POLI 1500: 0EXW: Introduction to International Relations
Online
Spring 2020

Course Information

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Course Description

This course is designed with two goals in mind: (1) to introduce students to puzzles and foundational theories of world politics, and (2) to provide useful analytical frameworks and tools that students can use in the future. This course is designed to teach students how to think about international politics and to prepare students for more advanced coursework. In this course students will be exposed to broad approaches to international relations, explanations of international conflict and cooperation, and international political economy. Topics include grand theory, order, theories of decision making, causes of interstate and civil war, the Kantian Peace, trade, exchange rates, and development.

Required Textbook

You will only need one textbook for this course, *World Politics* by Frieden, Lake, and Shultz (FLS). All other readings and materials will be on the ICON website.

- Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. Third/Fourth Edition W. W. Norton & Company: New York, London

Media/System Requirements

Technical requirements for completing University of Iowa Distance and Online Education classes include:

- A student-provided personal computer.
- Computer with reliable Internet access. A wired Ethernet connection to the internet is very strongly suggested. Wireless and cellphone data connections may experience connection problems. Android and iOS operating systems are not fully supported at this time. See specific requirements on the Distance and Online Education Technical Requirements/Download page.
- While tablets, smartphones and other mobile devices may allow for some completion of coursework, they are not guaranteed to work in all areas. Please ensure you have a Windows or Mac based computer available to complete coursework in the event your selected mobile device does not meet the needs of the course.

Students who need assistive technologies will have different computer and technology requirements. Please check with your **Student Disability Services** to determine the requirements for the specific technologies needed to support your online classes.

For questions, with virtual classrooms (i.e. Zoom) or UICapture (Panopto), please contact Continuing Education Technical Support (319 335-3925).

Need help with ICON or your Hawkid? Contact the ITS Helpdesk.

Course Requirements and Grading

Discussion (10% of final grade)
Each week there will be a discussion/participation opportunity designed for active learning and discussing course material. Discussion allows students to think critically about course material and to interact with other students. Discussion will be comprised of a pre- and post-discussion assignment. The pre discussion assignment is expected to be conducted before both the readings and the lectures. The post discussion is expected to be completed after. The pre-discussion allows students to tackle course concepts without knowing it and post-discussion allows students to apply analytical concepts learned in the readings and lectures to their pre-discussion response.

Reading Assessments (10%)
For weeks that have a reading assessment from FLS you will be expected to complete the InQuizitive reading assignment for that chapter. InQuizitive is an "adaptive learning tool" that helps students with the reading material. After reading the assigned chapter, students will be asked questions about the readings.   A lecture about how to work through an InQuizitive assignment can be found on the course ICON page. For weeks that do not have an InQuizitive chapter students will instead be given a reading quiz over that week's readings. (https://wwnorton.com/inquizitive)

Exams (40%)
There will be two exams, each worth 20% of your grade. The first exam evaluates a student's knowledge about broad approaches to international relations. The second exam evaluates a student's knowledge about conflict in the international system. Close to the exam date, I will petition students for their questions on the course material. I will then post a FAQ lecture. If time and schedule permits, I will also host a review session.

Quizzes (20%)
Instead of having a final exam, students will be given two quizzes, each worth 10%. The first quiz evaluates student's knowledge over international political economy topics. The second quiz evaluates student's knowledge over transnational politics (International Law and Human Rights)

2 Response Papers (20%)
There will be 2 response papers, each worth 10% of the final grade. Students are provided with a set of prompts and rubric. Students should draw on course material but not summarize readings. This is an opportunity to apply the analytical concepts and frameworks to a topic of interest to

the student. The first response paper will be due around Spring Break. The second response paper will be due finals week.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for the course is as follows.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 or below

Course Structure

This course is being offered over the World Wide Web as a Distance and Online Education offering. Students will **login to the course site** on ICON to access the course materials. For details of the course assignments and activities, see the **"Course Outline"** section of this syllabus.

