

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Political Science 12
International Relations

Philip G. Roeder
Fall Quarter 2010

Political Science 12 is an introduction to the problems of conflict and cooperation among sovereign states and the search for peace in a changing world. This is an introductory course: It assumes no previous study of international (or domestic) politics. The primary goal of the course is to acquaint you with major modes of analysis in the scholarly study of international relations. This is organized around the central question of the course:

•WILL THE WORLD BECOME MORE PEACEFUL THAN IN THE PAST?

- I. WHY WAS THERE CONFLICT IN THE PAST?
 - A. Why Did Europe Slip into the First World War?
 - B. Why a Second World War?
 - C. Who or What Was to Blame for the Cold War?
 - D. Was 9/11 the End of a Long Peace?
- II. ACTORS: WHY DO SOME FIGHT AND OTHERS COOPERATE?
- III. INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS: WHY ARE SOME PEACEFUL?
 - A. The International System of States: An Overview.
 - B. The Security Dilemma: Does Conflict Inhere in Anarchy?
 - C. Unipolarity: Can a Hegemon Guarantee the Peace?
 - D. The Balance of Power: Can the “Invisible Hand” Protect Us?
 - E. The Balance of Terror: Can MADness Save Us?
 - F. International Institutions: Can We Build Peace?
- IV. WHERE DOES WORLD POLITICS GO FROM HERE?
 - A. Is the World Developing a Culture of Cooperation?
 - B. Are New Actors Transforming Global Politics?
 - C. Why Would Rational Economic Actors Ever Go to War?
 - D. Are International Relations Really Changing?

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Teaching Assistants:

Christopher Chiego	SSB 343	cchiego@ucsd.edu	Sections # 3, 4
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Molly Racenberg	SSB 331	rnebauer@ucsd.edu	Sections # 5, 8
Patrick Rogers	SSB 350	pjrogers@ucsd.edu	Sections # 1, 6

Reading Assignments. All readings are contained in a reader that you can purchase at Soft Reserves in the old Student Center. There are no required books at the Bookstore. Most readings are also on electronic reserve through the Library.

On average you will only need to read two articles per week, but most of these articles are written at a level that demands close attention and thought. These are not textbook chapters. Instead, each author takes a stand on a contested issue. Pay close attention to the ways in which their intellectual assumptions

shape their analyses. In particular, note the different ways in which authors frame their research questions, use theory to derive expectations (hypotheses) about the empirical patterns we should observe, and present evidence that they claim confirms their hypotheses.

Grades. Your course grade will be the weighted average of your performance in discussion sections and on two examinations. In computation of your course grade, your performance on these requirements will be weighted as follows:

Discussion sections	20%
Midterm examination	30%
Final examination	40%
Additional weight to the better exam	10%

Examinations. Each examination will include two parts—short identification questions (completed in class) and an essay (completed “at home”). The dates of the examinations are as follows:

Midterm Examination.	Monday, October 25.	(Regular class time)
Final Examination.	Friday, December 10.	(9:00 am)

You must turn in each take-home essay no later than the time of the corresponding in-class examination.

Discussion Sections. Participation in the weekly meetings of your discussion section is required. In discussion sections the teaching assistants will clarify what the professor really meant to say in lecture. The sections provide you with the opportunity to discuss the assigned readings and to complete the writing requirements for this course. Since your TA will grade your examinations, it is important that you work closely with her or him.

Pod-casts. All lectures should be available after class on the UCSD pod-cast web-site.

Web site. Copies of the syllabus, the lecture outlines, and each assignment will be posted to a web-site for this course. If you lose your hardcopy of the syllabus or any assignment, check the web-site. The address is:

dss.ucsd.edu/~proeder

Please note: If a fire, earthquake, snow, or other emergency forces closure of UCSD, I will try to post on line information about any changes to the syllabus. If I cannot access the UCSD computer, this may be delayed.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS

I. WHY WAS THERE CONFLICT IN THE PAST?

- Mo Sep 27. Introductory Meeting.
We Sep 29. Why Did Europe Slip into the First World War?

