

Yale University
Department of Political Science

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PLSC 111
Spring 2017
Syllabus
(January 15, 2017, version)

Professor Nuno P. Monteiro

www.nunomonteiro.org

nuno.monteiro@yale.edu

Class: Mon. & Wed. 10:30-11:20AM, Dunham Laboratory Rm. #220, 10 Hillhouse Avenue;

Office Hours: Tue. 3:30-5:00PM, Rosenkranz Hall, Rm. #337, 115 Prospect Street (book directly at <https://calendly.com/npmonteiro/15min/>);

Sections: Rooms, days, and times TBD.

COURSE OUTLINE AND OBJECTIVES

This course aims at introducing students to the major issues, questions, and theories in world politics. The focus is both theoretical and historical. Theoretically, we will cover the main schools of thought about international relations. Historically, we will focus on the making of the contemporary world from World War I onwards. The course will provide a solid grounding for other courses on international politics and modern history, by giving students:

- An understanding of the main schools of international relations theory and their different approaches to analyzing world events;
- An assessment of the shift in the structure of world politics from one in which states were the only meaningful actors to one in which non-state actors and international institutions also play a role;
- An analysis of the main sources of international conflict as well as the key instruments of peace;
- A close look at the crucial events and dynamics of contemporary world politics.

Specifically, we will cover the basic visions of world politics yielded by each of the main theories in the scholarly field of International Relations, the causes and conduct of the two World Wars, the forces favoring peace among the great powers since 1945 (nuclear weapons, globalization, democratization, international institutions, evolving norms on the legitimate use of force), as well as key debates in contemporary world politics, including the North/South divide; peripheral wars, occupations, and counterinsurgency; the causes and consequences nuclear proliferation; the spread of democracy and its impact on world politics; the evolution of the Middle East and Arab Spring; the future of the European Union; and the evolution of civil wars. We conclude with a prospective analysis of the major challenges in world politics over the next few decades, such as the rise of China and climate change.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Lectures: While not mandatory, attendance of the lectures is highly recommended. If you do attend the lectures, please arrive on time; lectures will start promptly at 10:30AM. Lectures will be supported by a PowerPoint presentation. Before each lecture, I will post a 1-2 page lecture handout on the Classes*V2 website, under the “Resources” tab. You may want to use this brief outline to follow the lecture and take additional notes. A PDF file of the PowerPoint presentation will be posted on Classes*V2 after each lecture.

Sections: Section attendance is mandatory. The sections will review the main concepts and arguments in the readings as well as make room for discussion of the key issues at stake in each topic. Sections will start the week of January 30. The section sign-up period will open online on Monday, January 23.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

There are no pre-requisites for the course. Students are expected to do all the readings and attend both weekly lectures. Students are required to attend a weekly discussion section. Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- Participation in discussion section: 20%;
- Three short response papers: $3 \times 7.5\% = 22.5\%$;
- Midterm exam: 20%;
- Final exam: 37.5%.

Note: In order to receive an overall passing grade, students must receive a passing grade in all four components of the final grade. In other words, failing one component of the course will lead to a failing grade in the overall course.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Participation: Students should do all the readings for each week in advance of the respective discussion section and come prepared to contribute to class discussion during the sections by bringing questions that stem from the readings. Participation does not mean just attendance. Please strive to be an active participant in the section discussion.

Response Papers: Each student will submit a 2-page reaction to the readings for three different weeks. Please use a standard size 12 font, single-spaced, with 1-inch margins all around. Your response papers should be posted on the Classes*V2 according to your TF’s instructions by 8:00pm the day before the section meeting in which the readings will be discussed. Short papers received after the deadline but before the relevant discussion section begins will be dropped one full letter grade. Short papers will not be accepted after the relevant discussion section starts. Each of the three short papers will be worth 7.5% of the final course grade. These short statements should include an analysis of the weaknesses of arguments made by the authors for the relevant week; questions with which you were left by the readings; or points of confusion that should be clarified. (You should not summarize the readings; assume that everybody else has

done the reading as well and understands the basic arguments.) You do not have to discuss all of the readings assigned for the week; you may discuss just one or two pieces, or you can pick a broader range and compare them to each other (or to readings for earlier weeks). Likewise, within each reading you select to engage, you do not have to discuss the whole piece. You may do so, but you may equally well focus on a section, a paragraph, or even a sentence that piqued your interest. You are welcome to choose any three weeks in which to write your reaction papers, though spacing things out over the semester might be best.

