

World Politics - Spring 2019 Course Syllabus
Department of Political Science
Rutgers University-Newark

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Office: Hill Hall 712
Office Hours: Thursday 10:00-11:20 a.m. (and by appt.)

Course Identification

Course Name: World Politics

Course Number: 21:790:321:01

Course Location: HAH-322

Class Time: Tues & Thurs: 11:30 to 12:30 p.m.

Course Description and Objectives

World Politics—also known as International Relations—is about how the countries and people of the world get along. This course offers an introduction to what scholars consider when they study world politics and why we should study it. We will examine the core concepts and theories that scholars use to explain the dynamics underlying world politics, and will do so by exploring the diverse set of expectations about actors' interests and the different institutions that shape their interactions. The complexity of such relationships will be examined, with a focus on the roles of national and international institutions, transnational organizations, and civil society groupings.

The course is divided into five sections. The first section presents an overview of the evolution of the global system. The second part examines the central puzzles associated with international security and explores why the international community finds it hard to cooperate to prevent wars. This section also examines the activities of non-state actors, including rebel groups and terrorist organizations. The third section explores the main puzzles in international economic relations, including trade, financial, and monetary relations. The last two sections deal with transnational issues, trends, and processes as well as the challenges associated with global governance. We will examine the development of international law and norms and give attention to efforts that address threats to the global environment. Students are expected to keep abreast of current events and how they impact world politics in order to better understand the information presented in in class.

Learning Goals

This course is designed to help students:

Objective	Assessment
A. Understand that world politics spans the continuum from open warfare to peaceful cooperation over issues and resources.	Class discussion and written assignments
B. Demonstrate understanding of the complexities of the global issues that produce relations and interactions among diverse actors.	Course Term Paper and class discussions
C. Recognize that the traditional paradigms of world politics based on realism, liberalism, and constructivism can be understood as a set of assumptions about interests, interactions, and institutions.	Mid-term, Final, and Term Paper
D. Demonstrate understanding of the evolving relations among transnational actors and the global trends that shape such relations.	Oral Presentations and Term Paper
E. Enhance their analytical skills through the study of how the concepts of interests, interactions, and institutions shape our world.	Written assignments

Course Requirements and Grades

- 1) Readings are assigned for each class session. It is imperative that students complete all required readings on time in order to be able to participate actively in class discussions. All readings will provide background information on the dynamics of world politics presented in the course. *Class discussions are an important part of the learning process. That along with student participation will be highly valued by the instructor.*
- 2) As part of your class participation, students are required to bring reputable newspaper or magazine clippings that reflect global trends and developments in world politics. The instructor will randomly call upon students to share details of their articles, and students are expected to relate the article to the core concepts of interests, interactions, and institutions.
- 3) Regular and punctual attendance is a course requirement. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class session. Please note that more than two unexcused absences will draw a penalty on the participation portion of your grade.
- 4) Starting from the second week, a team of 2-3 students will open our Monday class sessions with a 10-15 minute oral presentation based on assigned readings. The presenters will be required to survey what they think are the most significant dimensions of the readings and to present the class with a series of points for discussion.
- 5) Midterm and Final Exams: The midterm exam will be held during our regular class period on *Thursday, February 21*. The final exam will take place during the time period assigned per the Spring 2019 Exam Schedule. Please note that materials from assigned readings along with information presented in class lectures and discussions will be the subject of both the midterm and final exams. The nature and format of the exams will be discussed in detail later in the semester.
- 6) Term Paper: The due date for the term paper (no more than 10 double-spaced typed pages, not including the bibliography) is *Tuesday, May 2*. Students are required to submit a preliminary one-page proposal on a topic of their choice within the realm of world politics, which must be approved by the instructor. The proposal is due on *Tuesday, April 4*. It will not be graded, but rather returned with comments. The term paper must have a cover page, title, and abstract. All written assignments for this class are to be in Times New Roman, 12-point font with one-inch margins. No space is to be left between paragraphs, which are to be indented on the first line. Details of the term paper assignment are listed in an additional course document, which will be posted on the course's Blackboard page.

The final grade earned in this course will be based on student performance in these areas:

- a.) Class Attendance & Participation – 10%
- b.) Oral Presentations – 10 %
- c.) Midterm Exam – 20%
- d.) Term Paper – 40 %
- e.) Final Exam – 20%

Please note that make-ups for missed exams as well as extensions for the term paper will only be granted with a valid and documented excuse, subject to the instructor's approval.

Grade Scale for Tests, Papers, and Final Grade Assignments

90-100 = A 85-89 = B+ 80-84 = B 75-79 = C+ 70-74 = C 59-69 = D <59 = F

For information regarding important semester dates (e.g., University Academic Calendar and Fall Exams Schedule), see <https://registrar.newark.rutgers.edu/office-registrar-academic-calendar>

Course Format

Class meetings are divided into lectures and class discussions. These two formats are intended to complement each other and are both integral parts of the course. The lectures provide context to historical themes, events, and global trends and processes. As such, they will provide context for students' consideration. Class discussions are designed to support the lectures. Thus, students should attend classes and actively participate in the learning process.

Academic Integrity

As scholars of Rutgers University-Newark, all students are held to the university's Academic Integrity and Student Conduct Codes as well as to their instructor's expectations, which include NO engaging in obscene or offensive behavior and NO utilizing inappropriate language or profanity. As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University's educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. Academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism on term papers and exams will not be tolerated and may result in an immediate and final course grade of "F." Please note that such cases will be reported to the Chair of the Political Science Department, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible academic probation and/or suspension from the University. See University Academic Integrity Policy at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

Policy on Inclusiveness

It is the policy and practice of Rutgers University-Newark to promote inclusive learning environments. If you have a documented disability, you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. In order to receive such accommodations, you must complete and submit the Registration Form along with the appropriate documentation. Please note that students are not permitted to negotiate any applicable accommodations directly with their professors. To request accommodations or assistance, please self-identify with the Office for Disability Services-Newark (ODS), Robeson Campus Center, Suite 219, at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services, please be sure to contact ODS at (973) 353-5375 or by email at odsewark@newark.rutgers.edu.

Policy on Incompletes

Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request, accompanied by an Incomplete Grade Extension Form (available from the Department of Political Science Main Office), to the professor *before* the date of the final examination. If the request for an incomplete is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for

all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving it, or by the time of graduation (whichever comes first), automatically becomes an "F." It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

Required Text

Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, 4th ed. (New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company, 2019).

Supplementary Readings

In addition to the readings from the text selected for this course, students will be required to examine book chapters as well as journal articles and newspaper clippings provided as supplementary readings for a broader understanding and integration of the topics and themes discussed in class. These materials will be available in electronic format on Blackboard.

- ⦿ This syllabus is subject to change and such a change will be announced to students. Please note that students are responsible for keeping track of all announcements and assignments.

Schedule of Classes

Week 1: Introductions to the Course

Tues., Jan. 22: Introductory Meeting

Thurs., Jan. 24: Read Frieden et al., pp. xx-xxxix.

Jack Snider, "One World, Rival Theories," *Foreign Policy* (Dec. 2004): 52-62.

PART ONE: FOUNDATIONS

Week 2: What Shaped Our World? A Historical Introduction

Tues., Jan. 29: Read: Read Frieden, et al., pp. 2-22.

Read Blake Smith, "Slavery as Free Trade," *Aeon*, June 29, 2016. Available from <https://aeon.co/essays/why-the-original-laissez-faire-economists-loved-slavery>

Thurs., Jan. 31: Read Frieden et al., pp. 23-41.

Samuel P. Huntington, "Transnational Organizations in World Politics," *World Politics*, Vol. 25, No. 3 (April 1973): 333-368.

Week 3: Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

Tues., Feb 5: Read Frieden et al, pp. 42-68.

Michael Barnett and Raymond Duvall, "Power in International Politics," *International Organizations*, Vol. 59 (Winter 2005): 39-75.

Thurs., Feb. 7: Read Frieden et al, pp. 68-87.

Ian Hurd, "The International Rule of Law: Law and the Limit of Politics," *Ethics & International Affairs*, Vol. 28, No. 1 (2014): 39-51.

PART TWO: WAR AND PEACE

Week 4: Why are there Wars?

Tues., Feb. 12: Read Frieden et al., pp. 88-117.

Uri Friedman, "Donald Trump Sorrowfully Cancels Another North Korea Meeting," *The Atlantic Monthly*, August 24, 2018.

Joseph Yun, "How the U.S. and North Korea Can Break the Cycle of Disappointment," *Washington Post*, August 15, 2018.

Thurs., Feb. 14: Frieden et al, pp. 118-137.

Anna Matveeva, "Russia's Power Projection after the Ukraine Crisis," *Europe-Asia Studies*, Vol. 70, No. 5 (July 2018): 711-737.

For information on significant conflicts around the world, see "Global Conflict Tracker" on Council on Foreign Relations website <https://www.cfr.org/interactives/global-conflict-tracker#!/global-conflict-tracker>

Week 5: Domestic Politics and War

Tues., Feb. 19: Read Frieden et al., pp. 138-185.

Uri Friedman, "Syria's War Has Never Been More International," *The Atlantic Monthly*, February 14, 2018.

Nour Samaha, "The Black Market Kings of Damascus," *The Atlantic Monthly*, October 3, 2016.

Thurs., Feb. 21: Midterm Exam

Week 6: International Institutions and War

Tues., Feb. 26: Read Frieden et al, pp. 186-203.

Terrence L. Chapman and Scott Wolford, "International Organizations, Strategy, and Crisis Bargaining," *The Journal of Politics*, Vol. 72, No. 1 (January 2010): 227-242.

Thurs., Feb. 28: Read Frieden et al, pp. 203-235.

Johannes Karreth and Jaroslav Tir, "International Institutions and Civil War Prevention," *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 75, No. 1 (January 2013): 96-109.

Jimmy Carter, "In Syria, an Ugly Peace is Better than More War," *New York Times*, August 24, 2018.

Week 7: Violence by Non-state Actors: Civil War and Terrorism

Tues., Mar. 5: Read Frieden et al, pp. 236-268.

Eeben Barlow, "The Rise and Fall of – and Rise Again of Boko Haram," *Harvard International Review*, Vol. 37, Issue 4 (Summer 2016): 16-20.

"The Origins of Boko Haram," *New African*, Issue 583 (May 2018): 31-33.

Thurs., Mar. 7: Read Frieden et al, pp. 268-293.

PART THREE: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Week 8: International Trade

Tues. Mar. 12: Read Frieden et al, pp. 294-345.

Liu Xiaoming, "Brics Countries Show the US the benefits of Globalization," *Financial Times*, August 20, 2018.

Ben Bland, "Sino-US Trade War Prompts Rethink on Supply Chains," *Financial Times*, September 3, 2018.

Thurs. Mar. 14: Read Jon C. W. Pevehouse and Joshua S. Goldstein, "Global Finance and Business," *International Relations*, 11th Ed. (Pearson, 2017): 272-301.

Mohamed A. El-Elrian, "The Future of Economic and Financial Globalization," *Journal of International Affairs*, Special Issue, Vol. 70 (2017): 1-6.

Week 9: Spring Break: No classes

Tues., Mar. 19: Spring break

Thurs., Mar. 21: Spring break

Week 10 International Financial and Monetary Relations

Tues., Mar. 26: Read Frieden et al, pp. 346-385.

Thurs., Mar. 28: Read Frieden et al, pp. 386-423.

John Plender, "Global Liquidity Squeeze Looks to Continue," *Financial Times*, August 20, 2018.

Week 11: Development: Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations

Tues., Apr. 2: Read Frieden et al, pp. 424-461.

Thurs., Apr. 4: Read William Easterly, "Development in a Time of Xenophobia," *Journal of International Affairs*, Special Issue, Vol. 70 (2017): 1-6

Tues., Apr 4: Term paper proposal due
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Week 12: Discussion of Term Paper proposals

Tues., Apr. 9: Discussion of Term Paper proposals (cont'd)

We will use the Apr. 9th & 11th meetings to discuss your term paper proposals, the goal of which is to create space for your peers to provide feedback on one another's proposal.

PART FOUR: TRANSNATIONAL POLITICS

Week 13: International Law and Norms

Tues., Apr. 16: Read Frieden et al, pp. 462-497

Thurs., Apr. 18: tttttt

Week 14: Human Rights

Tues., Apr. 23: Read Frieden et al, pp. 498-520.

Rana Mitter, "Five Ways China's Past has Shaped Its Present," BBC,
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-43714279>

Thurs. Apr. Apr. 25: Read Frieden et al, pp. 520-539.

PART FIVE: LOOKING AHEAD

Week 15: The Global Environment

Tues., Apr. 30: Read Frieden et al, pp. 540-583.

Erle C. Ellis, "Science Alone Won't Save the Earth. People Have to Do It," *New York Times*, August 11, 2018.

Challenges to the Global Order

Thurs., May. 2: Read Frieden et al, pp. 56-625.

David A. Graham, "Can Anyone Fill the U.S. Leadership Vacuum on Climate Change?" *The Atlantic Monthly*, June 25, 2018.

Week 16: Concluding Lecture

Tues, May 2: Concluding lecture focusing on the future of world politics.

Tues., May 2: Term Paper Due

Thurs., May. 7: **Reading Day**

Final exams begin May 9: