
Political Science 106
Introduction to International Relations

Hein Goemans
Harkness 337
Office Hours: Thursday 1–2
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Course Info:
Spring 2021
2:00–2:50 PM MW
Section **TBA** Friday
Strong Auditorium Room 011

This course provides students with the background and conceptual tools they need to understand contemporary international relations. We will dig into the origins and workings of the state system, the causes of international conflict and violence, and international economic relations. The introduction is deliberately broad, although we go into some depth on some issues, to make them familiar with the main theoretical traditions in the field. While we will rely on a core textbook, students will be asked, as much as possible, to read original texts. Time permitting, we will also examine topics of particular current interest such as the evolving nature of power in the post Cold War environment as well as special global challenges like COVID-19, the rise of China, and the future of international institutions.

The pandemic has of course upended a lot of the structure of teaching in the last year. And so classes will be different this semester as well. The in-person class will be held in the largest auditorium on Campus, Strong Auditorium Room 101. But even in this largest room, there is not sufficient space for more than about 35 students to attend, if we can reasonably keep appropriate distance between everybody attending. We will therefore rotate about half of the class for in-person teaching, where one half attends Monday lectures and the other half attends Wednesday lectures in person. The lectures will be available, live and in recorded format so that all students can attend all lectures, either virtually or in person. The Friday recitation section will be all online, and your Teaching Assistant will develop the necessary schedule.

Course Requirements

Participation in recitation (Friday at one of two allotted time slots,) comprises 30% of your grade; your teaching fellow has nearly absolute autonomy in determining the requirements and assessing how well or poorly you have met them.

A midterm exam counts for 30% of your grade, and a final exam counts for 40%. The final exam is given during the period scheduled by the University. The exam is not given early — check the schedule published by the University and make your holiday travel plans accordingly.

Academic Integrity

Be familiar with the University's policies on academic integrity and disciplinary action (<http://www.rochester.edu/College/honesty/students.html>). Violators of University regulations on academic integrity will be dealt with severely, which means that your grade will suffer, and I will forward your case to the Chair of the College Board on Academic Honesty.

Remember that the same technology that has made plagiarism easier to accomplish has also made it easier to detect. If you do not cite a source, it is plagiarism. If you do cite it, it is scholarship.

Teaching Fellows

Gyu Sang Shim

Harkness 305

gyusangshim@rochester.edu

Recitation section 1, Friday 2-3 PM

[https://rochester.zoom.us/j/](https://rochester.zoom.us/j/92146641214)

92146641214

Recitation section 2, Friday 3-4 PM

[https://rochester.zoom.us/j/](https://rochester.zoom.us/j/94963792379)

94963792379

Peng (Fred) Gui

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Section 1: Friday 11-12

[https://rochester.zoom.us/j/](https://rochester.zoom.us/j/99080437246)

99080437246

Texts

The following book is required:

Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake & Kenneth A. Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. **Second Edition**. New York: W. W. Norton, 2013. Referred to throughout as **FLS**.

Optional:

Robert Art & Robert Jervis. (2007) *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*. Addison-Wesley, Eighth Edition; listed below as **Art IPECCI**.

Readings not included in one of the texts can be found through one of the online databases, or in a Dropbox folder I will share. The optional readings are useful for providing background, especially for the initial part of the course on theory and concepts. You have to know about the background and substance of International Relations to appreciate and weigh the usefulness of contending theories.

In addition, I **expect** students to read one of the following newspapers: the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, or the *Guardian* (which is free), the *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, *Die Zeit*,

Le Monde diplomatique or a comparable international paper. It is entirely likely that questions on the mid-term and the final will require you to be up-to-date on current events.

Course Outline

Monday February 1

1. Introduction and overview

- “How to Read Political Science: A Guide in Four Steps;” Memo. Amelia Hoover Green, Drexel University.
- As a helpful basic primer on the current world:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5p0FKmk7ytU>

Wednesday February 3

2. Those who do not know the past are doomed to repeat it

- **FLS**: Introduction and Chapter 1
- R. Harrison Wagner, **War and the State**, Chapter 1.
- Steve Walt, “International Relations: One World, Many Theories”, in *Foreign Policy*: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1149275?seq=9>

Friday February 5

Section Assignments

All Sections will be run online.

Monday February 8

3. The state and the Sovereign Territorial Order

- Diego Gambetta, *The Sicilian Mafia*, Oxford University Press, Chapter 1–3: 15-71.
- Mancur Olson, 1993. “Dictatorship, Democracy and Development,” in *The American Political Science Review*, Vol 87(3), (September): 567-577.
- Beth Simmons & Hein Goemans, “Built on Borders: Tensions with the Institution Liberalism (Thought It) Left Behind”. Forthcoming in *International Organization*, Vol. 75(2).
- Optional. Witty and highly recommended: Daniel W. Drezner. (2011) *Theories of International Politics and Zombies*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Wednesday February 10

4. The ‘modern’ era after 1945

- G. John Ikenberry, *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2001: Chapter 6, pp. 163–214.

