**POLS 170A/B: INTRODUCTION to INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

**Fall 2014**

**MWF 9:10- 10:10/** **10:20-11:20**

**Location: AH 203**

Instructor: Deepa Prakash Office: 106 Asbury Hall

Email: deepaprakash@depauw.edu Phone: 765-658-4623

Office Hours: Tue 1:00- 3:00, Fri 11:45- 1:00, and by appointment

*“Why do states go to war with some countries and seek peace with others?” “What explains conflict and order in the world?” “Is there going to be a new cold war between the U.S. and Russia/China? “Should Iran’s nuclear program be stopped?” “Why should rich states care about global poverty?” “How can states tackle climate change?” “Who has the responsibility to stop human rights abuses and atrocities?”*

If you’ve ever pondered any of these questions, you’re in good company. These questions preoccupy scholars, practitioners and other stakeholders in the field of International Relations. In this course, we will understand the ways that scholars, states and policymakers have sought to make sense of these questions. By the end of this class you will have the beginnings of your own answers to some of them.

The course is roughly divided into three sections. The first third contends with the major theories or “lenses” through which scholars organize the study of international politics. We will understand how- depending on the lens you adopt- you can arrive at different explanations of patterns of international relations, privilege some issues over others, and provide different policy prescriptions. Then, equipped with these lenses, we will encounter some key issues that drive international politics focusing on three key sub-fields: International Security, Political Economy and Global Governance.

**Course Objectives**

By the time you leave this class, you will:

1. Be familiar with key theories of International Relations and be able to apply them.

2. Be familiar with key issues within international politics and understand why they matter.

3. Be able to argue critically about these issues.

4. Hopefully develop an interest in one or more areas/issues within international politics.

**Course Materials**

There are two *required* texts for this class:

The first is the main textbook:

1. Paul D’Anieri *International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs* Third Edition. Referred to as D’Anieri in the syllabus.

Side by side, we’ll be exploring the world of the undead with:

1. Daniel Drezner (2010) *Theories of International Politics and Zombies* Princeton Univ. Press. This is referred to as ‘Drezner’ in the syllabus.

I will supplement these texts with articles and other materials on Moodle. For any given week, reading all the assigned material is essential.

 3. A few classes assign podcasts or videos. I will provide (and update as needed) the episode page - you can stream the episode, read the transcript or download. Listening to podcasts should be treated like a reading assignment.

**Course Requirements**

There are no prerequisites for the class but the better informed you are on current events and history, the more you will learn, enjoy and contribute. To this end, please:

1. Do your reading. Read critically, take notes, note down questions you have.
2. Participate in class- ask questions, contribute ideas, listen actively.
3. Regularly read a major world newspaper. This should already be a habit but if not, there’s no better time to start than the present.

You can access many of major newspapers/news sources online. If you’re on twitter you can also follow a number of IR scholars and practitioners as well as these news sources. Some good sources are:

*Major World Newspapers:* The New York Times, Washington Post, The Guardian, Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times

*Websites:*

BBC <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/> @BBCWorld

Al Jazeera <http://english.aljazeera.net/> @AJELive

Foreign Policy <http://www.foreignpolicy.com/> @ForeignPolicy

The Economist <http://www.economist.com/> @TheEconomist

*Blogs and twitter accounts:* Stephen Walt on ForeignPolicy.com <http://walt.foreignpolicy.com/> @stephenWalt, NPR Planet Money <http://www.npr.org/blogs/money/>, @SlaughterAM (handle of Anne Marie Slaughter, Princeton prof) @TheNatlInterest @dandrezner @monkeycageblog @E\_IR @AmbassadorPower (U.S. Amb to UN Samantha Power)

Social Media is increasingly becoming an important tool for the study and indeed, activities, of NSAs. Some useful twitter accounts are included throughout the syllabus in case you’re interested. I will occasionally tweet stories and links at #DPUPOLS170.

