

# Political Science 150: International Relations

## Spring 2019

### Course Information

#### Instructor

Bailee Donahue  
Office: Hamilton 459  
Email: bdonahu@ad.unc.edu

#### Meeting Times

Lecture: TR 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM, DA 301  
Office Hours: TR: 3:00 - 4:30 or by appointment

### Course Description

This course is designed to achieve two objectives: first, to provide you with the analytical tools to understand some of the most important topics and puzzles in international relations; and, second, to offer an understanding of key historical and contemporary issues in world politics, including international security and interstate conflict, global trade and finance, and international institutions. We will frequently refer to important historical and current events as examples and applications of the theories and concepts taught in this course, so if you do not already have your favorite source of news or history, now is a good time to find one. I recommend the New York Times, Economist, BBC World News, and Foreign Policy (all available online or through UNC Libraries), but any favorite new source (or two!) will do.

### Course Requirements

Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on two midterm exam and one final exam, two writing assignments requiring at least five pages of writing each, and participation in lecture. Each midterm exam is worth 20% of your grade. The final exam is worth 25% of your grade. Each writing assignment is worth 10% of your course grade. Your participation grade, including regular in-class participation and a current event presentation will count for the remaining 15% of the final grade.

#### Exams

The midterms and final exams are in-class, closed book & notes. They will be a combination of current event questions, multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. Please come early on exam days in order to use the entire class period for the exam. The final exam will be cumulative.

**Policy on Unexcused Absences and Make Up Exams:** You are required to be present for all scheduled exams. The only allowable exception to this policy is a documented medical emergency or previously excused absence from the dean. If you miss a scheduled exam, you may be allowed to take a make-up test, but there will be a substantial penalty.

#### Papers

Because this course fulfills a perspectives requirement, you are required by the University to write ten pages of non-exam material during the semester, which will be divided into two papers. I will provide the specific writing assignments in a separate document. These assignments are due in class as a hard copy on **February 28th** and **April 16**.

**Writing policy:** This class should be an opportunity to build your writing skills. To this end, I am happy to talk about good practices in office hours. While I cannot read drafts prior to submission, I will gladly talk through outlines. I also strongly encourage you to take advantage of UNC's Writing Center.

**Late work:** Papers should be handed in on time regardless of class attendance. Late work will be accepted but will accrue a **10 point penalty** for every day it is late past the due date.

## Participation

In-class participation is your best opportunity for active learning and discussing the material critically. Attendance is required, and regular active participation is expected (a participation grade based solely on attendance will not be a good one). I do not expect you to come to class with all the answers (why take the class in that case?), but you should come prepared to discuss the readings, current events within the context of what we are learning, and come with questions. Quality is just as important as quantity in your participation, and quality requires listening skills. The goal is to deliberate together to improve our understanding of the material, so be careful to not talk past each other. We will occasionally use informal small groups for active in-class learning, so be prepared to work well with others.

**Absences from lecture:** Students are allowed **two** unexcused absences. Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in a 4 point reduction in the participation grade.

## Course Materials

The following required book is available in the UNC Bookstore. All other readings are available electronically via the [UNC library e-journals and e-resources databases](#) or on the course Sakai site. Readings on the Sakai site will be denoted by [S]. These readings are meant to provide a sampling of topics in International Relations. If there are additional topics you wish to learn more about, please let me know and I will direct you to additional resources or courses at UNC.

- Frieden, Jeffrey, David Lake, and Kenneth Schultz, 2015. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions - Third Edition*. W. W. Norton & Company: New York, London.<sup>1</sup>

## Important Dates

- Midterm Exam 1: February 14
- Midterm Exam 2: March 21
- Final Exam: May 7, 4:00 PM

## Expectations

**Technology in Class:** Please turn your mobile phones off or to silent mode before class. No calls, no Snapchat, no text messaging during class. On exam days your phones must be turned off and put away. Laptops are permitted **for class purposes only!** Readings must be downloaded (and read) prior to class. Please do not use your laptops for email, Facebook, Twitter, games, web surfing, or any activity that is unrelated to the course. This sounds impossible, but I promise you can do it. Learning by lecture is hard enough, and you distract yourself and your neighbors when you use phones & laptops for anything non-course related.

**Instructor Communication:** I may not be able to answer all email immediately, but will do my best to do so promptly. If you need to notify me of something important (e.g., absence from an exam), come to my office hours before the exam. If

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<sup>1</sup>Henceforth 'FLS'

you have an emergency and can't inform me in person, you may do so by email, but you will need to follow up with an office visit when you are able. If you have course related questions that require a detailed response from me (e.g., review questions the night before a test), email is not likely to work. Come see me during office hours (TR 3:00 -4:30). If these office hours do not fit with your course schedule, I am happy to schedule another time to meet.

