

International Political Relations

Government and Politics 200, Section 0101, Summer Session I

Instructor: Jesse-Douglas Mathewson

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| Meeting Times: | Tuesday 12:30-3:50 PM Thursday 12:30-3:50 PM | Location: | 1102 Tydings Hall |
| Contact Info: | 301.405.4131 jessmath@umd.edu | Office Hours: | Tuesday 4:00-5:00 PM Thursday 4:00-5:00 PM 1115 Tydings Hall |

Course Description

This course is an in-depth and intensive elaboration on the principles, players, and practice of politics on the world stage. You will be challenged to understand not only what is happening in the world around you, but to understand who is responsible and why. You will also be encouraged to consider the many dilemmas of international politics: morality vs. self-interest, diplomacy vs. force, independence vs. interdependence, democracy vs. dictatorship, et al... After successfully completing this course, you will come away with a broader understanding of the world in which you live, a deeper understanding of your position and your responsibilities in the international community, and a sense that, as the song implies, it is a small world after all.

I expect you to work hard and actively engage in the learning process, as I shall do our best to involve each and every one of you individually. I will challenge you to think, speak, and write to your utmost potential on a wide range of subjects. Therefore, I expect you to come to each class and discussion, to be punctual and respectful, and to be prepared with your reading and any due assignments as well.

The material in this course builds off the introductory material to international relations in GVPT 100, and so it is a pre-requisite of this course. This class is also a CORE class for the Distributive Studies requirement. Accordingly, we shall demonstrate the distinct perspective that international relations provides in understanding the world and those who live in it, how different cultural and historical backgrounds affect this perspective, how these perspectives change over time, and how to think, research, and understand phenomena as a political scientist. (CORE initiatives based on "About Satisfying the CORE Requirements" at <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/core/elements/SatisCo.html>).

Class Policies

I shall do my best to accommodate students with disabilities. I ask that you inform me by the second day of class any additional support you may require. I understand that newly arising conditions may also interfere with your scholarship. However, you must notify me of these events as they occur, and not after they have caused you to miss important coursework such as tests or papers.

Continued...

I will in no way tolerate academic dishonesty to any extent or in any form. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and the facilitation of any of these infractions. For a full explanation of the University policy on academic dishonesty, please consult the Code of Academic Integrity at:

http://www.inform.umd.edu/campusinfo/department/jpo.code_acinteg.html.

Penalties for academic dishonesty begin with failure of this course and include the possibility of expulsion from the University. This policy will be administered fairly and indiscriminately, without regard to personal situation, progress at the University, or any other extraneous condition.

All religious observances will be accommodated so long as I am notified in advance. In the event of another University accepted excuse, please notify me as soon as possible.

Course Materials

Required Textbook: Mingst, Karen A. *Essentials of International Relations, Fourth Edition*. W.W. Norton, ISBN-10: 0-393-92897-7

Required Reader: Mingst and Snyder. *Essential Readings in World Politics, Third Edition*. W.W. Norton, ISBN-10: 0-393-93114-5

Required Website: Class weblog: <http://www.wam.umd.edu/~jessmath>. Some readings will be posted online exclusively, and they will be highlighted. Password: gvpt200math.

Exams and Grading

Midpoint Exercise: 15%

The midpoint exercise will evaluate your understanding of the material from the first half of the course. This test will include multiple short identification questions and essays of moderate length. You will have one hour for the exam. Review sheets and sample questions will be available before the testing date.

Cumulative Exercise: 30%

The final exam will include material from the entirety of the course. This test will include multiple short identification questions and essays of moderate length. You will have two hours for the exam. Review sheets and sample questions will be available before the testing date.

Brief Exercises: 5% each

A total of five reading quizzes will be administered at the beginning of class time throughout the session. These quizzes may be short answer or multiple choice. The lowest score of your five exercises will be dropped from your final grade.

Written Exercise: 15%

The written exercise is a 6 to 8 page response to a topic that engages a contemporary political debate while employing a strong understanding of the concepts that you have studied in this course. Guidelines will be forthcoming.

Continued...

Debates: 10%

During the course of the semester we will engage in three debates. Each of you will participate in one of these debates. These projects will require a non-trivial amount of background research and presentation, upon which you will be graded. You will also be evaluated by the students who are not leading your particular debate.

Participation: 10%

Your participation grade consists of attendance and contribution to class discussion. Your baseline participation grade is equal to the proportion of classes attended. For example: 80% attendance equals a baseline score of 8 out of 10. I may add *or subtract* up to 3 points to this baseline in relation to the quantity and quality of your in-class contributions. **The participatory component to this class is a serious feature, should be taken seriously, and will be evaluated with appropriate gravitas.**

Course Outline

Unit I: Systems and Actors

Tue, June 3:

Rationalist Paradigms

Mingst, pp. 55-98 (Textbook)

Thucydides, "Melian Dialogue." (Reader, ch. 1)

Kant, "To Perpetual Peace." (Reader, ch. 1)

Waltz, chapter 6 of *Theory of International Politics*. (Online)

Keohane and Nye, chapter 1 of *Power and Interdependence*. (Online)

Thu, June 5:

Rationalist Paradigms, continued...

Mingst, pp. 55-98 (Textbook)

Morgenthau, "The Balance of Power." (Reader, ch. 4)

Mearsheimer, "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power." (Reader, ch. 4)

Be sure to cover Tuesday's readings...

