

Intro to International Relations-Political Science 260
Spring 2005

Brent Eastwood
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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9a-12p

This course is designed as an introduction to the international political system. We will study major turning points, world views, perceptions, and levels of analysis that shape international relations. The course is divided into three phases: “crawl,” “walk,” and “run.” The crawl phase consists of international relations theory and foreign policy decision making. The walk phase is made up of international organization, globalization, and the international political economy. The run phase focuses on war and peace. This last phase culminates in a group “crisis simulation exercise” in which you will grapple with similar tactical, operational, and strategic challenges faced by current world leaders.

Textbook

Kegley, Charles W. Jr. & Wittkopf, Eugene R. (2004). *World Politics: Trend and Transformation*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Grading and Requirements

Two Discussion Articles (1-2 pg. Single-Spaced) 20%
Two International Trade Papers (5-6 pg. Double-Spaced) 20%
Midterm 20%
Participation in Crisis Simulation 10%
Final 30%

Schedule

CRAWL PHASE

Week 1	10JAN	Intro to Course/ Intro IR Theory	Chapter 1
Week 2	17JAN	MLK Birthday NO CLASS	
	19JAN	IR Theory Chapter 2	
Week 3	24JAN	Decision Making/Great Powers	Chapt. 3& 4
Discussion Article 1 due Monday, 24JAN			
Week 4	31JAN	Int’l Organization Chapter 5	
Week 5	7FEB	North vs. South...Human Rights	Chapt. 6 & 7

WALK PHASE

Discussion Article 2 due Monday, 14FEB

Week 6	14FEB	Globalization Chapter 8 & 10	
Week 7	21FEB	Int’l Trade & Finance Chapt. 9	

Midterm Exam, Friday, 25FEB Chapters 1-8 and 10

Week 8	28FEB	Insurgency/Counterinsurgency	Chapt. 11
Week 9	7MAR	Terrorism/Counterterrorism	Chapt. 12

International Trade Paper 1 due Friday, 11MAR

12MAR -----*Spring Break*-----

RUN PHASE

Week 10	21MAR	REVIEW, Grand Strategy/ Intelligence, Chapt. 13
Week 11	28MAR	Grand Strategy/ Intelligence, Chapt. 13

International Trade Paper 2 due Monday, APR 4

Week 12	4APR	Diplomacy Chapt. 14 & 15
Week 13	11APR	National Command Authority
Week14	18APR	Prep Planning for Computer Simulation
	21APR	Computer Simulation, Main Library, Thursday, 7p-9p
	22APR	Course Evals, After Action Review, Final Review
Week15	25APR	NO CLASS THIS WEEK

FINAL EXAMINATION Wednesday, 4MAY 3-5p

Discussion Articles: These assignments will help you write and think critically using the vocabulary common to international relations professionals. Write a 1-2 page single-spaced reaction paper on an international relations article from the sources list on this syllabus. Turn in two papers before Spring Break. Focus on a short 2-3 paragraph summary of the article. Answer the following questions using IR terms from the book and lectures. What is the author's point? What policy or theory is being discussed? How does the article relate to international security, diplomacy, and/or the global economy? The rest of the paper should focus on analysis. What are the future outcomes of this topic? What is the probability or likelihood of your prediction? What are the risks/gains of this policy? What is the downside? What is the upside? Is this a policy or course of action that you would recommend? Why? Clip and attach the article or print off from website or Lexis-Nexis. HINT: make a clip file for all your articles this semester.

International Trade Papers: The description of these papers will be on a separate assignment sheet.

Crisis Simulation Exercise (SIMEX):

- You will be divided into teams of 6-8 the week of APR 18
- You will have in-class time to formulate strategy and tactics
- You will all meet in the Main Library Thursday, 21APR 7p-9p
- Each team will have a room and a laptop
- This is a web-based simulation with different scenarios based on military, economics, diplomacy, etc. Your team will make step-by-step crisis decisions
- More details will follow throughout the course
- Graded on attendance only! 10% of final grade
- Inform me of scheduling conflicts

Outside Reading Sources: (See me if you want to add to this)

Crawl Phase

The Daily Athenaeum (Associated Press wire stories)

Reuters <http://reuters.com>

BBC News World Edition <http://news.bbc.co.uk>

CNN Headline News www.cnn.com

Walk Phase

Wall Street Journal (print, not online version)

New York Times (print, not online version)

Washington Post (print, not online version)

Christian Science Monitor

Lexis-Nexis

C-SPAN TV <http://www.c-span.org>

The News Hour with Jim Lehrer <http://www.pbs.org/newshour>

BBC World TV

Run Phase

The Economist (print, not online version)

Foreign Affairs (print, not online version)

Special Topic Lectures:

Comparative Media Analysis

Korean Peninsula/Taiwan Strait Intel Assessment

Career Day(s) in International Studies

Policies:

Come prepared to discuss, question, and critically analyze what you read and what I say.

See me with any deadline conflicts.

Speak up. I am a little hard of hearing.

Respect others.

No profanity in class.

Comply with university policies on academic integrity and discrimination.

INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THIS SYLABUS