homework assignments (30%)**

There will be eleven short homework assignments to be submitted through eLearning by midnight **the day before class**. For each assignment (except for the Presidential Candidate Assignment): summarize the reading (1-3 sentences), raise two thoughtful questions, and discuss your reaction to the reading (3-5 sentences). For example, by midnight of August 26, read *One World, Rival Theories*, complete the assignment, and submit through eLearning.

For the Presidential Candidate Assignment, each student will be given a presidential candidate to research. By midnight of September 7th, submit a one paragraph summary of the candidates foreign policy position.

The final homework, Homework 11 due on December 2, is a bonus. Your grade for this assignment will be added to the sum of all points you have earned from previous assignments. However, note that the maximum points you can earn is 30.

**Midterm Exam (25%)**

The midterm exam is an open book, in-class exam. You will be provided with three essay questions and will write a *one page* essay on *one* question of your choice. Essays should include in-text citations of course readings. If you cite readings that are not required, include their citation in a reference list at the end of your essay. The reference list will not count towards your one page limit. A perfect essay will have a clearly stated thesis that is supported with facts and examples using the vocabulary of the class. It will demonstrate both analysis and synthesis of course materials.

**Final Exam (35%)**

The final exam is an open book exam. You will be provided with three essay questions, will choose two, and will write a *one page* essay on each. Essays should include in-text citations of course readings. If you cite readings that are not required, include their citation in a reference list at the end of your essay. The reference list will not count towards your one page limit. A perfect essay will have a clearly stated thesis that is supported with facts and examples using the vocabulary of the class. It will demonstrate both analysis and synthesis of course materials.

## Grade Scale

A+	≥ 97%	B	= 83-86%	C-	70-72%
A	= 93-96%	B-	= 80-82%	D	65-69%
A-	= 90-92%	C+	= 77-79%	F	≤ 64%
B+	= 87-89%	C	= 73-76%		

See <http://catalog.utdallas.edu/2015/undergraduate/policies/academic#grading-scale> for additional information about university grading policies.

## UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

## Required Texts

- Frieden, J. A., Lake, D. A., and Shultz, K. A. (2012). *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. Norton, 2nd edition
  - You may buy or rent an electronic copy at [nortonebooks.com](http://nortonebooks.com)
- Mingst, K. A. and Snyder, J. L. (2013). *Essential Readings in World Politics*. Norton, 5th edition
  - Many (all?) of these articles are available through the library for free
- Additional readings are available through the library and will be made available online. Students are not required to print material electronically.

## Course Outline

### Part I – The International System

**Day 1: Introductions and Syllabus** **August 25**

- FLS: Introduction

**Day 2: Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism (Grand Theory)** **August 27**

- MS: *One World, Rival Theories* by Jack Snyder
- Homework 1

**Day 3: Power Transition Theory and China** **September 1**

- MS: *After Unipolarity: China's Visions of International Order in an Era of U.S. Decline* by Randall Schweller and Xiaoyu Pu

**Day 4: Grand Theory and Territorial Expansion in China** **September 3**

- Taylor Fravel, M. (2010). International relations theory and china's rise: Assessing china's potential for territorial expansion. *International Studies Review*, 12(4):505–532
- Homework 2

**Day 5: Grand Theory and Foreign Policy** **September 8**

- Homework 3: The Presidential Candidate Assignment

**Day 6: Understanding Interests, Interactions, Institutions** **September 10**

- FLS: Chapter Two: Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

**Part II – Conflict****Day 7: Bargaining Theory and International Conflict** **September 15**

- FLS: Chapter Three: Why Are There Wars?

**Day 8: Bargaining Theory Applied to the Iraq War** **September 17**

- Lake, D. A. (2011). Two cheers for bargaining theory: Assessing rationalist explanations of the iraq war. *International Security*, 35(3):7–52
- Homework 4

**Day 9: Domestic Sources of Conflict** **September 22**

- FLS: Chapter Four: Domestic Politics and War

**Day 10: Domestic Sources of Constraint** **September 24**

- MS: *Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games* by Robert Putnam
- Homework 5

**Day 11: Institutions and Conflict** **September 29**

- FLS: Chapter Five: International Institutions and War

**Day 12: Institutions and Failed States** **October 1**

- MS: *Sharing Sovereignty: New Institutions for Collapsed and Failing States* by Stephen Krasner
- Homework 6

**Day 13: Civil Conflict and Terrorism** **October 6**

- FLS: Chapter Six: Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil War and Terrorism

**Day 14: Strategies of Terrorism** **October 8**

- MS: *The Strategies of Terrorism* by Andrew Kydd and Barbara Walter
- Homework 7

**Day 15** **October 13**

- Midterm

**Part III – International Political Economy****Day 16: Introduction to Political Economy** **October 15**

- MS: *The Nature of Political Economy* by Robert Gilpin
- MS: *Globalization, Development, and International Institutions: Normative and Positive Perspectives* by Helen Milner

**Day 17: International Trade** **October 20**

- FLS: Chapter Seven: International Trade

**Day 18: Sanctions and Regime Types** **October 22**

- MS: *Dealing with Tyranny: International Sanctions and the Survival of Authoritarian Rulers* by Abel Escriba-Folch and Joseph Wright
- Homework 8

**Day 19: Foreign Direct Investment and Financial Relations** **October 27**

- FLS: Chapter Eight: International Financial Relations

**Day 20: Domestic Opposition to Globalization** **October 29**

- MS: *Lost in Globalization: International Economic Integration and the Sources of Popular Discontent* by Margalit Yotam
- Homework 9

**Day 21: Domestic Discontent and Wealth Inequality** **November 3**

- FLS: Chapter Ten: Development: Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations

**Day 22: Domestic Discontent and the Arab Spring** **November 5**

- MS: *The Transformation of the Arab World* by Oliver Roy

**Day 23: International Trade** **November 10**

- International Trade Game

**Part IV – Transnational Politics****Day 24: Introduction to Transnational Issues** **November 12**

- FLS: Chapter Twelve: Human Rights

**Day 25: Human Rights as a Transnational Issue** **November 17**

- MS: *Human Rights and Capabilities* by Amartya Sen

**Day 26: Genocide and Rwanda** **November 19**

- MS: *Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen* by Samantha Power
- Homework 10

**Day 27: Global Environment as a Transnational Issue** **December 1**

- FLS: Chapter Thirteen: The Global Environment

**Day 28: Managing the Global Environment** **December 3**

- MS: *The Regime Complex for Climate Change* by Robert Keohane and David Victor
- Homework 11

**Day 29: Conflict and Cooperation Over Water** **December 8**

- Böhmelt, T., Bernauer, T., Buhaug, H., Gleditsch, N. P., Tribaldos, T., and Wischnath, G. (2014). Demand, supply, and restraint: Determinants of domestic water conflict and cooperation. *Global Environmental Change*, 29:337–348

**Final Exam will be Thursday, December 17 from 11am to 1:30pm.**