Students are expected to visit the course site regularly to:

- **Access assigned course materials (posted on the "Modules" page)** such as pre-recorded lectures and lecture notes.
- **Review the course homepage regularly** for any updates related to the course **"Announcements"** and/or **"Calendar."**
- **Participate** in the **"Discussion" forums**.

Class Policies

Technology: If a student runs into technology problems or has any questions it is expected that they notify the instructor as soon as they encounter the issue. Students ought to start on assignments prior to the hour before the deadline to make sure technology problems to not result in a late penalty.

Email: All email communication with the instructor should include a subject line that begins with Poli:1500

followed by more specific information regarding the purpose of the email. For example, "Poli:1500-meeting to discuss paper ideas". We all receive many emails a day, this helps ensure that yours doesn't get lost.

Contesting a Grade: If a student wishes to have a grade reconsidered, the student must submit a written statement to the instructor within 48 hours of having the graded assignment returned. The written statement must include the
student's rational for why additional points should be given. The instructor will then review the request as well as the assignment and respond promptly with a decision.

When Problems Arise: Students may find it hard to discuss difficulties, dilemmas, dissatisfaction, and the like with
the instructors. Please resist the temptation to remain anonymous and let the problem fester. If you have any concerns about class performance or anything related to the course, please email the instructor.

Honor Code: The Honor Code is in effect in this class and all others at the University. I am committed to treating
Honor Code violations seriously. If you have questions, it is your responsibility to ask about the Code's application.
All exams, written work, and other projects are expected to be the work of the student, and only the student, submitting the assignment unless stated otherwise explicitly in writing.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Information and Policies for Undergraduates

Absences and Attendance: Students are responsible for attending class and for contributing to the learning environment of a course. Students are also responsible for knowing the absence policies for their courses, which will vary by instructor. All absence policies, however, must uphold the UI policy related to student illness, mandatory religious obligations, unavoidable circumstances, or University authorized activities (https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/attendance-absences). Students may use this absence form to communicate with instructors.

Academic Integrity: All undergraduates enrolled in courses offered by CLAS have, in essence, agreed to the College's Code of Academic Honesty. Misconduct is reported to the College, resulting in suspension or other sanctions communicated to the student through the UI email address (https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/academic-fraud-honor-code).

Accommodations for Disabilities: UI is committed to an educational experience that is accessible to all students. A student may request academic accommodations for a disability (such as mental health, attention, learning, vision, and physical or health-related condition) by registering with Student Disability Services (SDS). The student is then responsible for discussing specific accommodations with the instructor. More information is at https://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/ .

Administrative Home of the Course: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is the administrative home of this course and governs its add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only

option, and related policies. Other colleges may have different policies. CLAS policies may be found here: https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook.

Communication and the Required Use of UI Email: Students are responsible for official correspondences sent to the UI email address (uiowa.edu) and must use this address for all communication within UI (Operations Manual, III.15.2).

Complaints: Students with a complaint about a course should first visit with the instructor or course supervisor and then with the Chair of the department or program offering the course; students may next bring the issue to CLAS in 120 Schaeffer Hall. For more information, see https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/student-rights-responsibilities.

Final Examination Policies: The final exam schedule is announced around the fifth week of classes; students are responsible for knowing the date, time, and place of a final exam. Students should not make travel plans until knowing this information. No exams of any kind are allowed the week before finals. Visit https://registrar.uiowa.edu/final-examination-scheduling-policies .

Nondiscrimination in the Classroom: UI is committed to making the classroom a respectful and inclusive space for all people irrespective of their gender, sexual, racial, religious or other identities. Toward this goal, students are invited to optionally share their preferred names and pronouns with their instructors and classmates. The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination and harassment against individuals on the basis of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, and other identity categories set forth in the University's Human Rights policy. For more information, contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity (diversity.uiowa.edu).

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community must uphold the UI mission and contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment must be reported immediately. For assistance, please see https://osmrc.uiowa.edu/ .

