

World Politics

PS 20 Summer Session A

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Location and Time:

Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:45 am – 12:50 pm
Humanities Building 169

Office hours:

Mondays 1:30–3:30 pm, Bunche 4254.
Please make an appointment [here](#).

Course Description

This is an introductory-level course to the study of international relations. We will learn about the major paradigms and tools for studying interactions between states. Then we will survey key topics in the study of conflict and cooperation, including civil wars, terrorism, international trade, human rights, and the environment. The course will prepare you for more advanced classes in international relations and help you think critically about current events.

Required Text

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2015. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, Third Edition.

In the syllabus this book is abbreviated FLS. The pages and chapters referenced here correspond to the third edition. You can buy the second edition from 2013, but please do not buy the first edition from 2010, as it is quite different from the one we will be using. Other required readings are indicated in the syllabus and are available on the course website: <https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/171A-POLSCI20-1>.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Identify the key actors, their interests, and the institutions that shape their behavior.
2. Explain and critically evaluate the major paradigms in world politics.
3. Define and use key concepts in the field.
4. Assess the causes and consequences of violence between and within states.
5. Recognize and evaluate competing theories for explaining patterns of global trade and financial relations.
6. Understand how international law and transnational advocacy networks influence world politics.
7. Use the theoretical tools developed in the course to analyze current events.

Assessment

- **Attendance:** 10 %
 - Attendance to lectures is mandatory. Each lecture you attend will count for 1 per cent of your grade.
 - As our course will meet for 12 lectures, this means that you may miss lecture (at most) twice. Situations that might require you to miss class include illnesses, family emergencies, calls to jury duty, religious observances, official University activities, and other emergencies. If you need to miss lecture because of these reasons, you do not have to let me know in advance nor provide me with any documentation. I will automatically drop your two lowest attendance scores.
 - This policy excludes July 19 and August 2 because there will be a midterm and a final exam during lecture on those dates. Should an emergency arise on those dates, you will need to provide the appropriate documentation within 24 hours to schedule a makeup midterm or exam. You will not receive credit unless you submit this documentation by email within a day.

- It will be extremely hard for you to be excused to miss a third lecture without it impacting your grade, so please make use of the attendance policy responsibly.
 - You are responsible for any material covered in lecture that you miss while making use of this attendance policy.
- **Participation: 5 %**
 - Participation is expected and will account for 5 per cent of your grade. Students that regularly participate in lecture by responding to questions or making comments will be given full points. Students that participate in less than 3 lectures will be given 2 percentage points, and those that don't participate will not be given participation points.
- **Short written assignment: 20 %**
 - In this short paper you will apply the material covered in lecture to a new scenario. It will not require additional reading or research. The paper should not exceed 4 double-spaced pages.
 - You should submit it on the due date by 10 am using [Turnitin](#). You do not need to print a copy.
 - Date: Wednesday, July 5 (week 2).
 - Late assignments will lose 5 points every hour.
- **Midterm: 25 %**
 - The midterm will include material from all previous lectures, including international trade. The format will be short answer questions.
 - Date: Wednesday, July 19 (week 4).
- **Final Exam: 40 %**
 - A choice of 2 out of 3 essay questions, to be completed during our last lecture. The final exam is cumulative.
 - Date: Wednesday, August 2 (week 6).

Mark Your Calendars

Wednesday July 5: Written assignment due at 10 am on Turnitin.

Wednesday July 19: Midterm.

Wednesday August 2: Final exam.

Should an emergency arises on any of these dates, you will need to provide documentation within 24 hours for me to make special accommodations for a makeup midterm or final. You will not receive credit unless you submit this documentation by email within a day.

Grade Dispute Policy

If you wish to dispute a grade, you must submit a written explanation within one week of the work being returned to the class explaining the mistake you think has been made. If the request arises because you think different students have been graded differently, all the affected students should submit their work as a group. I will not consider grade disputes after this one-week period. Please be warned, however, that a reassessment does not automatically result in a higher grade: your grade may be raised, stay the same, or be lowered.

I will not discuss grades with students outside of office hours or appointments. Under **FERPA**, you have a right to know how you're doing in the course, but it is a violation of university policy to discuss grades or any private information via email, because legally, email is not private communication. Any discussion of your performance in the course, including your grade, must take place in person.

Email Policy

I will generally respond to emails within 24 hours. If you do not receive a reply after this period, please send me a new email. Be aware, however, that emails received after 5 pm on Friday will be answered the following Monday and that substantive questions will not be answered by email.

Student Resources

Social Science Undergraduate Writing Center The Undergraduate Writing Center now offers one-on-one writing tutoring for all undergraduates enrolled in social science classes. The sessions are given by undergraduate Peer Learning Facilitators (PLFs) who are social science majors. It is located in the Powell Library InqSpace and is open 5 days a week. You can make an appointment online at <http://www.wp.ucla.edu/uwc>. In the 'handouts' tab of our course website, I have added more information about their summer hours.

Study-Group Space If you are looking for space to study, either on your own or with a group, please know that you can reserve the study group spaces at YRL by making a reservation here: <http://www.library.ucla.edu/clicc/study-rooms>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) At UCLA, you can access a range of services including individual and group therapy, referrals, psychological testing, crisis consultation, and psychoeducational programs and workshops. CAPS is located at John Wooden Center West and can be reached at (310) 825-0768. Learn more at <http://www.counseling.ucla.edu>. If you need an immediate response after hours or on weekends please call UCLA CAPS 24-hour access line (310) 825-0768 or call the UCPD 24-hour dispatch line at (310) 825-1491 or dial 911 for your local police.

CARE Advocacy Office Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced any of these, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the CARE Advocacy Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. The office is located in the first floor of the John Wooden Center West and can be reached at (310) 206-2465. You can also report these directly to the University's Title IX Coordinator, Jessica Price, who can be reached at titleix@conet.ucla.edu or (310) 206-3417. Please note that under University policy, all instructors are mandated Title IX reporters. If I am informed of or witnesses sexual violence or harassment, I am required to report this to UCLA's Title IX coordinator. The coordinator is committed to maintaining anonymity of victims and so am I.

Center for Accessible Education If you are interested in receiving disability-based academic accommodations, please contact the Center for Accessible Education (formerly called the Office for Students with Disabilities) as soon as possible at A255 Murphy Hall, (310) 825-1501 / TDD: (310) 206-6083. Learn more at <http://www.cae.ucla.edu>

Academic Integrity

All UCLA students are bound by the UCLA's Student Conduct Code, which is available at www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu. As required by UCLA procedures, any suspected or alleged misconduct—including plagiarism and cheating—will be automatically reported to the Dean of Students. If you are not sure whether what you are doing is correct, please talk to me or contact the Undergraduate Writing Center for help. You can also use this citation guide from the UCLA library: <http://guides.library.ucla.edu/citing/intro>.

Schedule

Week 1: June 26 – June 30

Discussion questions: *What are the major paradigms in the study of world politics? What explains the patterns we observe in war in peace? Why do interests, interactions, and institutions matter in international relations?*

Required readings:

1. Monday 26 June: Major IR paradigms.
 - Syllabus overview and class policies.
 - FLS, Introduction.
2. Wednesday 28 June: Interests, Interactions and Institutions.
 - FLS, Chapter 2, including “A Primer on Game Theory” which can be found at the very end of the chapter.

Note: I suggest you read or skim Chapter 1, as all the theories we will cover reflect world history as it evolved over the last few centuries. If you're not sure how good your history knowledge still is, please look at the key terms listed at the end of the chapter (FLS, page 40). If you don't know what they are, please read the chapter.

Further reading:

- Keohane, Robert O. 1984. “After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy.” Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

- Mearsheimer, John J. 1994. “The False Promise of International Institutions.” *International Security* 19 (Winter): 5–49.
- Milner, Helen V. 1997. “Interests, Institutions, and Information: Domestic Politics and International Relations.” Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Stein, Arthur A. “**Why Nations Cooperate: Circumstance and Choice in International Relations.** Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Waltz, Kenneth N. 1979. “Theory of International Politics.” Reading, Massachusetts: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company.

Week 2: July 3 – July 7

Discussion questions: *If war is so costly, why can't states resolve their disputes through negotiations instead of war? Should we negotiate with rogue regimes? What role does misperception play in war? Can more information lead to peace? What explains the duration of war? How can we make war less likely? Why don't democracies fight one another? Why is it so hard for the international community to prevent and punish acts of aggression? How can alliances help prevent war? How does collective security work?*

Required readings:

1. Monday July 3: International Conflict. Bargaining Model of War.
 - FLS, Chapter 3.
2. Wednesday July 5: How Do International Institutions Help Keep the Peace?
 - FLS, Chapter 5.
 - Fortna, Page V. 2004. “**Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War.**” *International Studies Quarterly* 48: 269–292.
 - Short writing assignment due today.

Further reading:

- Blainey, Geoffrey. 1988. “The Causes of War.” New York: Free Press, third edition.

- Fearon, James. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations of War." *International Organization* 49: 379–414.
- Schelling, Thomas. 1966. "Arms and Influence." New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Walter, Barbara F. 1997. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51 (3): 335-364.

