

POLITICAL SCIENCE 165: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Loyola Marymount University, Department of Political Science, Fall 2012

Instructor: Professor Kerstin Fisk Office: UH 4201 Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11-12 & by appointment Phone: 310-258-2675 Email: Kerstin.Fisk@lmu.edu	Class Meets: Tu/Th 9:25-10:40 Location: St. Roberts Hall, Room 354
--	---

“We study world politics because the bad things that happen in the world distress us and because the good things give us hope that, through understanding and effort, the world could be a better place.” – Frieden, Lake & Schultz

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to key perspectives, problems, and debates in the field of international relations (IR). Themes include change and continuity in the international system, the origins of international conflict, and states’ ongoing efforts maintain international security and stability through the use of force and cooperation. The first part of the course uses the competing perspectives in IR to explain the causes and consequences of international conflict and war, while the second section turns to the topics of international political economy (trade and financial relations) and transnational politics (terrorism and human rights).

TEACHING GOALS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Students will evaluate international issues from a range of perspectives and at various levels of analysis, and will be encouraged to articulate their own understandings of the drivers of global problems and the policy options designed to alleviate these problems. In order to relate abstract theories and concepts to the “real world,” students will use the perspectives and levels of analysis to evaluate contemporary international events. Lecture and discussion will be well-balanced, and I will frequently supplement our readings with videos of debates and news coverage alongside analysis. Upon completion of the course, students will be prepared for upper-division coursework in international relations and international political economy, will have the tools they need to critically evaluate current and future international events, and will possess a global awareness they understand is linked to their everyday lives.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- **(FLS)** Frieden, Lake and Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, W.W. Norton (2010).
- Readings marked with an asterisk [*] are posted on myLMU under POLS 165 and “Content.”

REQUIRED RESOURCE:

- Subscription to the ICONS Project: “India-Pakistan Crisis.” (\$12 to be paid online – more information to come)

COURSE EVALUATION:

Assignment	Due Date	Percentage
Attendance, <u>thoughtful</u> answers to daily questions & <u>quality of</u> participation in debates and discussions, the simulation, and other activities	Ongoing	20 %
5 Map Quizzes	9/6, 9/13, 9/27, 10/4, 10/18	10 %
Midterm Exam	Thursday, October 11 th	20 %
4 Position Papers	9/20, 10/9, 11/6, 11/29	20 % for all 4
Final Exam	TBD	30 %

Your experience and success in this course depends critically on your completion of the day's assigned readings **before** we meet. Do your best to give your reading assignments just as much attention as your written assignments. Take good notes and write down any questions or thoughts that come to mind as you read. I will assign a question or two at the end of each class period which will pertain to the next day's readings – **prepare your answers and email them to me at Kerstin.Fisk@lmu.edu before 9:00 PM prior to the day we are scheduled to discuss them.** Also make sure to bring your answers, notes, book, and any other assigned readings with you to class.

In addition to the assigned readings, I expect you to be reading “World Politics in the News” on the FLS text's website as well as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor* or another newspaper or online source with thorough international coverage on a regular basis. You are expected to be familiar with the most current issues and developments in the context of lecture material, discussion topics and course readings. Other valuable news and information sources include websites such as *World News* [<http://wn.com>], *The Economist* [<http://www.economist.com>], *Foreign Policy* [<http://www.foreignpolicy.com>], *Foreign Affairs* [<http://www.foreignaffairs.com>], and the official site of the Council on Foreign Relations [<http://www.cfr.org>].

** Please remember that you are responsible for course material in the readings and in our in-class discussions, which means that the readings contain important ideas and information which may not be addressed specifically in class, and discussions and lectures will *always* go beyond the readings. You are responsible for understanding both, so be sure to raise questions that will clarify the things you are unsure about. **If you are not comfortable asking a question in class, take advantage of my office hours, or “student hours.” I will always do my best to answer any lingering questions and address any concerns you may have, but it is your responsibility to ask.**

Map Quizzes:

The study of international relations demands geographic literacy. Thus, during the first part of the semester, you will be required to take 5 in-class map quizzes in the following order by region: 1) Europe; 2) Asia; 3) Latin America; 4) Middle East; and 5) Africa. The number of questions will vary by quiz/region, and each quiz is worth 2% for a total of 10% of your total grade.

Position Paper Guidelines:

You are required to write 4 position papers throughout the semester—two before the mid-term and two after the mid-term. Each should be 4 to 5 pages in length (not including works cited), double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12 font, with 1-inch margins. The most important aspects are that you **1) Clearly state (summarize) your basic argument in the first paragraph of the paper and 2) Use solid evidence—information from assigned**

readings AND outside research—to support your position. Do not summarize any of the assigned readings unless doing so is absolutely necessary for making your point—both your classmates and I have read them and know what the authors think. We want to know what you think and why. Make sure to cite all of your sources properly, and use footnotes where you quote a reading or refer to a specific argument. The following resource from Purdue University provides an excellent guide for writing position/argument papers:

{<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/724/1/>}

Position paper topic #1- Should we negotiate with “rogue” states?

Position paper topic #2- Is the United Nations still a relevant actor in world politics?

Position paper topic #3- Does foreign aid fail to fight poverty effectively?

Position paper topic #4- Should humanitarian intervention occur when human rights abuses are taking place?

Exams:

The midterm exam will cover all material from lectures, readings and discussions (all the more reason to take good notes!). It is scheduled for **Thursday, October 11th**. The final exam will occur during the December exam period, as determined by the Registrar. It will cover all material from lectures, readings and discussions. I will provide more details closer to the exam dates.

Grading Scale:

A	=	100% - 94%	C+	=	79% - 77%
A-	=	93% - 90%	C	=	76% - 73%
B+	=	89% - 87%	C-	=	72% - 70%
B	=	86% - 83%	D+	=	69% - 67%
B-	=	82% - 80%	D	=	66% - 60%

CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS:

It may be necessary, over the course of the semester, to alter our schedule somewhat. If I make a change to the syllabus, I will send an email to your student account as well as mention the revision in class at least one week ahead of the altered class period.

POLICY ON LATE PAPERS, MISSED EXAMS AND QUIZZES:

All work must be turned in either prior to class (if via email) or at the beginning of class on the day it is due (if in hard copy format). Assignments turned in after the due date and time will have one letter grade (10%) deducted per 24 hour period. Assignments more than 48 hours late will not be accepted. If you would like special accommodations for late work (i.e. submission without penalty or with reduced penalty) due to medical emergencies or conditions, you must provide a relevant doctor’s note. Extensions for exams require advance permission and a doctor’s note. The map quizzes will be given periodically at the beginning of class, and there will be no make-ups unless you have a doctor’s note.

CLASSROOM RESPECT & BEHAVIOR:

- Arrive for class on time and, once you’re there, be courteous and be attentive. Please refrain from engaging in side conversations during lecture and discussion.

- Use of cell phones is not permitted during class.* I ask that they be turned off and put away before you enter the classroom (they should not be visible). Laptops will be allowed, meaning you may have MS Word open during lecture and discussion for note-taking purposes. Don't browse the internet.
- With reference to the above, you are encouraged to take hand written notes, as this enhances your comprehension and ability to remember the material.
- Be sure to check your student e-mail account regularly. Please write professional e-mails with clear subject lines.

* If you have a reasonable excuse to answer a phone call in class (i.e. you must be in touch with a sick relative) let me know before class begins. If this is the case, your phone may be on vibrate but still should not be visible, and you must answer the phone immediately, and take it outside of the classroom.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

LMU "expects all members of its community to act with honesty and integrity at all times, especially in their academic work." This means that activities such as plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Such dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: "...all acts of cheating on assignments or examinations, or facilitating other students' cheating; plagiarism; fabrication of data, including the use of false citations; improper use of non-print media; unauthorized access to computer accounts or files or other privileged information; and improper use of internet sites and resources." (Source: LMU Bulletin, 2008-2010) Cite all sources if you are paraphrasing; use quotation marks if you are quoting. Feel free to ask questions if you need clarification regarding what qualifies as plagiarizing before you hand in your paper.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS, ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES:

<u>WEEK #</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS</u>	<u>QUIZ/ACTIVITY</u>
<u>1</u>	Tuesday 8-28	Logistics + Course Overview	...	Introduction to the Course
	Thursday 8-30	<u>NO CLASS</u> – Instructor @ Conference	I suggest you get an early start on the reading assignments for next week.	Answer the questions posted on our course web page (email before 9PM on Monday).
<u>2</u>	Tuesday 9-4	Foundational Theories of IR	Read in the following order: 1.*Mingst, “Contending Perspectives”; 2.*Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories”; 3.*Bueno de Mesquita, “Evaluating Arguments about International Politics”	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 9-6	Historical Introduction	FLS Chapter 1, pp. 3-38	**Map Quiz #1- Europe + Video, Hans Rosling, “Asia’s Rise-How and When?” (15 min)
<u>3</u>	Tuesday 9-11	Analytical Framework	Review - FLS Introduction, pp. xxiii-xxix + FLS Chapter 2, pp. 40-62	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 9-13	Analytical Framework + War & Peace	FLS Chapter 2, pp. 62-79 + FLS Chapter 3, pp. 83-111	**Map Quiz #2- Asia + Video, “The New Power of Collaboration”
<u>4</u>	Tuesday 9-18	War & Peace	FLS Chapter 3, pp. 111-125 + *Lake, “Two Cheers for Bargaining Theory”	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 9-20	War & Peace	DUE: Position Paper #1	Class Debate #1
<u>5</u>	Tuesday 9-25	Domestic Politics and War	FLS Chapter 4, pp. 127-153 + *“Drone makers urge U.S. to let them sell more overseas”	Discuss answers to assigned question(s) + Film, <i>Remote Control War</i>
	Thursday 9-27	Domestic Politics and War	FLS Chapter 4, pp.154-168 + *Singer, “Do Drones Undermine Democracy?”	**Map Quiz #3- Latin America + Film, <i>Remote Control War</i>
<u>6</u>	Tuesday 10-2	International Institutions and War	FLS Chapter 5, pp. 171-189 + *Will Israel Attack Iran?	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 10-4	International Institutions and War + Syria	FLS Chapter 5, pp. 189-212 + Read news articles on the situation in Syria – understand the conflict, efforts to resolve it, and the roadblocks to action in the Security Council	**Map Quiz #4- Middle East + Video, “The United Nations: It’s Your World”
<u>7</u>	Tuesday 10-9	International Institutions and War	DUE: Position Paper #2	Class Debate #2 + Go over midterm exam

	Thursday 10-11	*EXAM DAY*
8	Tuesday 10-16	IPE: Trade	FLS Chapter 6, pp. 214-238 + *"With a Receptive White House, Labor Begins to Line Up Battles"	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 10-18	IPE: Trade	FLS Chapter 6, pp. 238-259 + *Sutherland, "Transforming Nations: How the WTO Boosts Economies and Opens Societies"	**Map Quiz #5-Africa + The Routes of Trade, World Trade Organization Video (10 minutes)
9	Tuesday 10-23	IPE: International Financial Relations	FLS Chapter 7, pp. 261-282 + *Dani Rodrik, "Trading in Illusions," pp.54-62	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 10-25	IPE: International Financial Relations	FLS Chapter 7, pp. 282-294 + *Rogoff, "The IMF Strikes Back" + *Krugman, "In Praise of Cheap Labor"	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
10	Tuesday 10-30	Development	FLS Chapter 9, pp. 331-361	Video, "New Insights on Poverty"
	Thursday 11-1	Development	* Sachs, "The End of Poverty" * Easterly, "The White Man's Burden"	Debate, "Aid to Africa is Doing More Harm than Good"
11	Tuesday 11-6	Development	DUE: Position Paper #3	Class Debate #3
	Thursday 11-8	Transnational Networks: Terrorism	FLS Chapter 10, pp. 381-405 + * Gordon, "Can the War on Terror Be Won?"	Video, "It's Time to End the War on Terror"
12	Tuesday 11-13	Terrorism	Simulation – "India-Pakistan Crisis" + *Reading TBD	Simulation – "India-Pakistan Crisis"
	Thursday 11-15	Terrorism	Simulation – "India-Pakistan Crisis" + *Reading TBD	Simulation – "India-Pakistan Crisis"
13	Tuesday 11-20	Human Rights & Humanitarian Intervention	FLS Chapter 11, pp. 409-442 + *Falk, "Human Rights"	Film, <i>Fault Lines: The US and the New Middle East</i>
14	Tuesday 11-27	Human Rights & Humanitarian Intervention	* Evans & Sahnoun, "The Responsibility to Protect" + *NY Times, "Humanitarian Vanities" + *Council on Foreign Relations, "The Dilemma of Humanitarian Intervention"	
	Thursday 11-29	Human Rights & Humanitarian Intervention	DUE: Position Paper #4	Class Debate #4
15	Tuesday 12-4	The Future of International Politics	FLS Chapter 13, pp. 487-530	Discuss answers to assigned question(s)
	Thursday 12-6	The Future of International Politics	*Lampton, "The Faces of Chinese Power" + *Bergsten, "A Partnership of Equals"	Go over final exam
16	12-10 to 12-14	* EXAM WEEK*

