

BOWDOIN COLLEGE
Department of Government and Legal Studies
Government 1600

Introduction to International Relations

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Office Hours Wed 2:15 – 4:15pm
T/TH 2:50 – 4:15
Lecture Hall: Searles 315

This course introduces students to the study of International Relations. The class has two primary objectives. First, we examine the fundamental structures and problems that permeate global politics. Second, we dissect the prevailing concepts and theories that are relied upon by scholars and policymakers in their understandings of international affairs. The course outlines the biggest issues in international politics and how different scholars have interpreted and approach these issues.

Assignments

Review the international/world section of one or more of the following papers, everyday.

- The New York Times, www.nytimes.com
- The Wall Street Journal, www.wsj.com
- The Economist, www.economist.com
- The BBC, www.bbc.com/news

Readings are **due on the day** they are assigned on this syllabus. There are two required books for the class:

1. Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, editors, *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* (New York: Pearson Longman, 13th edition) 2017, **or** the 12th edition, 2013.
2. Kelly McFall, *The Needs of Others: Human Rights, International Organizations, and Intervention in Rwanda, 1994* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1st edition) 2019.

All additional readings not found in these texts, or readings found in only one version of Art and Jervis (either the 12th or 13th edition) are posted on Blackboard.

Exams, Grading & Academic Integrity

These assignments are ways for me to assess your understanding of key concepts presented. There will be positively no dishonesty, plagiarism or cheating tolerated. Contact me if emergencies arise that affect your work. Please review the college's policy on academic integrity, www.bowdoin.edu/dean-of-students/student-handbook/the-academic-honor-code-and-social-code.html

1. Quizzes (40% total, each quiz 10%) – Sept 17, Sept 26, Oct 22, Nov 12
2. First Paper – October 31 (20%)
3. Simulation Participation – November 14 – December 5 (10%)
4. Second Paper – December 3 (20%)
5. Third Paper (Simulation Policy Paper) – December 10 (10%)

Late Policy

Please manage your time wisely and do not ask for extensions unless you are facing extraordinary circumstances, such as medical emergencies. If you need extra time to complete an assignment, please note the standard late policy for the course will apply. The late policy is as follows: 1/2 a letter grade will be deducted from the assignment for each 24 hour period the assignment is late. For example, if you hand in a paper 23 hours late and the paper is a B+, it will be recorded as a B. If that paper is handed in 47 hours late, the B+ will be recorded as a B-, and so on.

Laptops, Technology & Classroom Etiquette

To ensure the classroom remains conducive to learning, no phones are allowed. Please turn the sound off and store your phone in your bag. No recordings are allowed without the permission of the professor in order to protect the privacy of the students in the class. Regarding laptops, unless the professor grants specific permission to students on an individual basis, no laptops or tablets are allowed for notetaking in class. For the majority of students, taking notes by hand is a better way to absorb the material and make the most out of our limited time together. If you are the rare exception to this rule, please contact the professor at the start of the semester in order to make arrangements.

Collaboration with the Writing Center

At the professor's request, GOV1600 has been selected as a writing assisted course. This means all students enrolled are required to submit drafts of their first two paper assignments to an assigned Writing Assistant instructed by the Baldwin Center for Learning and Teaching. Students in the class will have the opportunity to workshop their papers with their Writing Assistant prior to submitting the paper to the professor for a grade. Note that 10% of the final grade for each of the first two papers will be based on the student's participation in the drafting, editing and revision process as specified in the paper prompt providing instructions for students regarding the assignment. For more information please see: www.bowdoin.edu/baldwin-center/for-students/writing-and-rhetoric/writing-workshop-courses.html

Expectations

Students are expected to be professional and active in the classroom. This includes attending class, contributing to discussions, completing the readings on time, respecting peers and observing the guidelines specified in this syllabus.

Schedule of Assignments

September 5: Introduction

September 10: Anarchy & Ways of Thinking About International Relations

- Jack Snyder, "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy* (Nov/Dec 2004).
- Art and Jervis, "Anarchy and Its Consequences," in Art & Jervis, from the 13th ed.
- Thucydides, "Melian Dialogue," in Art & Jervis.

September 12: Realism

- Kenneth N. Waltz, “The Anarchic Structure of World Politics,” in Art and Jervis.
- Hans J. Morgenthau, “Six Principles of Political Realism,” in Art and Jervis.

September 17: Critics of Realism and Question of Ethics in Studying IR – **QUIZ 1** – Geography Quiz – covers countries & significant natural features (seas/oceans, continents)

- J. Ann Tickner, “A Critique of Morgenthau’s Principles of Political Realism,” in Art and Jervis.
- Joseph S. Nye and David A. Welch, “Ethical Questions and International Politics,” *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation*, (Boston: Pearson, 10th Edition) 2017, pp. 26 – 38.

September 19: Liberalism

- Woodrow Wilson, Fourteen Points.
- Michael W. Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics,” in Karen A. Mingst and Jack L. Snyder, *Essential Readings in World Politics*, (New York: Norton, 6th ed.) pp. 78 – 92.