Week 3: July 10 – July 14

Discussion questions: *Why do some individuals and groups resort to violence against their governments or unarmed civilians? Why do wars occur within states? How are civil wars and terrorism different? How are they similar? Are terrorists rational? If economists agree that free trade is 'good', why does every country restrict trade in some way? Why are trade treaties so unpopular? Why, within a country, are some industries protected and some not?*

Required readings:

1. Monday July 10: Civil War and Terrorism.
 - FLS, Chapter 6.
 - Walter, Barbara F. 2009. "Bargaining Failures and Civil War." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12 (June): 243–261.
2. Wednesday July 12: International Trade.
 - FLS, Chapter 7.

Further reading:

- Blattman, Christopher and Edward Miguel. 2010. "Civil War." *Journal of Economic Literature* 48 (1): 3–57.
- Humphreys, Macartan and Weinstein, Jeremy M. 2008. "Who Fights? The Determinants of Participation in Civil War." *American Journal of Political Science* 52 (2): 436–455.
- Kalyvas, Stathis N. 2006. "The Logic of Violence in Civil War." Cambridge University Press.

- Mansfield, Edward D. and Helen V. Milner. 2012. “Votes, Vetoes, and the Political Economy of International Trade Agreements.” New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Regan, Patrick M. 2009. “Sixteen Million One: Understanding Civil War.” Boulder, CO: Paradigm Publishers.
- Rogowski, Ronald. 1989. “Commerce and Coalitions: How Trade Affects Domestic Political Alignments.” Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Week 4: July 17 – July 21

Discussion questions: *Why are trade treaties so unpopular? Why, within a country, are some industries protected and some not? What are the benefits of flexibility in a trade agreement? Is it better to have a PTA or be part of the WTO? Why are international relations between investors and host countries often hostile and politically controversial? Can treaties help? Is the IMF unfair?*

Required readings:

1. Monday July 17: International trade organizations: the WTO and Preferential Trade Agreements
 - FLS, Chapter 7.
 - Johns, Leslie and Lauren Peritz. 2015. “The Design of Trade Agreements”, in *Oxford Handbook of the Political Economy of International Trade*, Lisa Martin (ed.), Oxford University Press.
2. Wednesday July 19: International Financial Relations.
 - Midterm.
 - FLS, Chapter 8.

Further reading:

- Busch, Marc I. 1999. “Trade Warriors: States, Firms, and Strategic-Trade Policy in High-Technology Competition.” New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Przeworski, Adam and James R. Vreeland. 2000. “The Effect of IMF Programs on Economic Growth.” *Journal of Development Economics* 62: 385–421.

- Vreeland, James. 2007. "The International Monetary Fund: Politics of Conditional Lending." New York: Routledge.

Week 5: July 24 – July 28

Discussion questions: *How does the European Court of Human Rights encourage compliance with its rulings? How does compliance with human rights treaties differ from compliance in other areas of international law? How have countries used international human rights law to criminally prosecute individuals? How can activism help improve human rights protection around the world? What limitations do NGOs face when working to improve protections for human rights?*

Required readings:

1. Monday July 24: International law and courts.
 - FLS, Chapter 11.
 - Helfer, Laurence R. and Erik Voeten. 2014. "International Courts as Agents of Legal Change: Evidence from LGBT rights in Europe." *International Organization* 68(1): 77–110.
2. Wednesday July 26: Human rights and transnational advocacy.
 - FLS, Chapter 12.

Further reading:

- Chayes, Abram and Antonia Handler Chayes. 1993. "On Compliance." *International Organization* 47(2): 175–205.
- Downs, George W., David M. Roake, and Peter N. Barsoom. 1996. "Is the Good News About Compliance Good News About Cooperation?" *International Organization* 50(3): 379–406.
- Hafner-Burton, Emilie M. 2013. "Making Human Rights a Reality". Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- Keck, Margaret E. and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. "Activists Beyond Borders." Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

- Risse, Thomas, Stephen C. Ropp and Kathryn Sikkink. 2013. “The Persistent Power of Human Rights: From Commitment to Compliance.” New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Simmons, Beth A. 2009. “Mobilizing for Human Rights: International Law in Domestic Politics”. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Von Stein, Jana (2005) “Do Treaties Constrain or Screen? Selection Bias and Treaty Compliance.” *American Political Science Review* 99 (4): 611–622.

Week 6: July 31 – August 4

Discussion questions: *If everyone wants a cleaner and healthier environment, why is it so hard to cooperate internationally to protect it? How are environmental agreements different to other treaties? What are collective action problems and how can we solve them? How should the costs of protecting the environment be distributed?*

Required readings:

1. Monday July 31: The Global Environment.
 - FLS, Chapter 13.

2. Wednesday August 2: Final exam.

Further reading:

- Raustiala, Kal. 1997. “States, NGOs, and International Environmental Institutions.” *International Studies Quarterly* 41(4): 719–40.
- Victor, David G. 2011. “Global Warming Gridlock: Creating More Effective Strategies for Protecting the Planet.” New York: Cambridge University Press.