Course Outline

In general students will have these tasks to complete each week: readings, lectures, discussion posts, and reading assessments. We have four sections: Broad approaches to IR (5 weeks), Conflict (4 weeks), IPE (3 weeks), Transnational Politics (3 weeks). Note: this outline *may* change. Please remember to read emails and updates on the course website.

Broad Approaches to International Relations

- Module 1: Introduction
    - Read: FLS Introduction
    - Lecture:
        - Introduction to Instructor
        - Introduction to Course
        - Introduction to IR
        - How to Study and Research IR
    - M1 Discussion
    - Reading Assessment: How to Use InQuizitive
- Module 2: Paradigms of International Relations
    - Lecture:
        - Paradigms of IR
        - Realism
        - Liberalism
        - Constructivism
        - Integrating Paradigms
    - M2 Discussion
    - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS chapter 00
- Module 3: International Order
    - Lecture:
        - Order and IR
        - Varieties of Order
        - Order as a Public Good
    - M3 Discussion
    - Reading Assessment: ICON Quiz 1
- Module 4: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions
    - Read: FLS Chapter 2
    - Lecture:
        - Interests
        - Interactions
        - Institutions
    - M4 Discussion
    - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS chapter 02
- Module 5: Game Theory in IR
    - Read: FLS "Primer on Game Theory"
    - Lecture:
        - Introduction to Game Theory
        - Prisoner's Dilemma

- Stag Hunt
- Chicken
- Overcoming the Prisoner's Dilemma
  - M5 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: ICON Quiz 2
- Exam 1: Broad Approaches to International Relations

Conflict in the International System

- Module 6: Approaches to International Conflict
  - Read:
    - FLS Chapter 3
    - Steps to War
  - Lecture:
    - What is War?
    - Bargaining and War
    - The Bargaining Model of War
    - The Issue Approach
    - Steps to War
  - M6 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment:
    - InQuizitive FLS Chapter 3
    - ICON Quiz 3
- Module 7: Domestic Politics and War
  - Read: FLS Chapter 4
  - Lecture:
    - Leaders and War
    - Groups and Institutions
    - The New Peace
    - The Kantian Peace
  - M7 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 4
- Module 8: Security Institutions
  - Read: FLS Chapter 5
  - Lecture:
    - Alliances
    - Collective Security
  - M8 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 5
- Module 9: Violence by Non-state Actors
  - Read: FLS Chapter 6
  - Lecture:
    - Civil Wars
    - Terrorism
  - M9 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 6

- Exam 2: Conflict in the International System

International Political Economy

- Module 10: International Trade
  - Read: FLS Chapter 7
  - Lecture:
    - Introduction to Trade
    - Restrictions on Trade
    - Trade Institutions
  - M10 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 7
- Module 11: International Monetary Policy
  - Read: FLS Chapter 9
  - Lecture:
    - International Monetary Relations
    - Exchange Rate Preferences
    - Eurozone and Crises
  - M11 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 9
- Module 12: Economic Development
  - Read: FLS Chapter 10
  - Lecture:
    - TED Talk by Hans Rosling
    - TED Talk to Paul Collier
    - Development
    - IMF and SAPs
  - M12 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 10
- International Political Economy Quiz

Transnational Politics

- Module 13: International Law and Norms
  - Read: FLS Chapter 11
  - Lecture:
    - International Law
    - International norms
    - Transnational Advocacy Networks
  - M13 Discussion
  - Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 11
- Module 14: Human Rights
  - Read: FLS Chapter 12
  - Lecture:
    - Progress and Definition
    - Why Violate and Treaty Politics
    - Enforcement and Improvement

- o M14 Discussion
- o Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 12
- Module 15: The Global Environment
  - o Read: FLS Chapter 13
  - o Lecture: The Global Environment
  - o M15 Discussion
  - o Reading Assessment: InQuizitive FLS Chapter 13
- Transnational Politics Quiz