Constructivist and Radical Paradigms

Mingst, pp. 55-98 (Textbook)

Lenin, selections from *Imperialism*. (Reader, ch. 1)

Wendt, "Anarchy Is What States Make of It." (Reader, ch. 3)

Tickner, "Man, the State, and War." (Reader, ch. 3)

Wallerstein, "The Rise and Future Demise..." (Reader, ch. 4)

First Debate: Are Marx and Lenin Still Relevant?

Continued...

Tue, June 10:

The State

Mingst, pp. 99-128 (Textbook)

Krasner, "Sovereignty." (Online)

Krasner, "Sharing Sovereignty..." (Reader, ch. 5)

Slaughter, "The Real New World Order." (Reader, ch. 5)

Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" (Reader, ch. 5)

Allison, "Conceptual Models and the Cuban Missile Crisis." (Online)

In-class Movie: "Dr. Strangelove" (Part I)

Thu, June 12:

Individuals, Publics and Elites

Mingst, pp. 129-160, (Textbook)

Jervis, "Hypotheses on Misperception." (Reader, ch. 6)

Keck and Sikkink, "Transnational Advocacy Networks..." (Reader, ch. 7)

Hermann and Hagan, "International Decision Making." (Online)

Enloe, "The Personal is International" (Online)

Murphy, "Recasting International Relations." (Online)

Putnam, "The Logic of Two-Level Games" (Online)

In-class Movie: "Dr. Strangelove" (Part II)

Tue, June 17:

International Institutions

Mingst, pp. 163-204

Ruggie, "The Anatomy of an Institution." (Online)

The Charter of the United Nations. Preamble, Chapters 1-2, 5, 14 (Online)

"The Universal Declaration of Human Rights." (Online)

Moravcsik, "A Too Perfect Union? Why Europe Said 'No.'" (Reader, ch. 7)

Mearsheimer, "The False Promise of International Institutions." (Reader, ch. 7)

Ikenberry, "Is American Multilateralism in Decline?" (Online)

Midpoint Review

Paper Outlines Due

Continued...

Unit II: Policy and Outcomes

Thu, June 19:

MIDPOINT EXERCISE

International Law

Mingst pp. 193-204

[The Charter of the United Nations. Preamble, Chapters 1-2, 5, 14. \(Online\)](#)

[The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. \(Online\)](#)

War and Peace

Mingst, pp. 207-232

Clausewitz, "War as an Instrument of Policy." (Reader, ch. 8)

Schelling, "The Diplomacy of Violence." (Reader, ch. 8)

[Wilson, "Fourteen Points." \(Online\)](#)

[Bin Laden, "Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders." \(Online\)](#)

Tue, June 24:

War and Peace, continued...

Mingst, pp. 207-232

[Fearon, "Rationalist Explanations for War." \(Online\)](#)

Voeten, "The Political Origins of the UN Security Council..." (Reader, ch. 7)

Pape, "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." (Reader, ch. 8)

Ross, "Oil, Drugs, and Diamonds." (Reader, ch. 8)

[Trostky, "The War and the International." \(Online\)](#)

Be sure to cover last Thursday's readings...

Thu, June 26:

War and Peace, continued...

Mingst, pp. 232-245, 309-320

Padgen, "Imperialism, Liberalism, and...Perpetual Peace." (Reader, ch. 4)

[Russett and Oneal, chapter 1 *Triangulating Peace* \(Online\)](#)

[Sagan and Waltz, "Indian and Pakistani Nuclear Weapons." \(Online\)](#)

[Mueller, "The Essential Irrelevance of Nuclear Weapons." \(Online\)](#)

[Finnemore, "Constructing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention." \(Online\)](#)

[Vellacott, "A Place for Pacifism." \(Online\)](#)

Second Debate: To Intervene or Not to Intervene? That is the question...

Tue, July 1:

Political Economy: The Creative Power of Capitalism

Mingst, pp. 247-276, 320-326

Gilpin, "The Nature of Political Economy." (Reader, ch. 9)

[Krasner, "State Power and the Structure of International Trade" \(Online\)](#)

[Mansfield, "The Proliferation of Preferential Trading Arrangements." \(Online\)](#)

Wolf, selections from *Why Globalization Works*. (Reader, ch. 9)

[Simon, "More People, Greater Wealth..." \(Online\)](#)

Milner, "Globalization, Development, International Institutions" (Reader, ch. 9)

Continued...

Thu, July 3:

Political Economy: The Destructive Power of Capitalism

Mingst, pp. 276-309

Marx, Selections (Online)

Hardin, "The Tragedy of the Commons." (Online)

Campbell, "Petroleum and People." (Online)

Moghadam, "Female Labor, Regional Crises..." (Reader, ch. 9)

Soysa and Neumeyer, "False Prophet, or Genuine Savior?" (Online)

Third Debate: Neo-Malthusians vs. Cornucopians

In-class Documentary: The 11th Hour

Tue, July 8:

Globalization and the Way Ahead

Mingst, pp. 247-309, 320-326

Scott, "The Great Divide in the Global Village" (Online)

Peterson, "Rewriting (Global) Political Economy." (Online)

Garrett, "The Next Pandemic?" (Reader, ch. 10)

Stiglitz, "The Way Ahead" (Online)

Cumulative Review

Thu, July 10:

CUMULATIVE EXERCISE

WRITTEN EXERCISES DUE