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will cover the first half of the course and consist of two sections, each with equal weight on the exam grade.

- In the first section, you will be asked to answer six out of eight ID questions in no more than a paragraph of 5-8 lines each. Topics will include concepts as well as historical events and figures.
- In the second section, you will have to write one out of two possible short essays.

All questions and essays will address topics from the lectures and readings.

Final Exam: The final exam will cover the entire course and consist in three sections, each with equal weight on the exam grade.

- In the first section, you will be asked to answer eight out of ten ID questions in no more than a paragraph of 5-8 lines each. Topics will include concepts as well as historical events and figures. Three-quarters of the topics will be from the second half of the course, with the remaining IDs coming from the first half.
- In the second section, you will have to write two out of three possible short essays about topics from the second half of the course.
- In the third section, you will be asked to write one out of two possible long essays on topics that require you to reflect on the entire course.

All questions and essays will address topics from the lectures and readings.

COURSE POLICIES

Policy on Plagiarism: Please read these elements of the university's policy on plagiarism.

- You need to cite all sources used for papers, including drafts of papers, and repeat the reference each time you use the source in your written work.
- You need to place quotation marks around any cited or cut-and-pasted materials, IN ADDITION TO footnoting or otherwise marking the source.
- If you do not quote directly – that is, if you paraphrase – you still need to mark your source each time you use borrowed material. Otherwise you have plagiarized.
- It is also advisable that you list all sources consulted for the draft or paper in the closing materials, such as a bibliography or roster of sources consulted.
- You may not submit the same paper, or substantially the same paper, in more than one course. If topics for two courses coincide, you need written permission from both instructors before either combining work on two papers or revising an earlier paper for submission to a new course.

It is the policy of Yale College that all cases of academic dishonesty be reported to the chair of the Executive Committee.

Policy on Electronic Devices: The use of any electronic devices, including laptop computers, tablets, and phones is not allowed during lectures or discussion sections. *All cell phones must be turned off.* Please use pen and paper to take notes. I do this in your own interest, as an emerging consensus in the scientific literature shows that the use of electronic devices hinders students' understanding of complex conceptual issues. On this, see:

- Pam A. Mueller & Daniel M. Oppenheimer, "The Pen is Mightier than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand over Laptop Note Taking," *Psychological Science*, Vol. 25, No. 6 (2014), pp. 1159-1168;
- Darren Rosenblum, "Leave Your Laptops at the Door to My Classroom," *The New York Times*, January 2, 2017.

Deadlines: While all deadlines will be strictly enforced, I know that emergencies and illnesses might arise during the term. If that happens to be the case, please let me know as early as possible so that we can work out alternative arrangements for you to complete your work within a reasonable period of time. In emergency cases, you will need to present a "dean's excuse" in order to be allowed to turn in late work or justify a series of absences from class sessions.

READINGS

The readings for this class were chosen to represent a wide variety of perspectives on world politics and give the students a solid empirical grasp of the issues at stake. We will use a textbook, a reader, and then assorted readings by scholars of world politics. The following books are required for purchase and have been ordered through the Yale bookstore:

- Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, 3rd edition (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 2016) [referred to in the course schedule below as FLS];
- Karen A. Mingst and Jack L. Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*, 6th edition (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 2017) [referred to in the course schedule below as MS];
- John J. Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, 2nd edition (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 2014).

All other readings will be made available in PDF format on the course website on the Classes*v2 server, under the "Resources" tab. The readings for each session are listed in the order you should do them.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PART I – TOOLS FOR THINKING ABOUT WORLD POLITICS

Week 1

Lecture 1.1 (January 18) – Introduction

- No readings.

Lecture 1.2 (January 20) – Competing Visions and Levels of Analysis in World Politics (NOTE FRIDAY SESSION)

- FLS chapter 1, “What Shaped Our World: A Historical Introduction?” pp. 2-41;
- Jack L. Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories,” in MS chapter 1, pp. 3-11;
- J. David Singer, “The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations,” *World Politics*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (1961), pp. 77-92;
- Robert D. Putnam, “Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games,” in MS chapter 5, pp. 173-190.

Week 2

Lecture 2.1 (January 23) – Realism, Power, and Anarchy

- Thucydides, “Melian Dialogue, from *The Peloponnesian War*,” in MS chapter 1, pp. 12-16;
- Thomas Hobbes, “From *Leviathan*,” in MS chapter 1, pp. 17-19;
- Hans J. Morgenthau, “A Realist Theory of International Politics from *Politics among Nations*,” in MS chapter 3, pp. 55-59;
- Hans J. Morgenthau, “The Balance of Power, from *Politics among Nations*,” in MS chapter 4, pp. 124-130;
- John Mearsheimer, “Structural Realism,” in Dunne, Kurki, and Smith, eds., *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006), pp. 71-88;
- John Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, 2nd edition (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 2014), chapters 2-3, pp. 29-82.

Lecture 2.2 (January 25) – Liberalism, Interests, and Institutions

- Immanuel Kant, “From *Perpetual Peace*,” in MS chapter 1, pp. 20-22;
- Francis Fukuyama, “The End of History?” in MS chapter 2, pp. 41-54;
- Michael W. Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics,” in MS chapter 3, pp. 78-92;
- G. John Ikenberry, “From *Liberal Leviathan: The Origins, Crisis, and Transformation of the American World Order*,” in MS chapter 4, pp. 131-144;
- Robert O. Keohane, “From *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*,” in MS chapter 7, pp. 338-354;
- Robert Jervis, “Realism, Neoliberalism, and Cooperation: Understanding the Debate,” *International Security*, Vol. 24, No. 1 (1999), pp. 42-63.

Week 3

Lecture 3.1 (January 30) – Constructivism, Norms, and Ideologies

- V. I. Lenin, “From *Imperialism, The Highest Stage of Capitalism*,” in MS chapter 1, pp. 23-30;

- Alexander Wendt, “Anarchy Is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics,” in MS chapter 3, pp. 93-114;
- Ian Hurd, “Legitimacy and Authority in International Politics,” *International Organization*, Vol. 53, No. 2 (1999), pp. 379-408.
- Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall, “Power in International Politics,” *International Organization*, Vol. 59, No. 1 (2005), pp 39-75;
- J. Ann Tickner, “Man, the State, and War: Gendered Perspectives on National Security,” in MS chapter 3, pp. 115-122.

PART II – THE CAUSES OF WAR AND PEACE

Lecture 3.2 (February 01) – *Strategic Interaction in World Politics*

- FLS chapter 2, “Understanding Interest, Interactions, and Institutions?” pp. 42-87.

Week 4

Lecture 4.1 (February 06) – *Causes of War: Anarchy, Intentions, and Information*

- FLS chapter 3, “Why Are There Wars?” pp. 88-135;
- Carl von Clausewitz, “War as an Instrument of Policy, from *On War*,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 345-349;
- Robert Jervis, “Cooperation under the Security Dilemma,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 359-373;
- James D. Fearon, “Rationalist Explanations for War,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 374-397;
- Jack S. Levy, “The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace,” *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 1 (1998), pp. 139-165.

Lecture 4.2 (February 08) – *War in History: The Causes of World War I*

- Jack Snyder, “Civil-Military Relations and the Cult of the Offensive, 1914 and 1984,” *International Security*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (1984), pp. 108-146;
- Scott Sagan, “1914 Revisited: Allies, Offense, and Instability,” *International Security*, Vol. 11, No. 2 (1986), pp. 151-175.