The Grading system and scale is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grade | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D | F |
| Points | 940+ | 900-939 | 870-899 | 830-869 | 800-829 | 770-799 | 730-769 | 700-729 | 620-699 | 620 and below |

A = 94 %+ B- = 80- 82.9 % D = 62- 69.9 %

A- = 90- 93.9 % C+ = 77- 79.9 % F= below 62 %

B+ = 87- 89.9 % C = 73- 76.9 %

B = 83- 86.9%, C- = 70- 72

Note: If a student is taking the class P/F, they must achieve a C- or above to get a Pass.

**Grade components**

**Quizzes 10% (2% each, total) (100 points)**

There will be 6 random pop quizzes, in class writing assignments or map tests during the course of the class. If you are keeping up with the reading and paying attention in class, you’ll do fine. I will drop your lowest grade at the end. There will be **no make up quizzes**, unless there are truly extenuating circumstances that caused this.

**Participation 12% (120 points)**

Note that there is no grade assigned to attendance- showing up to class is not the same thing as participation- it’s just a given. See attendance policy below for information on how absences may factor into your grade.

This class will only work if all of us contribute to it. There are many ways to participate and contribute to class. You will get a lot more out of the class if you choose some of these ways.

Participation doesn’t just refer to showing up and sitting passively in class. By participation, I refer to active, well-prepared and respectful contributions. So please come to class:

a) having done the assigned reading

b) prepared to contribute in a thoughtful manner – ie. with reference to examples, current news events or the readings

c) prepared to ask and answer questions and

d) prepared to engage with the perspectives being offered in class.

Try to come to class with at least one written question or comment per day, so you have something to refer to. I will call on you to stimulate discussion.

While verbal participation is crucial- there are other ways to participate apart from speaking in class. Contribute your thoughts on the class forum on moodle. Email me with comments or questions. Suggest an interesting story that fits with the class. Tweet links or stories using the class #tag #DPUPOLS170. All these can help with, although not fully account for, class participation. Note: I will take into account conversations during office hours but only to the extent that it relates to the material. While I enjoy chatting and welcome drop-ins- these chats do not necessarily count towards participation.

**Journal 10% (100 points)**

International Relations thrives on a synthesis between theory and real world events and you are encouraged to make these connections throughout the course. To get the full 10% you should have a) written journal entries in 10 designated weeks (you get a break near exams etc.) You will pick one story in the news that relates to what we’re reading and discussing in class that week. b) You will be expected to briefly provide the details of the news story (where it’s from, who wrote it, dates, title etc.), connect it to class materials, note why it is interesting and what you think of it in about 350-400 words. Label each journal by number ie. Journal entry 1, Journal entry 2 etc. Submit your entry electronically on moodle in the weekly forums provided by 8pm on Thursdays. Entries received after this time will only receive partial credit.

Time permitting, I may call on you to share a story you picked that week. If picked, be prepared to briefly explain why you picked the story, how it fits with the theory or issue we’re discussing and what your thoughts or questions on the story are.

To earn the full 10%, you will be required to complete all entries in a timely, relevant and thoughtful manner. If you do so, you will get the full 10%.If your journals consistently fail to meet these criteria, I will deduct points.

**Short Assignments 6% total 60 points (2-3 very short assignments, exact points assigned later.)**

I will assign 2-3 very short assignments during the course. Each will be no more than 2 pages and will ask for some very specific observations or exercises. Exact breakup of points will be communicated as the assignments get finalized.

**2 Analytical Papers (11% each, 22% total) 220 points**

You will write two short papers during the semester. In each case, you will be asked to interpret and analyze cases, articles, speeches or a film based on the theories we have learned. Each paper will be 5 pages approx. and double-spaced with regular font and presentation requirements. Specific guidelines will be announced and distributed in class.