**Honor Code:** "The Honor Code is in effect in this class and all others at the University. I am committed to treating Honor Code violations seriously and urge all students to become familiar with its terms set out at <http://instrument.unc.edu>. If you have questions, it is your responsibility to ask about the Code's application. All exams, written work, and other projects must be submitted with a statement that you have complied with the requirements of the Honor Code in all aspects of the submitted work."<sup>2</sup>

## Calendar and Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Lecture Readings
The following schedule is tentative. Any changes will be announced well in advance.		
January 10	Greetings and Logistics	Course Syllabus & Assignment Handouts
January 15	Introduction and Grand Theories of IR	FLS Introduction  [S]Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories" (2004)
January 17	The Grand Theories of IR II and Historical Foundations	FLS Chapter 1
January 22	Interests, Institutions, and Interactions	FLS Chapter 2  FLS "Primer on Game Theory", pp. 82-87
January 24	Prisoner's Dilemma and Institutions	[S] Keohane, "From <i>After Hegemony</i> "
January 29	Why do states go to war?	FLS Chapter 3
January 31	Rationalist Explanation for War Cont.	[S] Lake, D., 2011. "Two Cheers for Bargaining Theory: Assessing Rationalist Explanations of the Iraq War?" <i>International Security</i> 35(3): 7-52. (skim technical parts)
February 5	Domestic Politics and War	FLS Chapter 4 pp.137 - 153, 166 -181.
February 7	Collective Security	FLS, Chapter 5: pp. 185-210  [S] Goldgeier, "The Future of NATO." 2010. pp. 3-23

<sup>2</sup>From an August 21, 2003 Memo from Robert Shelton, Provost and Judith Wegner, Chair of the Faculty

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Date	Topic	Lecture Readings
February 12	Nuclear Proliferation and WMD	FLS, Chapter 14: pp. 579-589,  [S] Joffe, J. "Less Than Zero" <i>Foreign Affairs</i> Vol. 90:1 Jan/Feb 2011  [S]"Getting Tough on North Korea" <i>Foreign Affairs</i> Vol. 96:3 May/June 2017
February 14	First Midterm	No Readings
February 19	Intrastate Conflict	FLS, Chapter 6: pp. 234-264,  [S] Walter, B. "Bargaining Failures and Civil War." <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> Vol. 12, 2009.
February 21	Case Study - DRC	[S] Reid "Congo's Slide into Chaos: How a State Fails," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , January/February 2018
February 26	Terrorism	FLS, Chapter 6: 264-287,  [S] Fortna, V.P., "Do Terrorists Win? Rebels' Use of Terrorism and Civil War Outcomes." <i>International Organization</i> Vol. 69, 2015
February 28	Intrastate Conflict Resolution	<b>First Papers Due</b>  [S] Beardsley, K. "Agreement without Peace? International Mediation and Time Inconsistency Problems?, <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , Vol 52(4), 2008. ONLY READ pp. 723- 729, 737-738

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Date	Topic	Lecture Readings
March 5	Intervention and Global Collective Action	FLS, Chapter 11, pp. 456-473  [S] Bellamy, A. "The Responsibility to Protect and the Problem of Military Intervention." <i>International Affairs</i> Vol 84(4), 2008.
March 7	The Rwandan Genocide	[S] Power, S. "Bystanders to Genocide: Why the U.S. Let the Rwandan Genocide Happen."
March 12	Spring Break	No Class
March 14	Spring Break	No Class
March 19	Human Rights	FLS, Chapter 12
March 21	2nd Midterm	No Readings
March 26	Overview of International Political Economy	FLS, Chapter 7: pp. 291-311  FLS, Chapter 8: pp. 340-355  FLS, Chapter 9: pp. 383-395
March 28	No class	International Studies Association Meeting
April 2	Trade and Comparative Advantage	FLS, Chapter 7: pp. 334-339  [S] Council on Foreign Relations, "The Future of U.S. Trade Policy." <i>CFR Backgrounders</i> . 2015.

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Date	Topic	Lecture Readings
April 4	International Economic Institutions	FLS, Chapter 7: pp. 319-328  FLS, Chapter 8: pp. 355-360
April 9	Case Study - 2008 Financial Crisis	[S] Drezner, D. "The Irony of Global Economic Governance: The System Worked." <i>Council on Foreign Relations, International Institutions and Global Governance Program</i> . 2012.
April 11	Monetary Policy and the EU	FLS, Chapter 9: pp. 396-405  [S] McNamara, K. "A Less Perfect Union? Europe after the Crisis." <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 2015.
April 16	Foreign Direct Investment and Multi-national Corporations	<b>Second Paper Due</b>  FLS, Chapter 8: 365-375  [S] Pandya, S. "Political Economy of Foreign Direct Investment: Globalized Production in the Twenty-First Century." <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> . Vol 19. 2016.
April 18	Foreign Aid and Development	FLS, Chapter 10: pp. 420-448,  [S] Radelet, S. "Prosperity Rising: The Success of Global Development, and How to Keep it Going." <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 2016.
April 23	Climate Change, Food Insecurity, and Poverty	FLS, Chapter 13: pp. 532-553.  [S] Hardin, G. "The Tragedy of the Commons." <i>Science</i> . Vol 162. 1968.
April 25	Last Class: What did we learn?	No Readings
May 7	FINAL EXAM	4:00 PM - 7:00 PM