

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
INTL 3200: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 1230pm-145pm

Place: Journalism 504

Professor: Dr. Brock F. Tessman

Email: tessman@uga.edu

Phone: 706.583.5557

Office: 328 Candler Hall

Office Hours: Wednesday 1100am to 1200pm and Thursday 200pm to 300pm

COURSE SUMMARY

This course serves as the foundation for your study of international relations. During the semester, we will address a number of crucial questions: How can we use theories to better understand global politics? What is “power” in the 21st Century international system? Why do countries go to war when the human and economic costs are so high? How influential are international organizations like the United Nations? How important are issues like democratization, terrorism and global warming? Beyond addressing specific questions, your first and most important task is to develop a strong *analytical* and *theoretical* background that will allow you to intelligently assess a wide range of developments in the world around you. In other words, our goal is to develop a set of intellectual tools that you can use in this course, your other INTL courses, and even after you graduate from UGA. In addition, you will be asked to participate in a complex international relations simulation during the last part of this semester. In this active learning exercise, you will take on a leadership position within a country, and then work with team members to ensure that your country survives and prospers in a fictitious international system called *Politica*.

BOOKS

- Bruce Russett, Harvey Starr and David Kinsella (2009) *World Politics: The Menu for Choice*. (9th Edition) London: Thomson Wadsworth.
- Brock F. Tesson (2007) *International Relations in Action: A World Politics Simulation*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Any additional assigned readings will be made available to you in hard copy, e-reserves or through an online source. There is a reasonable reading load for this course, so I expect that you will have read all assigned pages before the date they are discussed in class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING COMPONENTS

Midterm Exam:	30 Percent	October 13 th , 2009 (in class)
Final Exam:	40 Percent	December 15 th , 2009 (1200pm to 300pm)
Simulation:	20 Percent	November 10 th -19 th , 2009 (in class)
Participation:	10 Percent	

GRADING SCALE

98.00 to 100.00	= A+	78.00 to 79.99	= C+
92.00 to 97.99	= A	72.00 to 77.99	= C
90.00 to 91.99	= A-	70.00 to 71.99	= C-
88.00 to 89.99	= B+	68.00 to 69.99	= D+
82.00 to 87.99	= B	62.00 to 67.99	= D
80.00 to 81.99	= B-	60.00 to 61.99	= D-
Below 60.00	= F		

Participation is defined by classroom attendance and contribution during discussions. You will start with a 100% participation grade. You are allowed 3 unexcused absences, but you will lose 5% for each unexcused absence thereafter. I will take attendance every day. The midterm exam will take place in class and will last for 75 minutes. It will be comprised of a mix of identification questions and short essay prompts. The final exam will be on December 15th and will be comprised of identification questions and one longer, analytical essay. There is no paper assigned for this course, so the exams are a great way to show off your reading comprehension and also your ability to formulate a coherent and persuasive written argument. Details about the *International Relations in Action* Simulation will be discussed as we move through the term.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. Make-up examinations are only offered for university-excused absences. Please contact me during the first week of the term if you have a conflict that will prevent you from taking an exam in class on the scheduled date. If you have a university-excused commitment that (e.g. athletic, organizational, religious) will prevent you from being in class, please let me know during the first week of the term.

All academic work must meet the standards contained in a "Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. Don't cheat; if you get caught you could very well fail the course and be subjected to the harshest penalty offered by the university.

The University of Georgia seeks to provide students with disabilities the opportunity to fully participate in educational programs and services. In keeping with this philosophy, it is University policy that students with documented disabilities receive reasonable accommodations through access to classroom information. If you require special accommodations because of a university-documented condition, please contact me during the first two weeks of the semester and we can work with the Disability Resource Center in order to achieve a positive outcome.

