

POLS-104: Introduction to International Relations

Trinity College - Fall 2009
MWF 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50
Room: Austin Arts Center 320

Professor: Kelly P. Wurtz, Ph.D.
Office: Downes Memorial 203
Office Hours: M/F 12-1, W 11-12, by appt.
Email: Kelly.Wurtz@trincoll.edu
Phone: (860) 297-2545 ex. 5346

Course Overview

The goals of this class are: 1) to introduce you to a number of issues important to the vast subject of international relations, and 2) to help you develop some basic analytic tools for analyzing and understanding topics of international relations, in particular, as well as broader political issues. No prior knowledge of IR theory or topics is assumed. We will cover topics including the different theoretical approaches to international relations, why wars happen (and why they sometimes do not), why increasing economic integration appears to both increase opportunities for some while increasing international opposition, how countries develop in a global market, how international institutions help or hinder this process, how non-traditional actors (such as terrorist organizations and transnational organizations) influence relations among states, and future challenges in the international system.

Readings

Our primary text for this course will be **Jeffy A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. W. W. Norton, 2009 (Henceforth noted as FLS)**. The text is available in hard copy at the bookstore (Be sure that you purchase the book for POLS104-1 or 2, as there is a 3rd section that uses a different set of readings). An electronic version of the text can be purchased for half the cost of the hard copy (https://www.wwnorton.com/gateway/buychoice.asp?site=world_politics_ebook).

Additional readings will be posted on the class Blackboard page or available on the internet with links provided below. Assigned readings should be read prior to each class meeting, and you should spend some time pondering the day's reading. Also, while this is not a current-events class, I expect you to have at least a cursory knowledge of relevant, contemporary topics. As such, you should stay current with a major news outlet (*Washington Post*, *NYTimes*, *The Economist*, *Financial Times*, etc.)

Assignments

- 2 Midterms (25% each) - In class portion of short answer/IDs and a take-home essay
 - October 9th and November 8th
- Take Home Final (35%) - Due December 22nd
- Quizzes (15%) - 4 pop quizzes given over the semester, top 3 will count toward your grade

Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments will be docked 1/3 letter grade per 24 hour period.

Quizzes may not be made up, absent a doctor's note or pre-arranged absence (but please do not email me the night before class asking if we're having a quiz the next day). I drop your lowest quiz score, so you can miss one without penalty.

I do not offer extra credit.

Academic Integrity

This class operates under the established regulations on academic integrity established by Trinity College and agreed to by each student. As such, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. All submitted work must be your own (I.e., no collaboration on exams), and properly cited.

Miscellaneous

Please turn off or silence all cell phones prior to the beginning of class. I reserve the right to answer any calls (your's, not mine) received during class time. I'm sure your friends will love to hear what you're learning in Intro IR that day.

Feel free to use laptops during class, but please respect your fellow classmates by refraining from unnecessary use of Youtube, Facebook, or other unrelated content. I am an advocate of technology in the classroom, but it is a privilege, not a right. I reserve the right to reverse this policy if the presence of laptops becomes a distraction.

Lecture slides will be placed on the class Blackboard page. In general, I will attempt to post these the evening before class, but offer no guarantees. The slides should not be seen as a replacement for lecture, as they are there to provide guide posts for lecture, present relevant data, and aid in exam preparation.

I am most easily accessible to you on email (Kelly.Wurtz@trincoll.edu). However, I expect you to respect the fact that I am not online and at your disposal 24-7. As such, I will try to answer any email received in 24 hours, though from time to time this may not be possible.

Finally, this syllabus does not establish a contract of any form. Any changes made will be announced in class and noted on the class Blackboard page.

Required Reading

Week 1

September 9th - Class overview and introduction

September 11th

FLS: Introduction and Ch. 1

Week 2: Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

September 14th

Thucydides, "The Melian Dialog," *History of the Peloponnesian War*

<http://history.boisestate.edu/westciv/peloponn/melian.shtml>

Wilson, Woodrow. 1918. "The Fourteen Points," delivered in a Joint Session, January 8th

<http://net.lib.byu.edu/rdh7/wwi/1918/14points.html>

Klarevas, Louis. 2002. "Political Realism: A Culprit for the 9/11/ Attacks," *Europe* 26 (3)

<http://www.harvardir.org/articles/1252/>

September 16th

FLS Ch. 2

September 18th

Chuck Klosterman, "It's Evolution, Baby"

<http://sports.espn.go.com/espn/page2/story?page=klosterman/060526>

Week 3: Why Are There Wars?

September 21st

FLS Ch. 3

September 23rd

Dan Reiter, Exploring the Bargaining Model of War, *Perspectives on Politics* 1, 1 (2003), pp. 27-47.

John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, An Unnecessary War, *Foreign Policy*, January/February 2003, pp.50-59.

September 25th

Alasdair Roberts, The War We Deserve, *Foreign Policy*, November/December 2007, pp.45-50.

Week 4: Domestic Politics and War

September 28th :

FLS Ch. 4

September 30th

Arthur Macewan, Is it Oil? *Dollars & Sense* Issue 247 (May-June 2003).

<http://www.dollarsandsense.org/archives/2003/0503macewan.html>.

October 2nd

FLS Ch. 5

Week 5: International Institutions and War

October 5th

Fearon, James. 2008. "Reforming International Institutions to Promote International Peace and Security," paper prepared for for the International Task Force on Global Public Goods, pp. 1-38, 46-54. <http://www.stanford.edu/~jfearon/papers/gpg.pdf>

October 7th

Michael Glennon, Why the Security Council Failed, *Foreign Affairs* Vol. 82, No. 3 (May/June 2003), pp.16-35.

Take Home Essay Handed Out

October 9th

Midterm #1 – essay due before class, IDs done in class.

Week 6: : International Trade

October 12th **NO CLASS (Trinity Days)**

October 14th -
FLS Ch. 6

October 16th
Ronald Rogowski, "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade," *American Political Science Review* 81, 4 (December 1987), pp.1121-1137.

Jeffrey G. Williamson, "Globalization and Inequality, Past and Present," *The World Bank Research Observer* 12, 2 (1997), pp.117-135.

Week 7:International Financial Relations

October 19th
FLS Ch. 7

October 21st

Kenneth Rogoff, "The IMF strikes back," *Foreign Policy*, January-February 2003.
http://post.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/rogoff/papers/IMF_Strikes_Back.pdf

Joseph E. Stiglitz, 2001. "Failure of the Fund: Rethinking the IMF Response" *Harvard International Review*, Summer 2001, p. 14-18.
http://www2.gsb.columbia.edu/faculty/jstiglitz/download/2001_Failure_of_the_Fund.pdf

October 23rd

This American Life Podcast: "The Giant Pool of Money."

http://audio.thisamericanlife.org/player/CPRadio_player.php?podcast=http://www.thisamericanlife.org/xmlfeeds/355.xml&proxycloc=http://audio.thisamericanlife.org/player/customproxyc.php

Week 8: International Monetary Relations

October 26th

FLS Ch. 8:

October 28th

Lawrence Broz and Jeffrey Frieden, "The Political Economy of Exchange Regimes," *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy*. Edited by Barry R. Weingast and Donald Wittman. Oxford University Press, 2006. <http://weber.ucsd.edu/%7Ejlbroz/weingast-chap32.pdf>

October 30th

Ernesto Hausmann, "Currencies: Should there be Five or One Hundred and Five?"

<http://www.iadb.org/res/publications/pubfiles/pubS-121.pdf>

Jeffrey A. Frieden, 2002. "Real Sources of European Currency Policy: Sectoral Interests and European Monetary Integration," *International Organization*, Vol. 56 No. 4 (Autumn): 831-860.

