

Seung-Whan Choi, Ph.D.
1136 BSB
Phone: 312-413-3280

Email: whancoi@uic.edu
Web: <http://www.uic.edu/~whancoi/>
Office Hours: Tue, 02:00 - 04:00 pm or by appointment

PolS 284 International Security
Fall 2008
Room 367, BSB
Tue and Thu, 12:30 - 01:45 pm

Note: I will go over the grading policy below very carefully on the first day of class (i.e., August 26). The policy will become effective from the second day (i.e., August 28). This means that if you do not show up to class on August 28 (e.g., because of late registration), you will lose one point for absence and three points for the first Monday reading summary. There will be no exceptions.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed to offer a broad overview of the study of international security. We will address issues relating to war and peace, terrorism, the North Korean nuclear crisis, and many others. In doing so, we will strive to understand some of the factors at the root of conflict and cooperation between nation-states, international organizations, and other non-state actors (e.g., ethnic groups and terrorist organizations).

To help students think about this complicated tangle of issues and actors, this course will provide students with a theoretical framework that will help in understanding the forces that shape the behavior of various actors as they interact in the international arena.

COURSE MATERIALS

There are no required textbooks for this course. However, you are required to purchase a packet of course reading materials.

GRADING POLICY

Class Attendance (5 points): Regular attendance is required of all students. Attendance is one of the most important measures of your interest and desire to do well academically. Your attendance helps me facilitate better discussions, and your fellow students benefit from your ideas and experiences. **Without appropriate documentation, each absence will cost you one point. If you fail to attend more than five times, your course grade will be lowered by one letter grade. If you fail to attend more than TEN times, your course grade will be an F. There will be no exceptions. If you come late twice (i.e., after I check the class attendance), it will be counted as one absence.**

Class Participation (11 points): You are expected to actively participate in class discussion. Participation includes thoughtful comments, sophisticated questions about readings, clear evidence of active listening to your fellow students, and other valuable contributions to classroom discussion.

Eleven Monday Reading Summaries (3 points each): Their purpose is to help you to begin pondering your take-home exams. Each summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Three Take-Home Exams (17 points each): Their purpose is to allow you to demonstrate your understanding of international security issues. Each answer must include an introduction, body, and conclusion. They must be five pages long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Three Extra-Credit Assignments (1 point each): Their purpose is to get you to critically think about three Hollywood movies, *Thirteen Days* in terms of realism, *Air Force One* in terms of terrorism, and *Lawrence of Arabia* in terms of the Muslim World. If you do not attend the movie sessions, your reviews will not be accepted. Each movie review must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Class Discussion Leadership for Additional Extra Credit (2 points each): Students who volunteer for leading a class discussion will receive 2 points per discussion.

The grading scale is as follows: A (> 90); B (80-89); C (70-79); D (60-69); F (< 60)

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Late work: I am willing to help solve almost any special problem or concern you might have with this course. However, this is only possible if you talk to me about it *in advance* of assignment due dates. Extensions for assigned work will be granted only for documented medical or family emergencies. In sum, if you anticipate difficulty submitting assigned work by the specified due date because of illness or other emergency, extensions are possible only when you:

- contact me in advance **by email only**
- provide me with appropriate documentation **within one week after the due date**

Extremely important: For the record, you must keep our email exchanges for extensions granted *in your email account* (i.e., both your request email to me and my grant email to you). If you fail to present both emails, your claim will not be supported. This means that for your own protection, you can delete our email exchanges from your email account 45 days after you are officially able to check your final course grade on line.

Computer-related problems: Ultimately, you are responsible for backing up your own work and caring properly for your own computing equipment. I may grant extensions for assignments due to computer-related problems, but only in the rarest of circumstances. First, I will not entertain any requests for extensions due to computer-related problems made to me within 12 hours of the paper's due date. If you expect computer difficulties to make it impossible for you to submit a paper by the due date (and that due date is not within 12 hours) contact me and we will discuss alternative arrangements for you.

Accommodations for disabilities: Students with disabilities must inform me of the need for accommodations. Those who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center. Please contact ODS at 312-413-2183 (voice) or 312-413-0123 (TTY).

Academic dishonesty: The University expects students to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense subject to strong disciplinary actions, including being dropped from the course with a grade of “F.”

Classroom etiquette: You are expected to observe all rules of proper classroom conduct. In order to insure an appropriate environment conducive to learning by all: (1) please refrain from talking, eating or other disruptive activity during class; even one or two conversations quickly create distractions for other students; (2) no cell phone calls, incoming or outgoing, are allowed in this class; please turn off your cell phone or set to vibrate; and (3) please do not come to class late. Also, please do not leave class early; if you must do so, tell me beforehand and arrange to sit near the door so your exit will be less disruptive.

COURSE SCHEDULE

August 26 and 28: An Introduction to Security in International Politics

- Morgan, Patrick M. 2006. CQ Press. 1-16.