COURSE OVERVIEW (This schedule is for planning only and is subject to change)

PART 1: FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(Tuesday) 08.18.2009: Course Introduction

No Reading Assigned

(Thursday) 08.20.2009: Thinking about International Relations

RSK (CH 1): World Politics: Levels of Analysis, Choice, and Constraint. (pp. 1-26)

(Tuesday) 08.25.2009: Theory and Reality

RSK (CH 2): Thinking about World Politics: Theory and Reality. (pp. 27-50)

(Thursday) 08.27.2009: Realism: Foundation of International Relations

Thucydides: "The Melian Dialogue" (see WebCT)

(Tuesday) 09.01.2009: Liberalism: A (Slightly) Different Perspective

Immanuel Kant: "Perpetual Peace" (see WebCT)

(Thursday) 09.03.2009: Constructivism and the Importance of Ideas

Copeland: "The Constructivist Challenge to Structural Realism" (See WebCT)

(Tuesday) 09.08.2009: Feminism: Assessing our Assumptions about IR

Tickner: "Feminism and IR Theory" (see WebCT)

(Thursday) 09.10.2009: Who are the Players in International Politics?

RSK (CH 3): International Actors: States and Other Players on the World Stage. (pp. 51-74)

(Tuesday) 09.15.2009: Methods for Describing the "International System"

RSK (CH 4): The World System: International Structure and Polarity. (pp. 75-104)

(Thursday) 09.17.2009: What Makes an Actor Powerful?

RSK (CH 5): Relations between States: Power and Influence. (pp. 105-134)

(Tuesday) 09.22.2009: Actors and Decisions: Foreign Policy Processes

RSK (CH 6): Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy: Society and Polity. (pp. 135-162)

(Thursday) 09.24.2009: Individuals, Personality, Psychology and Rationality

RSK (CH 7): Individuals and World Politics: Roles, Perceptions, and Decision Making. (pp. 163-190)

(Tuesday) 09.29.2009: Critical Discussion and Review

No Reading Assigned

PART 2: SECURITY IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(Thursday) 10.01.2009: Armed Conflict, Part I

RSK (CH 8): Military Conflict: Why States and Other Actors Resort to Force. (pp. 193-208)

(Tuesday) 10.06.2009: Armed Conflict, Part II

RSK (CH 8) Military Conflict: Why States and Other Actors Resort to Force. (pp. 208-226)

(Thursday) 10.08.2009: Strategies in International Relations

RSK (CH 9): The Security Dilemma: Armament and Disarmament. (pp. 227-260)

(Tuesday) 10.13.2009: MIDTERM EXAM

No Reading – Study!!!

(Thursday) 10.15.2009: No Class – International Security Studies Conference

RSK (CH 12): Political Economy of National Security and Defense. (pp. 341-376)

(Tuesday) 10.20.2008: Right and Wrong: Just War, International Laws, Human Rights

RSK (CH 10): International Law and Organization. (pp. 261-287)

(Thursday) 10.22.2009: The United Nations

RSK (CH 10): International Law and Organization. (pp. 287-298)

(Tuesday) 10.27.2009: Peace and Non-Violence

RSK (CH 11): Causes of Peace and Nonviolent Transformation. (pp. 299-330)

PART 3: ECONOMY AND TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(Thursday) 10.29.2009: Political Economy of National Security and Defense

RSK (CH 12): Political Economy of National Security and Defense (pp. 331-362)

(Tuesday) 11.03.2009: Trade and Economic Regimes

RSK (CH 13): Interdependence and Economic Order. (pp. 363-396)

(Thursday) 11.05.2009: Fragrations?

RSK (CH 14): Regional Economic Integration and Globalization. (pp. 397-430)

(Tuesday) 11.10.2009: IR IN ACTION SIMULATION: Organizational Meetings

IR in Action (pp. 1-35)

(Thursday) 11.12.2009: IR IN ACTION SIMULATION: Day 1

IR in Action (pp. TBD)

(Tuesday) 11.17.2009: IR IN ACTION SIMULATION: Day 2

IR in Action (pp. TBD)

(Thursday) 11.19.2009: IR IN ACTION SIMULATION: Day 3 or Wrap-Up

IR in Action (pp. TBD)

(Tuesday) 12.01.2009: Inequality in International Relations

RSK (CH 15): Development and Underdevelopment: the North-south Gap. (pp. 431-462)

(Thursday) 12.03.2009: Global Futures

RSK (CH 16): Limits of Sovereignty: Humanity and the Commons. (pp. 463-498)

RSK (CH 17): Which Global Future? (pp. 499-506)

FINAL EXAM: DECEMBER 15TH, 2009 (1200PM TO 300PM)