Week 9: Development

November 2nd

FLS, Ch. 9:

November 4th

Sachs, Jeffrey. 2005. "Economic Possibilities for Our Time," 16th Annual Panglaykim Memorial Lecture, Jakarta, Indonesia:

<http://www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/about/director/documents/EconomicPossibilitiesforOurTime-JakartaAugust2005-VanZorgeReport.pdf>

Easterly, William. 2007. "Was Development Assistance a Mistake?" American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings:

http://www.nyu.edu/fas/institute/dri/Easterly/File/Was_Development_Assistance_a_Mistake.pdf

November 6th

Midterm #2 – IDs in class, essay prompt handed out.

Week 10: Transnational Actors in International Politics, Part 1

November 9th

FLS, Ch. 10

Take Home Essay Response Due

November 11th

Brown, David L. and Vanessa Timmer. 2006. "Civil Society Actors as Catalysts for Transnational Social Learning," *Voluntas*, 17(1):1-16.

November 13th

Anderson, Kenneth and David Rieff, 2004/5. "Global Civil Society: A Sceptical View," in Helmut Anheier, Marlies Glasius, and Mary Kaldor (eds.) *Global Civil Society 2004/5* (London: Sage):26-39

Week 11: Transnational Actors in International Politics, Part 2

November 16th

Robert Pape, "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism," *American Political Science Review* 93, 3 (2003), pp.343-361.

David Lake, 2002. "Rational Extremism: Understanding Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century," *Dialog IO*, 1:1 (Spring):15-29.

November 18th

Williams, Phil. 2001. "Transnational Criminal Networks," in John Arquilla and David Ronfeldt (eds.) *Networks and Netwars: The Future of Terror, Crime, and Militancy*, (Santa Monica: RAND Corp.): 61-98.

November 20th

Andreas, Peter. 2004. "Illicit International Political Economy: The Clandestine Side of Globalization," *International Review of Political Economy*, 11:3: 641-652.

Week 12: Transnational Actors (Continued)

November 23rd

Naim, Moises. 2003. "The Five Wars of Globalization," *Foreign Policy*, (January/February): 29-37

November 25th NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)

November 27th NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)

Week 13: Human Rights and International Norms

November 30th

FLS, Ch. 11

December 2nd

Emilie Hafner-Burton, "Trading Human Rights: How Preferential Trade Agreements Influence Government Repression," *International Organization* 59, 3 (2005), pp.593-629.

Sikkink, Kathryn. 1993. "Human Rights, Principled Issue Networks, and Sovereignty in Latin America," *International Organization*, Vol. 47 No. 3 (Summer):411-441.

December 4th

Moravcsik, Andrew. 2000. "The Origins of Human Rights Regimes: Democratic Delegation in Postwar Europe," *International Organization*, 54, 2 (Spring):217-252.

Week 14: The Environment and Problems of Collective Action

December 7th

FLS, Ch. 12

December 9th

Hardin, Garret. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons," *Science*, 162:1243-1248.

Sandler, Todd. 2004. *Global Collective Action* (New York: Cambridge UP): Chapter 1

December 11th

M.J. Peterson, Whalers, Cetologists, Environmentalists, and the International Management of Whaling," *International Organization* 46, 1 (1992), pp. 147-186.

Frankel, Jeffrey A. 2005. "The Environment and Globalization." In *Economics of the Environment: Selected Readings*, 5th Edition, edited by R.Stavins. W.W.Norton.
http://ksghome.harvard.edu/~jfrankel/Environment_and_Economic_Globalization.pdf

Week 15: The Future of International Politics

December 14th – **TAKE-HOME FINAL HANDED OUT**

FLS, Ch. 13

Daniel Drezner, The New New World Order, *Foreign Affairs* 86, 2 (March/April 2007), pp. 34-46.

Take home final due by 3 pm, December 22nd