

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHICAGO
Department of Political Science
POLS. 184: Introduction to International Relations
Fall 2004

Instructor: Professor Nitish Dutt
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Class: M.W.
T.As:

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to acquaint students with both the major actors and issues relevant in global politics. This entails gaining an understanding and knowledge of the theory as well as the practice of global politics. In simple terms, the students will hopefully learn what is happening in today's world, where it is happening, and most importantly why it is happening. From this perspective, the course will enhance the student's awareness of global affairs and the significance of being a citizen of this world. Numerous discussions in class will be about contemporary problems at the global level. For obvious reasons, the foreign policy of the United States and this country's relations with its allies and adversaries will also figure quite prominently. In order to bring our discussions up-to-date, students are expected to read as much as possible about current events, watch daily television news or listen to radio broadcasts regularly (the Lehrer-News Hour on PBS, the "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered" on National Public Radio are highly recommended).

REQUIRED READINGS: (The following books can be purchased at the UIC Bookstore)

John T. Rourke, *International Politics on the World Stage 8th ed.* New York: MacGraw-Hill 2002.

Charles Kegley and Eugene Wittkopf eds. *The Global Agenda: Issues and Perspectives 6th ed.* New York: McGraw-Hill 2001.

Annual Editions (AE), *World Politics 2003/04*, New York: Duskin Publishers, 2003.

Other Supplementary Readings as assigned during the semester.

Regular review of international news. Read either the *Chicago Tribune* or *New York Times* (compulsory)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. One mid-term examination consisting of multiple choice questions and short answers.
2. A final exam (comprehensive) consisting of multiple choice questions and one essay.
3. Two surprise quizzes in discussion sections. Please note there will be no make-up quizzes

4. A think paper, in consultation with your TA dealing with a current international problem/issue, no more than 5 pages in length, typed, double-spaced, with endnotes, a bibliography, an introduction and thoughtful conclusion.

The paper is due on the day listed below and should be handed over to your TAs or me. Late papers will be penalized between half and a full grade depending on how late they are. Papers more than a week late will automatically receive a grade of 'F'. So beware!

GRADING:

- Mid-term exam (20%)
- Final exam cumulative (30%)
- 2 Surprise Quizzes (20%)
- Short paper (20%) due Nov. 22 (No extensions)
- Participation and attendance (10%)

TOTAL (100%)

GRADING SCALE:

Unless exceptional circumstances dictate otherwise, the grading scale used throughout semester will be: 100-90 = A; 89-80= B; 79-70%= C; 69-60= D; 59- =F.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism, defined as the "stealing and passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own (Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary), and other forms of cheating could result in an 'F' for the course.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is mandatory. If, however, compelling circumstances such as participation at university-sanctioned events, illness, family related occurrences do require absence from class, please notify the instructor or TA ahead of time. Make-up exams will be given only in exceptional circumstances. No make-ups are allowed for oral reports. Whereas 1 or 2 absences usually will not affect a student's grade, more frequent and repeated absences will negatively affect the overall grade performance.

Students with disabilities : If you have any kind of disabilities that may impact on your ability to carry out the assigned course work, please let me know at the beginning of the semester.

COURSE OUTLINE

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| Aug. 23-25. | The Study of International Relations: Background and approaches
Read: Rourke, Chapters 1-5
Kegley and Wittkopf, Ch. 11 |
| Sept. 6. | ***** Labour Day (Holiday) ***** |
| Sept. 8-22. | Nationalism and Transnationalism
Read: Rourke, Ch. 6, 7
AE, Art. 2 |
| Sept. 27-29 | National State
Read: Rourke, Ch.
AE, Art. 3 |
| Oct. 4-11 | International Organizations
Read: Rourke, Ch. 7
Kegley and Wittkopf, Ch. 12 |

AE, Art. 34

Oct. 13-25 National Power and Influence
Read: Rourke, Ch. 8
Kegley and Wittkopf, Ch. 1, 3

***** MID-TERM EXAM (October 13, 2004) *****

Oct. 27-Nov. 8 National and International Security
Read: Rourke, Ch. 9
Kegley and Wittkopf, Ch. 8

Nov. 10-22 Interdependence and Globalization (video)
Read: Rourke, Ch. 10
Kegley and Wittkopf, Ch. 24
AE, Art. 1, 36

Nov. 24

Human Rights

Read: Rourke, Ch. 11

Kegley and Wittkopf, pp. 201-215

AE, Art. 4

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

Global Commons (Video)

Read: Rourke, Ch. 12

Kegley and Wittkopf, Ch. 41

***** FINAL EXAM as Scheduled *****: