

PS 12: International Relations

Winter 2015
MW 9-9:50 AM
Warren Lecture Hall 2005

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Office: SSB 372
Office Hours: Tues. 1:30-3:30 PM
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Syllabus

This course introduces students to the study of international politics. No prior background in international relations is assumed. Students will acquire the basic analytic tools necessary to understand and explain a variety of international phenomena including war, terrorism, globalization, environmental cooperation, and human rights practices.

Readings

The textbook for this course is Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, Kenneth A. Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions*, Second Edition (New York: W.W. Norton, 2013). Denoted as FLS below. It is available for purchase at the UCSD Bookstore and at various online dealers. An Ebook version of the text can be purchased at: <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/detail.aspx?ID=4294971747> (\$70.83 for downloadable version; \$35.41 for 180 day web access).

The Student Studyspace through W. W. Norton is available at <http://wwnorton.com/college/polisci/worldpolitics2/welcome.aspx>. Here you will find study plans, chapter outlines, practice quizzes, and other pedagogical tools.

Grades

Grades for this course will be based on 1) in-class “clicker” quizzes (10 percent), 2) midterm (30 percent), 3) final (30 percent), and 4) section (30 percent). Section requirements may differ by TA. All assignments are subject to UCSD’s academic integrity standards (see below).

Both the midterm and final exam will be a mix of short answer/identification and essay questions. The midterm will cover weeks 1-5. The final will cover weeks 6-10. All students must bring their own “blue books” and take the midterm and final exams at the scheduled times. Missed exams may be made up only after a Doctor’s note is submitted explaining why you were too ill to take the exam. No exceptions.

At the beginning of each class, there will be “clicker” warm up questions on the reading assigned for that day. The three lowest daily scores on the warm up questions will be dropped, with the remainder graded on the percentage of each day’s questions that are answered correctly. During the lecture, there may also be clicker questions for discussion and to check student understanding of the material. These questions will not be graded. ***Students are required to purchase and bring their own iClickers to class every day.***

Course Webpage

This syllabus and appropriate links are available on the course webpage at <http://dss.ucsd.edu/~dlake/courses/ps12/ps12.htm>. The slides from lecture will be available before class on this page as well. It is recommended that you download the slides before each lecture to facilitate note taking. The slides are not a substitute for lecture.

Sections

A central activity in the weekly discussion sections will be preparation for and participation in topical debates on current issues of international relations. Emphasis will be on applying analytic material from class and the textbook to the assigned debate topic. Debate format and preparation will be discussed by the TAs in sections. In-section debates will be held during the second half of the quarter.

UCSD Academic Integrity Policy

Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind.

All suspicions of academic misconduct will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy. Academic misconduct is not just blatant cheating (e.g., copying off another student during an exam), but what you might have thought of as "minor cheating" in high school, for example: copying other students' papers or homework; copying or using old papers/report; working with others on individual assignments; forgetting to cite material you took from an outside resource; turning in work completed in total or part by another. The Policy on Integrity of Scholarship (academicintegrity.ucsd.edu) lists some of the standards by which you are expected to complete your academic work, but your good ethical judgment (or asking me for advice) is also expected as we cannot list every behavior that is unethical or not in the spirit of academic integrity.

Those students found to have committed academic misconduct will face administrative sanctions imposed by their college Dean of Student Affairs and academic sanctions imposed by me. The standard administrative sanctions include: the creation of a disciplinary record (which will be checked by graduate and professional schools); disciplinary probation; and attendance at an Academic Integrity Seminar (at a cost of \$75). Students can also face suspension and dismissal from the University; those sanctions are not at my discretion. Academic sanctions can range from an F on the assignment to an F in the class. The appropriate sanctions are determined by the egregiousness of the Policy violation. Students who assist in or are complicit with cheating could also be in violation of the Policy. Thus, students who become aware of their peers either facilitating academic misconduct or committing it should report their suspicions to me for investigation.

Schedule of Topics and Readings

I. Introduction

Jan. 5; *Introduction*: FLS Introduction

Jan. 7: *What Shaped Our World*: FLS Chapter 1

Jan. 12 and 14: *Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions*: FLS Chapter 2

II. War and Peace

Jan. 19: Martin Luther King Day; No Class

Jan. 21 and 26: *Why Are There Wars?*: FLS Chapter 3

Jan. 28: *Domestic Politics and War*: FLS Chapter 4

Feb. 2: *International Institutions and War*: FLS Chapter 5

Feb. 4: *Civil War and Terrorism*: FLS Chapter 6

Feb. 9: *Mid-term*

III. International Political Economy

Feb. 11: *International Trade*: FLS Chapter 7

Feb. 16: President's Day; No Class

Feb. 18: *International Trade*: FLS Chapter 7 (continued)

Feb. 23 and 25: *International Monetary and Financial Relations*: FLS Chapters 8 and 9

IV. Transnational Politics

March 2: *International Law and Norms*, FLS Chapter 11

March 4: *Human Rights*: FLS Chapter 12

March 9: *The Global Environment*: FLS Chapter 13

V. Looking Ahead

March 11: *The Future of International Politics*: FLS Chapter 14

March 18 (Weds.), 8-11 AM: *Final Exam*