

**INT210-1 International Relations I** (2008 curriculum 3 credits)  
**IST210-1 International Relations** (2004 curriculum 0 credit)

Yoshihiko Nakamoto

Year: 2012  
Semester: Spring  
Meeting-time/day: M 14:25-16:55  
Office: Part-time Faculty Office (E-bldg.)  
Office Hours: By appointment  
E-mail: nakamoto@aiu.ac.jp  
Website:

**Course Description:**

This course considers the factors that determine continuity and change in the international system. Emphasis will be on periods of conflict and change in the international milieu, with case studies ranging from the Peloponnesian War to the contemporary post-Cold War system. Is it true that international relations remain resistant to fundamental change, as “realists” argue? Or can we observe a progressive change in the evolution of relations among states, as “liberals” contend?

**Objectives:**

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the complexities of international politics by giving them a good grounding in the traditional realist theory before turning to liberal approaches that became more prominent after the Cold War. I try to present difficult concepts in clear language with historical examples so students will gain a practical understanding of the basic vocabulary of international politics.

**Textbook:**

Joseph S. Nye, Jr. and David A. Welch, *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History*, Eighth Edition (New York: Longman, 2010).

**Assessment:**

- Informed class participation and discussion – 20%
- Mid-term examination – 30%
- Final examination – 30%

**Class Schedule:**

**Week 1:**

Is There an Enduring Logic of Conflict in World Politics?

**Week 2:**

Is There an Enduring Logic of Conflict in World Politics?

**Week 3:**

Origins of the Great 20th Century Conflicts

**Week 4:**

Origins of the Great 20th Century Conflicts

**Week 5:**

Balance of Power and World War I

**Week 6:**

Balance of Power and World War I

**Week 7:**

The Failure of Collective Security and World War II

**Week 8:**

The Failure of Collective Security and World War II

**Week 9:**

The Cold War

**Week 10:**

The Cold War

**Week 11:**

Intervention, Institutions and Regional and Ethnic Conflicts

**Week 12:**

Intervention, Institutions and Regional and Ethnic Conflicts

**Week 13:**

Globalization and Interdependence

**Week 14:**

The Information Revolution, Transnational Actors, and the Diffusion of Power

**Week 15:**

A New World Order?

**INT290-1 Comprehension of International News** (2008 curriculum 3 credits)  
**INT290-1 Comprehension of International News** (2004 curriculum 0 credit)

KONISHI, Katsuya

Year: 2012  
Semester: Spring  
Meeting-time/day: Fri 12:50-15:30  
Office: C1-1A  
Office Hours: 15:30-17:30, Fridays  
E-mail: katskonishi@aol.com  
Website:

**Course Description:**

Globalization has reached a new phase as CNN became an international household term. Since then world public opinion is often swayed, for better or worse, by influential English-speaking media including CNN, BBC, and The New York Times. Given such circumstances, it is entirely essential for anybody interested in English-oriented professions to be acquainted with issues and topics hotly debated in English-speaking media.

This course is designed to explore a variety of issues and perspectives offered in latest international news in major English-language media. Students are expected to develop both analytical and practical ability to comprehend latest international news in broadcasting, print, and web journalism. Basic listening and reading comprehension drills will be followed by occasional background briefings highlighting some indispensable concepts in political science, economics, and sociology. Lively discussions are much encouraged, and students will be asked to offer an alternative perspective to ideas and opinions presented in each news material.

Attention is also paid to discussing given news topics in terms of its implication for the Japanese context.

**Objectives:**

Students will be expected to:

- 1) develop aural comprehension skills by familiarizing themselves with given news topics;
- 2) improve oral presentation skills by mastering a repertoire of techniques and know-hows;
- 3) make a contribution in substantive discussions by formulating a coherent and persuasive argument;
- 4) broaden their understanding of international news by mobilizing key social scientific theories and hypothesis;
- 5) acquire some basic knowledge and skills for actual interviewing and reporting.

**Expected Academic Background:**

none

**Textbook:**  
none

**Reference Books/Other Study Materials:**

CNN, BBC World, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Economist, TIME, Newsweek

**Assessment:**

Class contribution 50%

Final exam and/or report 50%

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F below 60

**Class Schedule:**

**Week 1:**

Introduction to course

**Week 2:**

Structure of news gathering and reporting

**Week 3:**

Straight news (CNN)

**Week 4:**

Straight news (BBC)

**Week 5:**

Feature stories (CNN, BBC)

**Week 6:**

Print and web media (NYT, WP)

**Week 7:**

continued (The Economist, TIME, Newsweek)

**Week 8:**

continued ( influential news sites on web)

**Week 9:**

Aspects of television interviews ( “ Fareed Zakaria GPS ” on CNN, “ 60Minutes ” on CBS)

**Week 10:**

continued ( “ HARDtalk ” on BBC, “ Larry King Live ” on CNN)

**Week 11:**

Aspects of television discussions ( “ The Situation Room ” on CNN)

**Week 12:**

continued ( “ This Week ” on ABC)

**Week 13:**

Aspects of presidential news conference

**Week 14:**

continued

**Week 15:**

continued

**NOTE:**

Specific news contents will be subjected to change as news unfold, and accordingly latest news will be prioritized.