Week 5

Lecture 5.1 (February 13) – *War in History: The Conduct of World War I*

- Spencer C. Tucker, *The Great War, 1914-18* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1998), chapters 2 and 4, pp. 17-58 and 99-124;
- Stephen Biddle, *Military Power: Explaining Victory and Defeat in Modern Battle* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2004), chapter 5, pp. 78-107.

Lecture 5.2 (February 15) – *Causes of War: Revisionism and Domestic Politics*

- FLS chapter 4, “Domestic Politics and War,” pp. 136-183.

Week 6

Lecture 6.1 (February 20) – *War in History: The Causes of World War II*

- John Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, 2nd edition (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 2014), pp. 155-224, 267-272, and 305-322;

- David Reynolds, “1940: Fulcrum of the Twentieth Century?” *International Affairs*, Vol. 66, No. 2 (1990), pp. 325-350.

Lecture 6.2 (February 22) – War in History: The Conduct of World War II

- Scott D. Sagan, “The Origins of the Pacific War,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 18, No. 4 (1988), pp. 893-922;
- Bruce M. Russett, *No Clear and Present Danger: A Skeptical View of the United States Entry into WWII* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1971), chapters 2-3, pp. 24-62.

Week 7

Lecture 7.1 (February 27) – Causes of Peace: Nuclear Weapons *RESCHEDULE*****

- Scott Sagan and Kenneth Waltz, *The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate* (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 1995), chapters 1-2, pp. 3-87;
- Thomas Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 350-358.

Lecture 7.2 (March 01) – Causes of Peace: The Kantian Tripod

- FLS chapter 5, “International Institutions and War,” pp. 184-233;
- Woodrow Wilson, “The Fourteen Points,” in MS chapter 2, pp. 14-16;
- John Owen, “How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace,” *International Security*, Vol. 19 (1994), pp. 87-125;
- Bruce Russett and John Oneal, “The Kantian Peace: The Pacific Benefits of Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations, 1885-1992,” *World Politics*. Vol. 52, No. 1 (1999), pp. 1-37;
- Michael N. Barnett and Martha Finnemore, “The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations,” in MS chapter 7, pp. 321-342;
- John Mearsheimer, “The False Promise of International Institutions,” in MS chapter 7, pp. 355-366.

Week 8

Midterm (March 06) – Covers all topics and materials up to and including lecture 7.1

PART III – TOPICS IN CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Lecture 8.2 (March 08) – International Development

- FLS chapters 7- 10, “International Trade,” “International Financial Relations, and “Development,” pp. 290-455.

Week 9

Lecture 9.1 (March 27) – International Law, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Intervention

- FLS chapters 11 and 12, “International Law and Norms” and “Human Rights,” pp. 456-531;
- Martha Finnemore, “Changing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention, from *The Purpose of Intervention*,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 445-466;
- Amartya Sen, “Human Rights and Capabilities,” in MS chapter 10, pp. 546-557;
- Jack Donnelly, “Human Rights and Cultural Relativism, from *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice*,” in MS chapter 10, pp. 583-596;

- Beth Simmons, “From *Mobilizing Human Rights*,” in MS chapter 10, pp. 597-628.

Lecture 9.2 (March 29) – *The Spread of Democracy*

- Carles Boix, “Democracy, Development, and the International System.” *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 105, No. 04 (2011), pp. 809-828;
- Seva Gunitsky, “From Shocks to Waves: Hegemonic Transitions and Democratization in the Twentieth Century,” *International Organization*, Vol. 68, No. 03 (2014), pp. 561-597;
- Kristian Skrede Gleditsch and Michael D. Ward. 2006. “Diffusion and the International Context of Democratization.” *International Organization*, Vol. 60, No. 4, pp. 911-933;
- Kevin Narizny, “Anglo-American Primacy and the Global Spread of Democracy: An International Genealogy,” *World Politics*, Vol. 64, No. 2 (2012), pp. 341-373.