- R. Harrison Wagner, “What was Bipolarity?” *International Organization* 47 (1): 77–106, Winter 1993.

Monday February 15

5. **The analytical framework: interests, interactions & institutions**

- **FLS:** Chapter 2.
- Play this game: <http://ncase.me/trust/>

Wednesday February 17

6. **Interests and actors**

- Arnold Wolfers, 1952. ““National Security” as an Ambiguous Symbol,” in *Political Science Quarterly*. Vol. 67, No. 4, December 1952: 481–502.
- Kenneth A. Schultz, 1999. “Do Democratic Institutions Constrain or Inform?: Contrasting Two Institutional Perspectives on Democracy and War,” *International Organization* 53(2) (Spring 1999), pp. 233-66.
- Michael C. Horowitz and Matthew Fuhrman, 2018 “Studying Leaders and Military Conflict: Conceptual Framework and Research Agenda.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* Vol 62(10): 2072–2086.

Monday February 22

7. **Interactions: The bargaining model of peace**

- **PSC 270 Class Notes:** chapter 11.

Wednesday February 24

8. **War and bargaining**

- **FLS:** chapter 3

Monday March 1

Study Break Day

Wednesday March 3

9. **Domestic Politics and War**

- **FLS:** Chapter 4
- Giacomo Chiozza and H. E. Goemans, *Leaders and International Conflict*, Chapters 1 and 6.

Monday March 22

14. **International Financial Relations**

- **FLS**: Chapter 8

Wednesday March 24

MID-TERM

Monday March 29

15. **Global Health and the Pandemic**

- **FLS**: Chapter 10
- Laurie Garrett. "The Challenge of Global Health." *Foreign Affairs* 86, # 1 (2007): 14-38.
- Lainie Rutkow, "Origins of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Path Forward. A Global Public Health Policy Perspective." 2020. Chapter 5 in Hal Brands and Francis J. Gavin (eds.), *COVID-19 and World Order*. Johns Hopkins University Press. <https://muse.jhu.edu/chapter/2696556/pdf>.
- Sheena Greitens, "Surveillance, Security, and Liberal Democracy in the Post-COVID World." *International Organization*. **COVID-19 Online Supplemental Issue**. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-organization/information/io-covid-19-online-supplemental-issue/io-covid19-supplemental-articles>
- Tanisha Fazal, "Health Diplomacy in Pandemical Times." 2020. *International Organization* **COVID-19 Online Supplemental Issue**. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-organization/article/health-diplomacy-in-pandemical-times/A82469023B94AA29F23A52AF0C4B3F27>

Wednesday March 31

16. **International Regimes**

- **FLS**, Chapter 11.

Monday April 5

17. **International Law**

- Anne-Marie Slaughter, Andrew S. Tulumello, Stepan Wood, "International Law and International Relations Theory: A New Generation of Interdisciplinary Scholarship," in *The American Journal of International Law*, Vol. 92, # 3 (July 1998): 367–397.

- K. P. Prakash, “International Criminal Court: A Review.” *Economic and Political Weekly* 37, # 4 (2002): 4113-4115.
- John R. Bolton, “The Risks and Weaknesses of the International Criminal Court from America’s Perspective.” *Law and Contemporary Problems* 64, # 1 (2001): 167-180.

Wednesday April 7

18. Human Rights

- **FLS**: Chapter 12

Monday April 12

19. Terrorism

- **FLS**, Chapter 6.
 - Mia Bloom, 2017. “Constructing Expertise: Terrorist Recruitment and “Talent Spotting” in the PIRA, Al Qaeda, and ISIS,” *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 40:7, 603-623, DOI: 10.1080/1057610X.2016.1237219
 - Mia Bloom, 2015. “Cubs of the Caliphate; The CHildren of ISIS.” *Foreign Affairs*, July 21, 2015.
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2015-07-21/cubs-caliphate>
 - Optional: Louise Richardson, *What do Terrorists Want: Understanding the Enemy, Containing the Threat*. New York: Random House, 2006.

Wednesday April 14

20. Nuclear Weapons

- **FLS**, Chapter 14, pp.538–548
- Scott D. Sagan and Benjamin Valentino, “Living With a Nuclear North Korea”. *The Wall Street Journal*, March 20, 2019. Available in readings under Scott and Valentino.
- Alexandre Debs and Nuno Monteiro, “The Strategic Logic of Nuclear Proliferation”, *International Security*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (2014), pp. 7-51.
- Scott D. Sagan and Kenneth N. Waltz, 2003. Chapter 3, “Indian and Pakistani Nuclear Weapons: For Better or Worse?” In *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons; A Debate Renewed*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company,

Monday April 19

21. Cyber Warfare

- Joseph S. Nye, Jr., 2017. “Deterrence and Dissuasion in Cyberspace.” *International Security* 41(3): 44-71.