Assignment for Week 1 Discussion Sections:

- John G. Stoessinger. *Why Nations Go to War*, any edition. New York: Various publishers, 1974-present. Chapter 1.
Stephen van Evera. "The Cult of the Offensive and the Origins of the First World War." *International Security* 9 (Summer 1984), 58-107.

- Mo Oct 4. Why a Second World War?
We Oct 6. Who or What Was to Blame for the Cold War?

Assignment for Week 2 Discussion Sections:

- John Lewis Gaddis. "The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International System." *International Security* 10 (Spring 1986), 99-142.

- Mo Oct 11. Was 9/11 the End of a Long Peace?

II. ACTORS: WHY DO SOME FIGHT AND OTHERS COOPERATE?

- We Oct 13. Foreign Policies: What Makes Some States Aggressive?

Assignment for Week 3 Discussion Sections:

- Jack Snyder. "Civil-Military Relations and the Cult of the Offensive, 1914 and 1984." *International Security* 9 (Summer 1984), 108-146.
Michael W. Doyle. "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs." *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 12 (Summer and Fall 1983), 205-235, 323-353.

- Mo Oct 18. Theories of Foreign Policies [continued].
We Oct 20. Theories of Foreign Policies [continued some more].

Assignment for Week 4 Discussion Sections:

- David A. Lake. "Powerful Pacifists: Democratic States and War." *American Political Science Review* 86 (March 1992), 24-37.

III. INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS: WHY ARE SOME PEACEFUL?

- Mo Oct 25. MIDTERM EXAMINATION.
We Oct 27. The International System of States: An Overview.

Assignment for Week 5 Discussion Sections:

- Jack Levy. "Theories of General War." *World Politics* 37 (April 1985), 344-74.

- Mo Nov 1. The Security Dilemma: Does Conflict Inhere in Anarchy?
We Nov 3. Unipolarity: Can a Hegemon Again Guarantee the Peace?

Assignment for Week 6 Discussion Sections:

- Christopher Layne. "The Unipolar Illusion Revisited: The Coming End of the United States' Unipolar Moment." *International Security* 31 (Fall 2006), 7-41.
Jack S. Levy and William R. Thompson. "Balancing on Land and at Sea: Do States Ally against the Leading Global Power?" *International Security* 35 (Summer 2010), 7-43.

- Mo Nov 8. Balance of Power: Can the “Invisible Hand” Protect Us?
We Nov 10. The Balance of Terror: Can MADness Save Us?.

Assignment for Week 7 Discussion Sections:

- John Mearsheimer. “The Case for a Ukrainian Nuclear Deterrent.” *Foreign Affairs* 72 (Summer 1993), 50-66.
Steven E. Miller. “The Case Against a Ukrainian Nuclear Deterrent.” *Foreign Affairs* 72 (Summer 1993), 67-80.
John Mearsheimer. “Here We Go Again,” *New York Times* (17 May 1998), Section 4.

- Mo Nov 15. International Institutions: Can We Build Peace?
We Nov 17. Is the World Developing a Culture of Cooperation or Conflict?

Assignment for Week 8 Discussion Sections:

- John S. Duffield. “Explaining the Long Peace in Europe: The Contributions of Regional Security Regimes.” *Review of International Studies* 20 (October 1994), 369-388.
Carl Kaysen. “Is War Obsolete? A Review Essay.” *International Security* 14 (Spring 1990), 42-64.
Samuel P. Huntington. “The Clash of Civilizations.” *Foreign Affairs* 72 (Summer 1993), 22-49.

IV. WHERE DOES WORLD POLITICS GO FROM HERE?

- Mo Nov 22. Are New Actors Transforming Global Politics?
We Nov 24. The Day before Thanksgiving.
Mo Nov 29. Why Would Rational Economic Actors Ever Go to War?
We Dec 1. Are International Relations Really Changing?

Assignment for Week 10 Discussion Sections:

- Michael Mousseau. “Market Civilization and Its Clash with Terror.” *International Security* 27 (Winter 2002-3), 5-29.
Audrey Kurth Cronin. “Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism.” *International Security* 27 (Winter 2002/3), 30-58.

Friday, December 10. FINAL EXAMINATION. (9:00 am).