Week 10

Lecture 10.1 (April 03) – *The Arab Spring and the Future of the Middle East*

- Olive Roy, “The Transformation of the Arab World,” in MS chapter 5, pp. 245-255;
- Eva Bellin, “Reconsidering the Robustness of Authoritarianism: Lessons of the Arab Spring,” *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 44, No. 2 (2012), pp. 127-149;
- Jason Brownlee, Tarek Masoud, and Andrew Reynolds, “Tracking the Arab Spring: Why the Modest Harvest?” *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (2013), pp. 29-44;
- Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, “Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics, from *Activists beyond Borders*,” in MS chapter 7, 310-320.

Lecture 10.2 (April 05) – *Terrorism, Insurgency, and Asymmetric Warfare*

- Samuel Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?” in MS chapter 5, pp. 208-214;
- Andrew H. Kydd and Barbara Walter, “The Strategies of Terrorism,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 402-424;
- Paul Staniland, “States, Insurgents, and Wartime Political Orders,” *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 10, No. 2 (2012) pp. 243-264;
- Erica Chenoweth, “Terrorism and Democracy,” *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 16 (2013), pp. 355-375;
- Jason Lyall and Isaiah Wilson III, “Rage Against the Machines: Explaining Outcomes in Counterinsurgency Wars,” *International Organization*, Vol. 63, No. 1 (2009): 67-106.

Week 11

Lecture 11.1 (April 10) – *Civil War*

- FLS chapter 6, “Violence by Non-State Actors,” pp. 214-263;
- Virginia Page Fortna, “Do Terrorists Win? Rebels’ Use of Terrorism and Civil War Outcomes,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 425-444;
- James D. Fearon and David D. Laitin, “Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War,” *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 97, No. 1 (2003), pp. 75-90.

Lecture 11.2 (April 12) – *Nuclear Proliferation*

- Nuno P. Monteiro and Alexandre Debs, “The Strategic Logic of Nuclear Proliferation,” *International Security*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (2014), pp. 7-51;

- Kenneth N. Waltz, “Why Iran Should Get the Bomb: Nuclear Balancing Would Mean Stability,” in MS chapter 8, pp. 398-401.

Week 12

Lecture 12.1 (April 17) – *The Rise of China and the Future of the Asia Pacific*

- John Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, 2nd edition (New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 2014), chapter 10, pp. 360-412;
- Susan L. Shirk, “The Domestic Context of Chinese Foreign Security Policies,” in *Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, Pekkanen et al., eds. (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2014), chapter 10, pp. 391-410, available as online book through library portal at <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199916245.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199916245>;
- Thomas J. Christensen, “From *The China Challenge: Shaping the Choices of a Rising Power*,” in MS chapter 4, pp. 145-171.

Lecture 12.2 (April 19) – *U.S. Grand Strategy and the Future of the U.S. Global Role*

- Nuno P. Monteiro, *Theory of Unipolar Politics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014), chapters 4-5 and 8, pp. 78-143, 205-232;
- G. John Ikenberry, Michael Mastanduno, and William Wohlforth, “Unipolarity, State Behavior, and Systemic Consequences,” in MS chapter 4, pp. 106-126;
- John J. Mearsheimer, “Why the Ukraine Crisis Is the West’s Fault,” *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2014, pp. 77-89;
- Michael McFaul, Stephen Sestanovich, and John J. Mearsheimer, “Faulty Powers,” *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2014, pp. 167-178;
- David A. Shlapak and Michael W. Johnson, “Reinforcing Deterrence on NATO’s Eastern Flank: Wargaming the Defense of the Baltics,” RAND research report 1253-A, 2016.

Week 13

Lecture 13.1 (April 24) – *The Environment and the Future of World Politics*

- FLS chapter 13, “The Global Environment,” pp. 532-575;
- Garrett Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons,” in MS chapter 11, pp. 638-648;
- Scott Barrett, “Why Have Climate Negotiations Proved So Disappointing?” in MS chapter 11, pp. 649-659;
- Robert O. Keohane and David G. Victor, “The Regime Complex for Climate Change,” in MS chapter 11, pp. 731-753.

Lecture 13.2 (April 26) – *Wrap-up and Conclusion*

- FLS chapter 14, “The Future of International Politics,” pp. 576-625.

Final Exam

May 09 @ 2:00PM