

INT214-1\_S International Relations

Shuhei TAKEMOTO

Year: 2019  
Semester: Spring  
Faculty: International Liberal Arts  
Department: Basic Education  
Field: Interdisciplinary Studies  
Credit: 3.00  
Class time/day: Tue : 15:30 - 16:45 D204  
Thu : 15:30 - 16:45 D204

E-mail:

Office:

Office hours:

Notes: Not open to students who have taken INT210.

#### Course description:

This course is designed to understand the political dynamics of international relations as well as to explore the underlying cause of international political conflicts. Thus, understanding the basic concepts of politics; i) actors, ii) perceptions and intentions, iii) interests and values, iv) power, v) security dilemma, vi) status quo) and applying them to international relations will be essential for this course. This course will be divided into three sections. In the first section (till mid May), by relying on the basic concepts of politics (actors, perceptions and intentions, interests and values, power, security, status quo), we will study the enduring dilemma (the security dilemma) of international politics as well as the underlying cause of international conflicts. Afterwards, the instructor will lecture the basic conceptual framework to analyze international relations and introduce how to explain international relations from different levels (system, state, individual). We will also be studying the three basic paradigms (realism, liberalism, constructivism) of International Relations. After Golden Week, we will have a class discussion on what is the essential cause of international conflict and how to overcome it in the Asia-Pacific region today. For the second section (from mid May to end of June), we will be studying important international historical events during the 20th century (WW I, WW II, the Cold War, the post Cold War era) as cases by using the framework for analysis taught in the first section. We will be repeatedly asking ourselves: i) what are the causes of international conflicts, ii) what was the foundation of international order after 1945, and iii) the basis for international order for the 21st century. For the third and last section (in July), students will be conducting presentations about current international affairs (in Europe, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, the Middle East, the US, Russia). Students are obligated to i) use the framework for analysis taught in the first section, ii) evaluate each level of analysis, iii) come up with policy implications, and iv) initiate a discussion with rest of the class.

#### Objectives:

There are four primary purposes for this course. The first is to learn the basic method of scientific inquiry to explain international relations. i) Raising a research question, ii) raising a hypothesis, iii) applying a conceptual framework for analysis, iv) conducting case studies to evaluate each levels of analysis and v) provide policy implications will be essential for this first purpose. The second purpose is to understand the enduring dilemma of international politics as well as the underlying essential cause of international conflicts. The third is to understand the various levels of analyzing international relations (system, state, individual). The fourth purpose is to learn how to conduct an academic presentation and write an academic paper with policy implications.

#### Textbook(s):

Author: -

Title: -

Publisher: No textbook will be used.

ISBN: -

#### Reference/Other study materials:

Joseph S. Nye, Jr. and David A. Welch, *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History*, ninth Edition (New York: Longman, 2012) \* Highly recommended.

Henry Kissinger, *Diplomacy* (New York: Simon & Schuster Paperbacks, 1994)

E.H. Carr, *Twenty Years ' Crisis, 1919-1939: An Introduction to the Study of International Relations* (Palgrave, 2001)

Hans Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations: the Struggle for Power and Peace*, sixth edition (McGraw-Hill, 1985)

Stephen Van Evera, *Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science* (Cornell University Press, 1997)

Assessment:

Contribution to the class (active participation to lectures and class discussions): 10%

2 mid term essay exams : 30% (15% each)

Group presentation: 30%

Final paper (2000 words): 30%

Expected academic background:

Students should have high interest in international relations and global issues.

URL of other information:

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Policies & remarks:

1. Students should email the instructor when they are going to be absent. A legitimate reason for missing a class would be leaving campus for job interviews or teaching practice.

2. There will be no disturbing others (such as talking and leaving classrooms) during lectures and presentations.

3. PowerPoint files of each lecture will NOT be uploaded on AIMS or ATOMS

4. There will be NO assigned textbooks.

Notes:

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Class schedule:

Week 1

Course briefing and introduction to International Relations as an academic discipline

Week 2

Introduction to the three levels of international relations analysis

Week 3

The security dilemma in international politics

Week 4

Paradigms of international relations: Defensive Realism and Offensive Realism

Week 5

Paradigms of international relations: Liberalism and Constructivism

Week 6

The Balance of Power and the origins of WW I

Week 7

Collective Security and the origins of WW II

Week 8

Mid term exam week

Week 9

US power projection in the Cold War era

Week 10

US-Soviet nuclear stability in the Cold War era

Week 11

Humanitarian Interventions and regime change in the Post Cold War international politics

Week 12

Sharp power and the rise of authoritarian influence in the post "Post Cold War" international politics

Week 13

Group Presentations 1

Week 14

Group Presentations 2

Week 15

Group Presentations 3

### **AIU Academic Dishonesty Policy:**

Acts of Academic Dishonesty: In accordance with AIU policies and good practices in higher education, acts of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating, forgery (on a paper, examination, test, or other assignment) will result in the failure of the course at a minimum. An act of academic dishonesty during the final examination or assignment in lieu of the final examination will result in failure of all courses registered in the relevant academic term.

Cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs for relevant action.

Salvador MURGUIA

Year: 2019  
Semester: Spring  
Faculty: International Liberal Arts  
Department: Basic Education  
Field: Social Sciences  
Credit: 3.00  
Class time/day: Tue : 15:30 - 16:45 D101  
Thu : 15:30 - 16:45 D101

E-mail:

Office:

Office hours:

Notes:

Course description:

This course will examine a sample of the ideas and theories that have developed within social sciences during the last two centuries , as well as some ideas about a current social order that has emerged during the twenty-first century. We will explore the ideas of classical theorists who are considered?not without some controversy?the founding fathers of social science. We will then take a critical turn toward the ideas of modernity and progress that served to reorganize the social sciences into a more critical and inclusive field of study. Lastly , we will briefly survey some new theoretical approaches of contemporary social thinkers. This course will also provide interpretive models for understanding the social world of ideas and theories in connection with historical , political and cultural contexts within which these ideas and theories originated and flourished. Throughout this course we will ask the following questions: What is theory ? What is the use of theory ? Whom do these theories address ? What are these theories in response to ? What drives theoretical questions ? What can we learn from theory ?

Objectives:

The objective of this course is to teach students how the shapers of the social sciences viewed , interpreted , and at times , explained the social world. After completing this course , students will have the ability to (1) identify key social theorists and their ideas that have made notable contributions to the social sciences; (2) interpret , for themselves , the relevance of these ideas and theories , both past and present; and (3) develop a command of their written and spoken expression through a social science vernacular.

Textbook(s):

Author: -  
Title: NONE (Handouts will be provided in lieu of a textbook.)  
Publisher: -  
ISBN: -

Reference/Other study materials:

TBA

Assessment:

Students ' final grades will be assessed based upon their performances in the following three areas: (1) Case Study Quizzes , (2) a Midterm Exam , and (3) a Final Exam. Case Study Quizzes: At the close of each unit , students will be provided with a case study that attempts to synchronize the major theoretical concepts introduced during each unit. These case studies will be followed by a brief in-class quiz. Each quiz will consist of five short-answer questions and must be completed within a 30 minute time-frame. Students may use their case studies and any notes that have taken about these case studies during the quizzes. Midterm Exam The Midterm Exam will consist of 45 questions pertaining to readings , lectures and discussions on the topics of viewing society and the foundations of structural functionalist , conflict and symbolic interactionist perspectives. The exam will be made up of three sections , divided into the following formats: multiple choice , matching and true/false questions. Students will be given 90 minutes to complete the exam. A single sheet of A4 paper with notes (front and back) may be used during the exam. Final Exam The Final Exam will consist of 60 questions pertaining to readings , lectures and discussions on the topics of the varieties of structural functionalism , conflict and symbolic interactionist perspectives—this exam is not cumulative. The exam will be made up of four sections , divided into the following formats: multiple choice , matching , true/false questions , and two short answer questions. Students will be given 90 minutes to complete the exam. A single sheet of A4 paper with notes (front and back) may be used during the exam.

Case Study Quizzes (8 @ 5%)

40% Midterm Exam

25% Final Exam

35%

Expected academic background:

Students are expected to have completed an introductory course in at least one discipline (i.e. sociology , anthropology , psychology , etc.) among the social sciences.

URL of other information:

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Policies & remarks:

None

Notes:

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Class schedule:

Unit 1 , Viewing Society

Unit 1 , Viewing Society • Constructing Reality—P. Berger & T. Luckmann • \*Case Study 1 Quiz

Unit 2 , Foundations of Structural Functionalism • The Invention of the Social—E. Durkheim

Unit 2 , Foundations of Structural Functionalism • Centering Community—E. Durkheim • \*Case Study 2 Quiz

Unit 3 , Foundations of the Conflict Perspective • Contention and Criticism—K. Marx

Unit 3 , Foundations of the Conflict Perspective • Strange Illusions—K. Marx • \*Case Study 3 Quiz

Unit 4 , Foundations of the Symbolic Interactionist Perspective • Social Order and Social Organization—M. Weber

Unit 4 , Foundations of the Symbolic Interactionist Perspective • God and Capital—M. Weber • \*Case Study 4 Quiz • \*Midterm Exam

Unit 5 , Structural Functionalist Perspectives • “ Making ” Sense of Difference—R. K. Merton

Unit 5 , Structural Functionalist Perspectives • The Social in Action—T. Parsons • \*Case Study 5 Quiz

Unit 6 , Conflict Perspectives • Forgotten Founders—W.E.B. Dubois; H. Martineau; J. Addams; M. Weber

Unit 6 , Conflict Perspectives • Intersections of Inequality—P.H. Collins • \*Case Study 6 Quiz

Unit 7 , Symbolic Interactionist Perspectives • The Social and the Self—G. Simmel • Viewing Oneself—G. H. Mead

Unit 7 , Symbolic Interactionist Perspectives • Everyday Life—E. Goffman • Deriving Meaning from Everyday Encounters—H. Garfinkel • \*Case Study 7 Quiz

Unit 8 , Postmodernities • Of Culture—P. Bourdieu • Liquid and Solid Modernities—Z. Bauman • Hyperreality—J. Baudrillard • \*Case Study 8 Quiz • Final Exam

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Kevin HOCKMUTH

Year: 2019  
 Semester: Spring  
 Faculty: International Liberal Arts  
 Department: Basic Education  
 Field: Social Sciences  
 Credit: 3.00  
 Class time/day: Mon : 14:00 - 15:15 D201  
 Wed : 14:00 - 15:15 D201

E-mail:

Office:

Office hours:

Notes:

## Course description:

Who 's in-charge? Why are ' they ' in-charge? What are the rules that I must follow? These basic questions lay at the center of a vast territory that is the field of politics. Humans have generally found it advantageous to organize themselves into groups with leaders that have rules. But identifying this tendency alone only serves to open up a vast array of additional questions...Why is one person, rather than another, in-charge? Why does ' anyone ' need to be in-charge? What powers do they have? Why are some rules chosen and not others? Who do those rules benefit? Are the rules ' fair ' ? What does it mean for something to be ' fair ' ? What is the procedure for changing the rules or the leader?

Seeking answers to these and many other related questions is central to the systematic study of politics, commonly referred to as political science. This pursuit of a deeper understanding of human political behavior and institutions leads to another set of questions. What analytical tools are the most useful, or illuminating, for improving our understanding of politics? What exactly is political? Where are, politics located? And who is a political actor?

In this course, we will be taking a journey through the major political institutions and concepts that shape and define us as political entities. We will also be investigating the ways in which practitioners of political science attempt to create a clearer picture of politics in terms of its organization and practice.

## Objectives:

This course is designed to offer students the opportunity to develop their knowledge of the core concepts that shape our political world as well as the various methods and techniques political scientists employ in carrying out their work. As such, the objectives of this course are as follows:

1. Develop a solid foundation of knowledge of the institutions and ideas that shape the major political debates of our times, as well as those of the past.
2. Gain an understanding of what exactly the study of political science is and how it attempts to improve our understanding of politics and political systems.
3. Obtain the capacity to utilize the concepts discussed in this course to apply to one ' s own understanding of both current and historical political events and debates.
4. Improve written and oral communication skills through completing written assignments and participating in class discussions.

## Textbook(s):

Author: /

Title: -

Publisher: -

ISBN: -

## Reference/Other study materials:

All course material will be distributed digitally via AIMS.

## Assessment:

1. Three Reflection Essays (20%/each) 60%
2. Group Work 25%

- b. Participation 10% (attendance and participation in group-based class work)
- 3. Group Project 15%
  - a. Instructor Grade 10%
  - b Peer Evaluation 5%

Expected academic background:

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URL of other information:

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Policies & remarks:

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Notes:

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Class schedule:

Week 1

What are politics? Where are politics? Who is political?

Week 2

Political Philosophy and ' the why ' : foundations and functions

Week 3

Power and Legitimacy

Week 4

' Science ' and the study of politics

Week 5

The International System

Week 6

The State

Week 7

The Nation and Nationalism

Week 8

Political Economy

Week 9

Democracy in Theory

Week 10

Democracy in Theory and Practice: Ideologies

Week 11

Democracy in Practice I: Elections and Representation

Week 12

Democracy in Practice II: Political Parties and Interest Groups

Week 13

Identity Politics

Week 14

Environmental Politics

Week 15

Presentations

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