**Exams – Mid-Term 18%, Final 22% (Total 40%) 400 points**

There will be two exams; a mid-term and final. Exams will be closed book. The first mid-term will test you on material from week 1-7 and the final will test on weeks 8-14, plus the major theories. You will get a prep sheet before each exam.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: EXAM DATES ARE NON-NEGOTIABLE AND NON-CHANGEABLE. PLEASE MAKE TRAVEL PLANS ACCORDINGLY.**

So in sum, your grade is divided as follows:

**Quizzes 10%**

**Participation 12%**

**Journal 10%**

**Short Assignments 6%**

**2 Analytical papers 22%**

**Mid Term Paper 18%**

**Final Exam 22%**

**Total: 100%**

**CLASS POLICIES[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Attendance Policy:** Too many unexcused absences will affect your course grade. If you have 3-5 unexcused absences – your grade will be lowered a half letter (so a B will become a B-); 6-7 absences - grade will be lowered a full letter (a B will become a C); 8 or more absences - subject to my discretion, you may get an F.

**Late Policy:** Please come to class on time. If you are consistently late, it will affect your participation grade. If you have constraints (ie. class on the other side of the campus) let me know before time. I reserve the right to not allow you to come into class if you are egregiously late. Once in class, please stay in class and don’t walk in and out- unless you *absolutely* need to.

Late turning work in: Except for extenuating circumstances there will be no extensions – I’ll be the judge of those circumstances. For every day past the deadline, I will deduct half a letter grade from your paper. Beyond 5 days, I will not accept the assignment. Talk to me with any issues early on.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** DePauw University and I both take academic integrity very seriously. I will uphold DePauw University’s Academic Honesty Policy. There is absolutely no reason to consider cheating or passing someone else’s work off as your own. Ignorance of the rules is not a valid excuse so make sure you’re familiar with University policy. The policy and discussion of each student’s obligations and rights are in the Student Handbook. The complete Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <http://www.depauw.edu/univ/handbooks/dpuhandbooks.asp?ID=101&parentid=100>

Cheating, plagiarism, submission of the work of others, etc. violates DePauw policy on academic integrity and will result in penalties ranging from an F for the assignment or F for the class to academic probation or even suspension from the university, depending on the circumstances.

To avoid the problem of plagiarism be sure to *attribute* all information, data, arguments, and language – even if paraphrased – borrowed from sources to the original author and to *document* the source fully. If you have any doubt whatsoever that you may be incorrectly using someone’s work- please feel free to check with me and ask.

·     **Attribution** = “According to XYZ…”

·     **Documentation** = source citation in foot- or end-note form or using parenthetic citation: (XYZ, 92). Parenthetic citation requires a “Works Cited/References” list at the end of the paper.

**ADA/Disability Accommodations:** I rely on the office of Student Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing an accommodation strategy, in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act and Amendments (ADAAA). . If you feel you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability or learning challenge, please contact Pamela Roberts, Director of Student Disability Services for information on how to receive accommodations and support.  Student Disability Services is located at: 408 S. Locust Street, Suite 200, in The Memorial Student Union Building (765-658-6267). It is the responsibility of the student to share the letter of accommodation with faculty and staff members. I will not be able to make accommodations without the advice of Disability Services and accommodations will not apply retroactively.

**Technology Policy**: I do not allow laptops in class, unless specifically requested for the class. Please turn cell phones on silent. Also please no TEXTING or looking at your phone. I will call you out or reduce participation grades for repeated offences.

**Communication with me:** My office hours exist for you to come by for a chat, to discuss the material, follow up on questions and seek advice or help. If your schedule does not accommodate the scheduled office hours, please make an appointment. Of course, make sure emails are comprehensible and are addressed appropriately.

Note: Your official DePauw email is the one we will use to minimize confusion.

*Phew, now let’s see what this class is all about, shall we?*

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

(This is a ‘living’ syllabus. Minor adjustments to the schedule will be made as we go along and as events develop. But there will be no major changes to assignments and such.)