- Michael Horowitz, 2018. “Artificial Intelligence, International Competition, and the Balance of Power.” *Texas National Security Review* 1(3) (May 2018)
- William Akoto.2021. International Trade and cyber conflict: Decomposing the effect of trade on state-sponsored cyber attacks. *Journal of Peace Research*.
<https://t.co/vtA9WI6FbQ?amp=1>

As you can imagine, there’s a rapidly growing literature on this topic. In case you are interested, here are some more readings you might find worthwhile.

- Remco Zwetsloot and Alan Dafoe, “Thinking About Risks From AI: Accidents, Misuse and Structure”. *Lawfare*, February 11, 2019.
<https://www.lawfareblog.com/thinking-about-risks-ai-accidents-misuse-and-structure>
- Erica D. Borghard and Shawn W. Lonergan, 2017. “The Logic of Coercion in Cyberspace.” *Security Studies* 26(3): 452-481
- David Gompert and Martin Libicki, 2014. “Cyber warfare and Sino-American Crisis Stability,” *Survival* 56(4): 7-22
- Nadiya Kostyuk and Yuri Zhukov, 2019. “Invisible Digital Front: Can Cyber Attacks Shape Battlefield Events?” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 63(2) 317–347:
- Jon Lindsay, 2013. “Stuxnet and the limits of cyber warfare.” *Security Studies* 22(3): 365-404
- Jon Lindsay, 2015. “The Impact of China on Cybersecurity: Fiction and Friction.” *International Security* 39(3): 7-47.
- Thomas Rid, 2012. “Cyber war will not take place.” *Journal of Strategic Studies* 35(1): 5-32.
- Rebecca Slayton, 2017. “What Is the Cyber Offense-Defense Balance? Conceptions, Causes, and Assessment.” *International Security* 41(3): 72-109
- Brandon Valeriano and Ryan C. Maness, 2014. “The dynamics of cyber conflict between rival antagonists, 2001–11.” *Journal of Peace Research* 51(3): 347-360.
- Check out the RAND Corporation’s page on Cyber Warfare:
<https://www.rand.org/topics/cyber-warfare.html>
- Tarah Wheeler, 2018. “In cyberwar, there are no rules; Why the world desperately needs digital Geneva Conventions.” *Foreign Policy*, September 12, 2018. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/09/12/in-cyberwar-there-are-no-rules-cybersecurity-war-defense/>

Wednesday April 21

22. The Environment

- **FLS:** Chapter 13
- Aarne Granlund, 2017. “Three Things We Don’t Want To Understand About Climate Change.” In *Medium*, 30 August 2017.
https://medium.com/@aarnegranslund/three-things-we-dont-understand-about-climate-change-c59338a1c435?fbclid=IwAR09eAWvoj3UVBS7muSOrP3Uz0jZHePI_LTaATLBcRmp4QnfMiJ6wftTs

- Robinson Meyer, 2018. “Does Climate Change Cause More War?” in *The Atlantic*, February 2018. <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/02/does-climate-change-cause-more-war/553040/>

Monday April 26

23. The Rise of China

- **FLS**, Chapter 14, pp.548–556.

Wednesday April 28

24. The Democratic Peace and Democratic Backsliding

- Anne Appelbaum, 2018. “A Warning From Europe: The Worst Is Yet to Come.” *The Atlantic*, October 2018. <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2018/10/poland-polarization/568324/>
- Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. “This is how democracies die.” *The Guardian*, Sunday 21 January 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/commentisfree/2018/jan/21/this-is-how-democracies-die>
- Nancy Bermeo, 2016. On Democratic Backsliding. *Journal of Democracy*, 27(1): 5–19.
- Beda Magyar (a pseudonym), “Hungary is Lost.” *Die Zeit*. 9 April 2019. https://www.zeit.de/amp/politik/ausland/2019-04/european-union-hungary-democracy-viktor-orban-english?__twitter_impression=true
- Optional: Watch Timothy Snyder’s talk: “On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6bfzd0Nyhk>

Monday May 3

25. The decline of the Liberal International Order?

- Beth Simmons and Hein Goemans, “Built on Borders” Forthcoming in the 75th Anniversary issue of *International Organization*, 75(2).
- Selections from other contributions to this issue

Wednesday May 5

26. Real world IR of this semester

- Making sense of what happened in the last couple of months.

Please give me some information about yourself: Who are you? To that end, hand in one page bio on yourself:

1. Name, e-mail, year, major.
2. Why did you sign up for this course?
3. What are your interests, extra-curricular?
4. What is true about you and no one else?
5. Should the US withdraw from Iraq? If so, on what conditions?
6. What are your biggest expectations of a U of R Professor.