

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
INR2002, SECTION 1
CLASSROOM: HCB 0102
MWF 10:10 -11:00AM
FALL 2011
TWITTER @FSUINR2002

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Office hours: MW 1:00-2:30pm

Feel free to stop by during office hours - no appointment is necessary. If you would like to reserve an uninterrupted block of time during office hours or other available times, please visit <http://tungle.me/meganshannon> and schedule an appointment that is convenient for you.

Course Goals and Overview

The goal of this class is to discover how international politics affects our everyday lives. We investigate international relations through the framework of interests, interactions, and institutions. We learn that global actors have varying interests, unique interactions, and they work under different rules and institutions. But we also uncover broad patterns of international behavior that allow us to explain and make predictions about world events.

Throughout the semester, we identify different actors in international politics, and investigate why those actors sometimes conflict and sometimes cooperate. Our focus then turns to international political economy, where we discuss theories of global trade, finance, monetary policy, and development. Finally, we investigate unique challenges to the international community, including environmental problems, human rights abuses, and transnational terrorism. By the semester's end, you will understand a variety of political problems facing the world today.

Textbook

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2009. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions. New York: W.W. Norton. ISBN 978-0-393-92709-2.

The textbook is also available as an e-book (online or downloadable version). It can be purchased here: <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/detail.aspx?ID=4488>.

Earning Grades

Four exams, 90% of the final grade

Exams consist of multiple-choice questions and are administered in class. Exam days are September 26, October 14, November 14, and December 15. Students who are more than 10 minutes late will not be allowed to take the exam, and will not be able to make it up.

Makeup exams are only allowed for excused absences. You must let me know in advance if you will miss the exam. Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and

other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. Be aware that **all makeup exams are given in essay format during finals week.**

Quizzes, 10% of the final grade

A number of unannounced quizzes will be given randomly throughout the semester. The quizzes will be given either in class or on Blackboard. If a quiz is given on Blackboard, it will be announced in class, and you will have a 24 hour window to take the quiz. Therefore, it is to your benefit to attend class.

The grading scale for the course is as follows:

	B+ 89 - 87	C+ 79 - 77	D+ 69 - 67	
A 93 - 100	B 86 - 83	C 76 - 73	D 66 - 63	F 59 - 0
A- 92 - 90	B- 82 - 80	C- 72 - 70	D- 62 - 60	

Attendance Policy

Attendance is not a required or graded component of this course. You do not need to inform me if you will be absent from class. However, repeated absences are likely to result in a lower grade, because you will miss vital information for the exams, quizzes, and quiz announcements. I do not post or distribute class notes, so if you miss a class, get the notes from a fellow student.

Email Policy

Treat all emails that you send to me and fellow members of the class as professional documents. Be sure to **sign your first and last name** to the email. I can more quickly and accurately answer emailed questions if I know to whom I am writing. Also, please include INR2002 in the subject line.

Twitter for INR2002

Twitter will be used in this class for a number of purposes. You can sign up for a twitter account for free at <https://twitter.com>. It is optional, but you can follow the class by searching on Twitter for fsuinr2002. On Fridays, you can live tweet your questions and thoughts, and I will choose some of the tweets to respond to. All tweets must be 140 characters or less, and must begin with #inr2002. I will also tweet news articles and other relevant items. Again, using Twitter is optional, but it is a fun way to participate in the class.

Academic Honor Policy

Both you and I are responsible for upholding academic integrity. By my writing this syllabus, and by your enrolling in this course, we agree to uphold the FSU Academic Honor Pledge, which says "I affirm my commitment to the concept of responsible freedom. I will be honest and truthful and will strive for personal and institutional integrity at The Florida State University. I will abide by the Academic Honor Policy at all times." If you would like more clarification and examples of academic honor violations, please visit <http://academichonor.fsu.edu/policy/policy.html>

Americans with Disabilities Act

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
sdr@admin.fsu.edu
<http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/>

Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

Introduction

Why should we care about international politics? What makes international politics different?

Aug 31: Introduction, World Politics textbook

Sept 2: Class cancelled, American Political Science Association meeting

Sept 5: No class, Labor Day

History of International Politics

What significant events shaped the world we live in today?

Sept 7: Chapter 1, pages 3-18

Sept 9: Chapter 1, pages 18-38

Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

What do actors want from politics? Why can't actors always get what they want? Do rules matter in world politics?

Sept 12: Chapter 2, pages 39-59

Sept 14: Chapter 2, pages 59-79

Sept 16: Review Chapter 2

International Conflict

If war is so costly, why do countries fight? Why do civil wars occur?

Sept 19: Chapter 3, pages 80-105

Sept 21: Chapter 3, pages 105-125

Sept 23: Review Chapter 3

Exam 1: Monday, Sept 26

Domestic Politics

What domestic interests affect matters of war and peace?

Sept 28: Chapter 4, pages 126-143

Sept 30: Chapter 4, pages 143-168

Oct 3: Review Chapter 4

International Institutions

Are there any rules in international politics?

Oct 5: Chapter 5, pages 170-189

Oct 7: Chapter 5, pages 189-213

Oct 10: Review Chapter 5

Oct 12: Review Chapters 4 and 5

Exam 2: Friday, Oct 14

International Trade

What's so good about trade? Why do countries sometimes restrict trade?

Oct 17: Chapter 6, pages 216-238

Oct 19: Review Chapter 6, pages 216-238

Oct 21: Chapter 6, pages 238-259

International Finance

How and why do people invest overseas?

Oct 24: Chapter 7, pages 260-282

Oct 26: Review Chapter 7, pages 260-282

Oct 28: Chapter 7, pages 282-294

International Monetary Policy

Without world government, how do countries supply money and regulate currency?

Oct 31: Chapter 8, pages 296-310

Nov 2: Chapter 8, pages 296-310

Nov 4: Chapter 8, pages 310-329

International Development

Why are some countries rich and others poor?

Nov 7: Chapter 9, pages 330-347

Nov 9: Chapter 9, pages 347-362

Nov 11: No class, Veteran's Day

Exam 3: Monday, Nov 14

The Global Environment

If everyone values the earth's resources, why is global cooperation over the environment so hard to achieve?

Nov 16: Chapter 12, pages 444-456

Nov 18: Chapter 12, pages 456-483

Nov 21: Review Chapter 12

Transnational Networks

In a globalizing world, do transnational organizations such as terrorist groups influence politics?

Nov 28: Chapter 10

Nov 30: Review Chapter 10

Human Rights

If everyone values human rights, why hasn't the human rights movement been more successful?

Dec 2: Chapter 11

Dec 5: Review Chapter 11

The Future of International Politics

What are the major challenges facing the world in the future?

Dec 7: Chapter 13

Dec 9: Review Chapter 13

Exam 4: Thursday, December 15th, 7:30am