(Please note that any class materials I share with you (handouts, prep sheets, slides etc. are my intellectual property. Please do not post or circulate them on websites or internally at DePauw. I will take action if I see this happening)

**UNIT 1: CORE CONCEPTS AND THEORY**

**WEEK 1: What is IR? : Terms, Concepts and History of the field**

**Wed August 27**

Introductions, Syllabus, Big Questions

**Fri August 29**

D’Anieri p. 27-33 (start from “The Birth of International Politics”- stop at “Europe and the rest of the world”), skim p 34-47, then read from p. 47-56 (from “The Cold War” till end)

**WEEK 2**

**Mon Sep 1 Why Theory?**

D’ Anieri p. 10-21 (start from “The Science of International Politics”)

Drezner p. 1-22

**Wed Sep 3 Realism**

D’Anieri p. 66– 77 (from “Realism” till end of p. 77)

Drezner “The Realpolitik of the living dead” p. 33- 45

*Thurs: Journal One Due*

**Fri Sep 5 Realism Continued**

Edelstein, D (2010) ‘Why Realists don’t go for bombs and bullets’

**WEEK 3**

**Mon Sep 8**

*PD Simulation (The Situation will be distributed before time)*

**Wed Sep 10 Liberalism**

D’Anieri Liberalism p. 78-88

Drezner “Regulating the Undead in a Liberal World Order” p. 47- 60

*Thursday: Journal 2 Due*

**Fri Sep 12 Liberalism continued**

**WEEK 4**

**Mon Sep 15 Constructivism**

D’Anieri Constructivism p. 103-109

**Wed Sep 17 Constructivism Continued**

Drezner *The Social Construction of Zombies p. 67- 76*

*Thursday: Journal 3 Due*

***First paper Assigned***

**Friday Sep 19 Feminism**

D’ Anieri *Feminist International Relations Theory* p. 109 -117

Enloe, Cynthia Why the Mundane matters p. 39- 48

Hudson, H (2012) *What Sex means for world peace* *Foreign Policy*

**WEEK 5**

**Mon Sep 22 Domestic and Bureaucratic Politics**

D’Anieri p. 167- 176/top of 177

Drezner *Domestic Politics and Bureaucratic Politics* p.77-97

**Wed Sep 24 Comparing and Applying the Theories**

D’Anieri *Comparing the paradigms* p. 120- 121

Mearsheimer, J. (2014) America Unhinged

*Journal 4 Due*

**Friday Sep 26 Applying Theory continued: The rise of ISIS**

**WEEK 6: Global Problem: The example of Climate Change**

**Mon Sep 29**

Bill McKibben “Global Warming’s Terrifying New Math” *Rolling Stone* 2012

Davenport, Climate Change Deemed Growing Security Threat…New York Times 2014

Schonfeld Amerigenic Climate Change

**Wed Oct 1 Climate Change**

D’Anieri p. 433- 449 (pay particular attention to international agreements)

Iied Briefings Unequal Climate Change impacts in LDCs *Brown Center* November 2013

The India Problem *Slate* November 2013

**Fri Oct 3 *No class, please work on your papers.***

**UNIT 2: INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

**WEEK 7**

**Mon, Oct 6: The Changing Face of Security**

D’Aneiri International Conflict p. 243-249

[*http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/18/opinion/sunday/war-really-is-going-out-of-style.html?pagewanted=all*](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/18/opinion/sunday/war-really-is-going-out-of-style.html?pagewanted=all)

Zenko, M Cloudy with a Chance of Conflict *Foreign Policy* 2013

***Paper 1 Due***

**Wed Oct 8: War: Inter-State War, Small Wars**

D’Anieri p. 229- 240

Huntington, S (1993) “Clash of Civilizations” *Foreign Affairs* and rejoinders from Said, Walt.