September 24: Constructivism

- Alexander Wendt, “Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics,” in Art and Jervis.
- Ian Hurd, “Legitimacy in International Politics,” in Art and Jervis.
- Janani Krishnaswamy, “How Does Terrorism Lend Itself to Constructivist Understanding?” September 12, 2012, E-International Relations, www.e-ir.info

September 26: Cooperation Under Anarchy - **QUIZ 2**

- Robert Jervis, “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma,” in Art and Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 125 – 139.
- Stephen M. Walt, “Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning,” in Art and Jervis.
- David C. Kang, “Hierarchy and Hegemony in International Politics,” in Art and Jervis.

October 1: International Institutions

- Stanley Hoffman, “The Uses and Limits of International Law,” in Art and Jervis.
- Robert O. Keohane, “International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?” in Art and Jervis.

October 3: The Strategy of Violence & Nuclear Weapons

- Thomas C. Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence,” in Art & Jervis.
- Robert Jervis, “Losing Control in Crises,” in Art & Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 259 – 264.
- Henry D. Sokolski, “Our Not So Peaceful Nuclear Future,” in Art & Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 264 – 269.
- Thomas C. Shelling, “A World Without Nuclear Weapons?” in Art & Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 269 – 274.

October 8: Terrorism

- Bruce Hoffman, “What is Terrorism?” in Art & Jervis.
- Virginia Page Fortna, “Do Terrorists Win? Rebels’ Use of Terrorism and Civil War Outcome,” in Mingst and Snyder, pp. 425 – 444.

October 10: Violence Today [First Paper Prompt Distributed]

- Erica Chenoweth & Maria Stephan, “Why Civil Resistance Works,” in Art & Jervis.
- The World Bank, “Shape of Violence Today,” in Art & Jervis.

October 15: No Class, Fall Break

October 17: No Class, Professor at a Conference. **Draft Due to Writing Assistants**

October 22: Conflict and a Clash of Civilizations? – **QUIZ 3**

- Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?” in Mingst and Snyder, pp. 208 – 214.
- Susan Hoeber Rudolph and Lloyd I. Rudolph, “Modern Hate: How Ancient Animosities Get Invented,” in Mingst and Snyder, pp. 215 – 221.

October 24: International Political Economy

- Art and Jervis, “International Political Economy and Globalization,” in Art & Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 275 – 281.
- Robert Gilpin, “The Nature of Political Economy,” in Art & Jervis.

October 29: International Political Economy and the Rise of China

- Barry R. Posen, “Emerging Multipolarity: Why Should We Care?” in Art & Jervis.
- Arvind Subramanian, “The Inevitable Superpower: Why China’s Dominance is a Sure Thing,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 90, No. 5 (September/October 2011),
- Michael Cox, “Power Shifts, Economic Change, and the Decline of the West?” in Art & Jervis.
- Graham Allison, “The Thucydides Trap,” *The Atlantic*, September 25, 2015.

October 31: Globalization – **First Paper Due**

- Thomas Friedman, “It’s a Flat World, After All,” *The New York Times Magazine*, April 3, 2005.
- Pankaj Ghemawat, “Why the World Isn’t Flat,” *Foreign Policy*, No. 159 (March/April 2007), pp. 54 – 60, also in Art & Jervis, 12th edition, pp. 256 – 261.

November 5: Globalization & The Common Good

- Garrett Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons,” in Art & Jervis.
- Pope Francis, “The Papal Encyclical on the Environment,” in Art & Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 486 – 491.
- Adam Roberts and Dominik Zaum, “The U.N. Security Council,” in Art & Jervis, from the 13th edition, pp. 491 – 499.

November 7: Civil Wars & Interventions [Second Paper Prompt Distributed]

- Barbara F. Walter and Jack Snyder, ed., Chapter 1, “Civil War and the Security Dilemma,” *Civil Wars, Insecurity, and Intervention*, (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999), pp. 15 – 37.
- Martha Finnemore, “Changing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention,” in Mingst & Snyder, pp. 445 – 466.

November 12: Humanitarian Interventions – **QUIZ 4**

- Kofi Annan, “Reflections on Intervention,” in Art & Jervis.
- Jon Western and Joshua S. Goldstein, “Humanitarian Intervention Comes of Age,” in Art & Jervis.
- Alexander B. Downes, “To the Shores of Tripoli? Regime Change and Its Consequences,” in Art & Jervis.

November 14: Rwanda Intervention Simulation – **Draft Due to Writing Assistants**

- Samantha Power, “Bystanders to Genocide,” *The Atlantic*, September 1, 2001.
- Kelly McFall, *The Needs of Others*, pp. 2 – 11 and 57 – 74.

November 19: Rwanda Intervention Simulation

- Kelly McFall, *The Needs of Others*, pp. 12 – 55 and 76 – 146.
- Additional readings based on assigned rolls

November 21: Rwanda Intervention Simulation

- Readings individualized based on assigned rolls

November 26: Rwanda Intervention Simulation

- Readings individualized based on assigned rolls

November 28: *No Class, Thanksgiving*

December 3: Rwanda Intervention Simulation– **Second Paper Due in Class**

- Readings individualized based on assigned rolls

December 5: Rwanda Intervention Simulation

- Readings individualized based on assigned rolls

December 10: Rwanda Simulation & Looking Forward – **Simulation Policy Paper Due**

- Nye and Welch, “What Can We Expect in the Future,” in *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation*, 2017, pp. 359 – 393.