

**POS 160**  
**Global Politics**  
Dr. Reed M. Wood  
Department of Politics & Global Studies  
Arizona State University  
Fall 2013

**Course Information:**

MWF 1200-1250  
Coor Hall, 174

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Office hours: T: 930-1130

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Office hours: M: 100-300

**I. Course Overview**

**Objectives:** This course is designed to fulfill two objectives: 1) provide an analytical perspective with which to understand why actors in global politics make the decisions they do; 2) offer an understanding of key historical and contemporary events in world politics, including issues relating to security and interstate conflict; global trade and finance; and international institutions and law. A significant portion of the course involves developing a theoretical framework through which to understand international politics; we also will apply that framework, and various analytical concepts, to recent events and contemporary foreign policy debates. Through written work, lectures, and class discussions students are encouraged to take an active role in linking theories with contemporary global politics.

**Grading Scale.** The following grading scale is used for this course:

|            |           |           |           |          |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 99-100: A+ | 94-98: A  | 90-93: A- | 87-89: B+ | 83-86: B |
| 80-82: B-  | 77-79: C+ | 70-76: C  | 60-69: D  | < 60: E  |

**Evaluation:** Grades are based upon multiple sources of evaluation.

**Examinations (45% [15% each]):** Three exams will be given over the course of the semester and will reflect the topics covered since the previous exam. Exams are therefore not cumulative. However, you are expected to recall the basic principles learned in the previous sections. Exams will typically be multiple choice but may include some short answer questions.

All **make up exams** will be given on the scheduled final exam day. Yes, this means that if you miss Exam 1 or 2 you must take two exams on exam day. There will be no exceptions. If you will miss an

exam you must contact me ahead of time so I can put your name on the make up list. This means if you wake up unexpectedly sick you should email me ASAP. If you simply fail to come to the exam and contact me after the fact you may not be able to take a make up and will receive a zero. Anyone arriving to an exam **more than 10 minutes late** must take the exam on the make up day.

**The final exam is scheduled for 9:50 AM on Wednesday December 11.** Note this date now. You are not allowed to take the exam early. It is not subject to discussion unless you demonstrate you have more than three exams on the same day.

**Current events portfolio (25%):** Students will keep a portfolio of world political events that correspond to the topics covered in the course. Feel free to choose any events you like. You will need to clip (or print), save, and analyze **10** articles related to topics that reflect the major themes covered in class: **institutions, bargaining, cooperation, conflict, power, and sovereignty**. These themes overlap and will subsume multiple issues. Your job will be collect articles across multiple issue areas that reflect these themes. Your analysis should discuss how the event described in the article reflects elements of multiple themes. For instance, an article on the economic crisis in the European Union may fit under any of the themes. So would an article about potential United Nations or NATO intervention in Syria. I encourage you to think about these points of connection and think broadly about the topics. Each article analysis should be 1-2 pages.

Articles should be taken *\*only\** from *The New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Der Spiegel*, or *The Financial Times*, and *The Economist*. It is ok to use the online version, but you will need to clip, save, and comment on the articles. Completed portfolios are due on **November 25<sup>th</sup>**. We will discuss this project in more detail in the first weeks of class.

**Political Film Analyses (30%[10% each]):** During the course of the semester you will also be required to view and analyze three films that reflect (though often cinematically) the issues, theories, themes, and arguments covered in the course. Your task is to discuss how well (or how poorly) the film captures its topic/theme considering the information you have acquired in this course. You should identify major themes in the film that connect to the class, discuss their relevance to the course material, and critique the film in light of your knowledge of international politics. Each analysis should 2-3 pages in length. Movies should be drawn from a list that will be made available in Blackboard. Due dates for each analysis are noted in the syllabus. It will be your responsibility to locate films. Many are available in the ASU library. Others are available for instant or rental viewing on Netflix, Amazon, or other sites.

**Attendance and Participation:** Attendance is not required, but it is **highly recommended**. I will not take attendance, and you will not be graded on participation. However, I assure you that frequently missing class will adversely impact your grade. Exam questions will often come directly from class lectures and discussions. I will not post lecture notes online unless I have failed to cover a topic thoroughly during the lecture time. I also will not provide lectures slides to students who miss class. This includes excused absences. If you miss a class you should either arrange to borrow notes from a classmate or come to office hours where I will allow you to copy the missed notes.

**Appropriate Behavior.** Students are expected to show respect for the professor, teaching assistants, and other students. This means arriving a few minutes prior to the start of class, so that lectures and sections can begin on time without disruption; refraining from distracting behaviors during lectures and sections (texting, playing with your smart phone, reading the newspaper or anything not related

to the course); and generally paying attention to what is being said in class. Laptops should be used **only** for taking notes. Any behavior that would be inappropriate while watching a live performance (arriving after the first act has started; leaving your cell phone on; talking during the performance) is also inappropriate for lecture. Students whose behavior is disrespectful or inappropriate may be asked to leave. As an example, if you talk on your phone during class I will ask you to leave. If you absolutely must take a call (this should only happen in an emergency) you should leave class quietly.

Students are encouraged to ask questions during lecture. **If you do not understand something, please ask questions;** others in the class likely will thank you for doing this! We will **not** be able to cover every reading or idea in class; if a concept is unclear, please ask questions during lecture, in section, or during office hours.

**Required Readings:** The following books are available for purchase at the ASU Bookstore, and are required for the course. Books also are available through other sources. Older editions of the books may be available. However, you should note that content changes between editions. You are welcome to use an older edition, but you are still responsible for locating and reading all assigned material.

Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2013. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions and Institutions*, 2nd edition. New York: W.W. Norton Company. ISBN 0-393-927-092. **“FLS.”**

Daniel Drezner. 2011. *International Politics and Zombies*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. **[IPZ]**

Access to the *New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Der Spiegel*, *Financial Times* or the *Economist* either online or in hard copy is required. Please contact me if you do not know how or where to access these sources.

<http://global.nytimes.com/?iht>  
<http://www.nytimes.com/>  
<http://online.wsj.com/home-page>  
<http://www.economist.com/>  
<http://www.spiegel.de/international/>  
<http://www.ft.com/home/uk>

Other reading materials also are assigned for some days. All are available on Blackboard. These items are indicated with **[BB]** on the syllabus; on Blackboard, they are organized by date. These readings are as important as those from the texts, so please be sure to read them – either in electronic or printed form—prior to class. Please email me if you can’t find a reading that is supposed to be on Blackboard.

**Student Obligations to Academic Integrity:** Each student must act with honesty and integrity, and must respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. A student may be found to have engaged in academic dishonesty if, in connection with any Academic Evaluation or academic or research assignment (including a paid research position), he or she:

- A. Engages in any form of academic deceit;

- B. Refers to materials or sources or uses devices (e.g., computer disks, audio recorders, camera phones, text messages, crib sheets, calculators, solution manuals, materials from previous classes, or commercial research services) not authorized by the instructor for use during the Academic Evaluation or assignment;
- C. Possesses, reviews, buys, sells, obtains, or uses, without appropriate authorization, any materials intended to be used for an Academic Evaluation or assignment in advance of its administration;
- D. Acts as a substitute for another person in any Academic Evaluation or assignment;
- E. Uses a substitute in any Academic Evaluation or assignment;
- F. Depends on the aid of others, including other students or tutors, in connection with any Academic Evaluation or assignment to the extent that the work is not representative of the student's abilities;
- G. Provides inappropriate aid to another person in connection with any Academic Evaluation or assignment, including the unauthorized use of camera phones, text messages, photocopies, notes or other means to copy or photograph materials used or intended for Academic Evaluation;
- H. Engages in Plagiarism;
- I. Uses materials from the Internet or any other source without full and appropriate attribution;
- J. Permits his or her work to be submitted by another person in connection with any Academic Evaluation or assignment, without authorization;
- K. Claims credit for or submits work done by another;
- L. Signs an attendance sheet for another student, allows another student to sign on the student's behalf, or otherwise participates in gaining credit for attendance for oneself or another without actually attending;
- M. Falsifying or misrepresenting hours or activities in relationship to an internship, externship, field experience, clinical activity or similar activity; or
- N. Attempts to influence or change any Academic Evaluation, assignment or academic record for reasons having no relevance to academic achievement.

\*Note: There are severe sanctions for cheating, plagiarizing and any other form of dishonesty. An initial incident will result in the student receiving an E and zero points for exam. A second incident will result in a failure (E or possibly an XE – failure for academic dishonesty) for the course. All work must be yours and it must be original to this class. If you have questions about this, please ask us. All instances of academic dishonesty will, per CLAS policy, be reported to the appropriate authority in CLAS.

**Disability Accommodations:** Qualified students with disabilities who will require disability accommodations in this class are encouraged to make their requests to me at the beginning of the semester either during office hours or by appointment. **Note:** Prior to receiving disability accommodations, verification of eligibility from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is required. Disability information is confidential.

**Establishing Eligibility for Disability Accommodations:** Students who feel they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) should contact DRC immediately. Their office is located on the first floor of the Matthews

Center Building. DRC staff can also be reached at: 480-965-1234 (V), 480-965-9000 (TTY). For additional information, visit: [www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc](http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc). Their hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

## II. Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

### Part I: Core Concepts & Principles

#### **August 23 (F)                    Introductions**

- Expectations and course syllabus
- Basic concepts in IR
- [FLS], Introduction, pp. xix-xxx.

#### **August 26 (M)                    Background**

- A (Very) Short History Lesson
- The Rise of the Modern “State”
- Sovereignty
- [FLS] 5-37, 45

#### **August 28 (W)                    War, Power and Politics**

- [BB] Thucydides, “Melian Dialogue”
- “The Fog of War” [film]

#### **August 30 (F)                    The Purpose of War**

- [BB] von Clausewitz, “War as an Instrument of Policy”
- “The Fog of War” [film]

#### **September 2 (M)                    Labor Day (no class)**

#### **September 4 (W)                    Superficial versus Deep Causes of Conflict**

- A Tragic Example: The War to End all Wars
- [BB] Jervis

#### **September 6 (F)                    World War I: Deep Causes**

- September 9 (M)      Realist Theories**  
 -[IPZ] 1-46  
 -[BB] Mearsheimer
- September 11 (W)      Liberalism in International Relations**  
 -[IPZ] 47-60  
 -[BB] Doyle
- September 13 (F)      Ideology, Psychology and Social Construction**  
 -[IPZ] 61-76, 99-108
- September 16 (M)      Getting What You Want in IR: A Rationalist Approach**  
 -Exploring cooperation under “anarchy”  
 -Bargaining and coordination  
 -[FLS] 38-73
- September 18 (W)      The Prisoners’ Dilemma (and other “games”)**  
 -[FLS] 74-79
- September 20 (F)      Why We Fight**  
 -Bargaining and war  
 -Compellence and Deterrence  
 -[FLS] 80-92  
 -[BB] Art
- September 23 (M)      War as a Big Mistake**  
 -Bargaining Failure and conflict  
 -Resolve and Commitment  
 -Misinformation  
 -[FLS] 94-123
- September 25 (W)      Domestic Politics and International Relations**  
 -Is all politics national?  
 -Public Opinion and War  
 -[FLS] 124-152  
 -[IPZ] 77-98
- September 27 (F)      The Democratic Peace**  
 -[FLS] 154-167  
 -[BB] Drezner

**September 30 (M)**      **Looking Up or Looking Worse?**      ***\*\*First Film Analysis Due\*\****  
-[BB] Goldstein  
-Quick Exam Review

**October 2 (W)**      **Exam 1**      ***\*\*Exam 1\*\****

## Part II: International Political Economy

**October 4 (F)**      **The Global Economy**  
-“Grand” Theories of IPE  
-[BB] Gilpin, “The Nature of Political Economy”

**October 7 (M)**      **Bretton Woods (and other History)**  
-[BB] Cohen

**October 9 (W)**      **International Trade Theory**  
-Why Trade?  
-[FLS] 264-297

**October 11 (F)**      **Mechanics of Economics**  
-Absolute and comparative advantage  
-Distributive costs of trade  
-[FLS] 298-310

**October 14 (M)**      **Fall Break (classes excused)**

**October 16 (W)**      **Overseas Investment**  
-FDI and MNCs  
-[FLS] 312-348

**October 18 (F)**      **Examining the Washington Consensus**  
-Finance and development  
-[BB] Rogoff  
-[BB] Freidman (review of Stiglitz)

**October 21 (M)**      **Currency Exchange**  
-[FLS] 350-374  
-[BB] Smick

**October 23 (W)**            **Consequences of Currency Collapse**  
-[FLS] 375-385  
-"The Crash"

**October 25 (F)**  
-"The Crash"  
- [BB] The Economist

**October 28 (M)**            **Economic Development**  
-Domestic and International Factors  
-Blame Colonialism?  
-[FLS] 386-405

**October 30 (W)**            **Models of Development**  
-ISI and EOI  
-Globalization  
-[FLS] 406-412

**November 1 (F)**            **Foreign Aid: Blessing or Curse**            ***\*\*Second Film Analysis Due\*\****  
-Why do we hate aid programs?  
-[FLS] 413-419  
-[BB] Atwood et al.

**November 4 (M)**            **Exam II**            ***\*\*Exam II***

**Part III: Selected Topics in World Politics**

**November 6 (W)**            **International Law**  
-History and modern application  
-Does it matter?  
-[FLS] 425-450

**November 8 (F)**            **International Human Rights**  
-Introduction to HR  
-Are rights universal?  
-[FLS] 452-472 (especially Universal Declaration of HR, pp. 457)

**November 11 (M)**            **Veterans Day (no class)**

**November 13 (W)**            **Protecting Human Rights**  
-[FLS] 473-490

-[BB] Caryl

**November 15 (F) Civil Wars and Insurgency**

-Causes of civil war  
-[FLS] 214-240

**November 18 (M) Religious and Ethnic Conflict**

-Religion, Ethnicity and Conflict  
-[BB] Kaplan  
-[BB] Mueller

**November 20 (W) Terrorism**

-Rational actors or madmen?  
-[FLS] 242-263  
-[BB] Pape

**November 22 (F) International Responses to Conflict**

-Collective Security  
-Intervention and Peacekeeping  
-[BB] Charter of the United Nations (Chapters I, VI-VII)  
-[FLS] 188-212

**November 25 (M)**

-Peacekeeping Mechanics  
-[BB] BBC  
-“Ghost of Rwanda” **(Be sure to watch this. It will be on the exam)**

***\*\*Current Event Portfolio Due\*\****

**November 27 (W)**

-Robust Peacekeeping  
-[BB] Jackson  
-[BB] Bosco  
-“Ghosts of Rwanda” **(Be sure to watch this. It will be on the exam)**

**November 29 (F) Thanksgiving (no class)**

**December 2 (M) The Global Environment**

-Protecting the Commons  
-[FLS] 496-516 (appendix [474-483] recommended)  
-[BB] Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons”

**December 4 (W)      Can we Stop Global Climate Change?**

-[FLS] 517-525

-[BB] Lomborg

-[BB] Economist

**December 6 (F)      Exam Review**

***\*\* Third Film Analysis Due\*\****

**December 11 (W)      Exam Week**

**\*\*\*Final Exam and Makeup Exams\*\*\***

**TIME: 9:50-11:40**