***Journal 5 Due***

**Fri Oct 10: Democratic Peace and Regime Change**

D’Anieri p. 129- 140

Rice, Condoleeza (2005) The Promise of Democratic Peace

**WEEK 8**

**Mon Oct 13: Intervention: R2P**

Alex Bellamy (2014) R2P and Gaza

***Wed Oct 15: Mid-Term***

**Friday October 17 Technology and War: Drones**

D’ Anieri p. 262- 277, (skip types of WMD, read up till section on terrorism)

Mark Bowden ‘The Killing Machines’ *The Atlantic* August 2013

***Fall Break***

**WEEK 9**

**Mon Oct 27: Terrorism and Asymmetrical Warfare**

*ISIS placeholder*

Scales and Olivant Terrorists fight smarter… Washington Post, August 2014

**Wed Oct 29 Counter-Terrorism**

Berger, J.M. “War on Error” 2014

 “Jahar’s World” *Rolling Stone* 2013

***Journal 6 Due***

 **Fri Oct 31: New and Emerging Threats**

*Placeholder*

**UNIT III. POLITICAL ECONOMY**

**WEEK 10: Theories of IPE (Featuring possible guest lectures by Prof. Marcoux)**

 **Mon Nov 3 Trade**

D’Anieri The Importance of Political Economy p. 299-311 (end at “Five approaches to IPE”)

D’Anieri p. 329 – 341 (stop at “Globalization of Finance”)

**Wednesday Nov 5 Trade and the WTO**

*Explore:* [*http://www.wto.org/*](http://www.wto.org/)

*Come to class with notes on what the WTO is, what is its mission, what issues does it cover.*

*Simulation*

***Journal 7 Due***

**Fri Nov 7 Finance**

D’Anieri Globalization of Finance p. 341- 350,

**WEEK 11**

**Mon Nov 10 Financial Crises**

D’Anieri p. 350- 354 (start at ‘The perils of Financial Globalization’)

**Wed Nov 12 Development, Inequality and Poverty**

Pilling, David (2014) Has GDP outgrown its use? *Financial Times*

*Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Annual letter 2014* [*http://annualletter.gatesfoundation.org/#section=home*](http://annualletter.gatesfoundation.org/#section=home) *- Read the whole letter, specially the 3 myths and why the Gates Foundation argues they are myths.*

*Look up Millennium Goals* [*http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/*](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/)

***Journal 8 Due***

**Fri Nov 14 Economic Globalization**

D’Anieri The Debate over Globalization p. 354- 357

**UNIT IV: Global Governance**

**WEEK 12**

**Mon Nov 17 The UN**

D’Anieri The United Nations p. 195- 207 (stop at The European Union)

Patrick, Stewart (2014) The Unruled World *Foreign Affairs*

**Wed Nov 19:**

D’Anieri p. 207- 213

Tharoor, Shashi (2011) Security Council reform: Past, present and future *Ethics and International Affairs*

***Journal 9 Due***

**Fri Nov 21 International Law and Organizations**

D’Anieri p. 397- 409

**WEEK 13**

**Mon Nov 24 Law: the case of Human Rights**

D’Anieri p. 410- 422

Tharoor, S. “Are Human Rights Universal?” *World Policy Journal* 16 (4) 1999/2000

(Thanksgiving break)

**WEEK 14: Transnational Actors**

**Mon Dec 1 NGOs and Civil Society Actors**

D’Anieri p. 214- 221

**Wed Dec 3 NGOs – problems etc.**

*Bob piece and KONY 2012 campaign*

***Journal 10 Due***

**Fri Dec 5 NGO Activity and Debrief**

**WEEK 15**

**Mon Dec 8 The future world Order and US role in it**

*Placeholder*

**Wed Dec 10**

Wrap up, Evaluations, Exam Review begins

**Fri Dec 12: Final Exam Review**

1. Please read more carefully than you would a software update agreement! [↑](#footnote-ref-1)