September 2: The first Monday reading summary on the readings for September 2 and 4, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 2 and 4: Realism, Neorealism, and Liberal Institutionalism

- Kolodziej, Edward A. 2005. Cambridge University Press. 127-174.

September 9: The second Monday reading summary on the readings for September 9 and 11, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 9 and 11: The Democratic Peace

- Russett, Bruce. 1993. Princeton University Press. 1993. 3-42.

September 16: The third Monday reading summary on the readings for September 16 and 18, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 16 and 18: *Why Nations go to War*

- Stoessinger, John G. 2001. 8th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's. 52-79 and 251-273.

September 23 and 25: Realism, Neorealism, and Neoliberalism Revisited

- Thirteen Days

September 25: The first take-home exam due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

Choose and answer one of the two following questions:

- 1) What are the main assumptions of realism, neorealism, and liberal institutionalism? How are they different?

2) How do Russett's (1993) arguments differ from Stoessinger's (2001)? Whose arguments are more convincing to you and why?

The answer must include an introduction, body, and conclusion. It must be five pages long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 30: The first movie review due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The movie review must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 30: The fourth Monday reading summary on the readings for September 30 and October 2, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 30 and October 2: *Just and Unjust Wars: A Moral Argument with Historical Illustrations*

- Walzer, Michael. 1977. 2nd ed. BasicBooks. 74-108.

October 7: The fifth Monday reading summary on the readings for October 7 and 9, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

October 7 and 9: Peacebuilding

- Morgan, Patrick M. 2006. CQ Press. 257-289.

October 14: The sixth Monday reading summary on the readings for October 14 and 16, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

October 14 and 16: Terrorism

- Bacebich, Andrew. 2007. "Requiem for the Bush Doctrine." 63-67.
- Jervis, Robert. 2003. "Understanding the Bush Doctrine." *Political Science Quarterly* 118 (3): 365-388.

- Kegley, Charles W. (with Eugene R. Wittkopf). 2006. 10th Ed. *World Politics: Trends and Transformation*. Thomson and Wadsworth. 427- 438.

October 21: The seventh Monday reading summary on the readings for October 21 and 23, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

October 21 and 23: North Korea Nuclear Crisis

- Harrison, Selig S. 2005. "Did North Korea Cheat?" *Foreign Affairs* 84 (1): 99-110.
- Hwang, Jihwan. 2004. "Realism and U.S. Foreign Policy toward North Korea: the Clinton and Bush Administrations in Comparative Perspective." *World Affairs* 167 (1): 15-29.
- Reiss, Mitchell B. and Robert L. Gallucci. 2005. "Dead to Rights." *Foreign Affairs* 84 (2):142-145.

October 28 and 30: Terrorism Revisited

- Air Force One

October 30: The second take-home exam due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

Answer the following question:

Evaluate the statement: One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter.

The answer must include an introduction, body, and conclusion. It must be five pages long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

November 4: I will give you a mid-semester report card that contains your score in each component of the grading policy up until today. I will ask you to check your score very carefully and then to return to me the card with your signature on it by November 6. If you find some inaccuracy in your score, you must bring it to my attention by November 6.

November 4: The second movie review due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The movie review must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

November 4: The eighth Monday reading summary on the readings for November 4 and 6, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

November 4 and 6: *Our Posthuman Future: Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution*

- Fukuyama, Francis. 2002. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 3-102.

November 11: The ninth Monday reading summary on the readings for November 11 and 13, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

November 11 and 13: *The End of History or The Clash of Civilizations*

- Fukuyama, Francis. 1992. Free Press. xi-xxiii and 39-51.
- Huntington, Samuel P. 1996. Simon & Schuster. 13-15 and 301-321.

November 18: The tenth Monday reading summary on the readings for November 18 and 20, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

November 18 and 20: *The Muslim World*

- Barber, Benjamin. 2007. "Jihad vs. McWorld." 224-228.
- Eickelman, Dale F. 2007. "Bin Laden, the Arab 'Street,' and the Middle East's Democracy Deficit." 195-197.
- Gause, F. Gregory III. 2007. "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?" 196-200.
- Ottaway, Marina and Thomas Carothers. 2007. "Middle East Democracy." 188-191.
- Smiley, Xan. 2007. "Plenty of Seeds, But Still a Long Way to Fruition." 192-194.

November 25: The eleventh Monday reading summary for November 25 and December 2, due by 12:30 pm (i.e., before the class begins)

The summary must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

November 25 and December 2: *Iraq*

- Hashim, Ahmed S. 2007. "Iraq: From Insurgency to Civil War." 189-195.
- The Iraq Study Group Report: The Way Forward – A New Approach. 2006. ix-40.

November 27: Thanksgiving Day. University Closed

December 4: *The Muslim World Revisited*

- Lawrence of Arabia

December 9: The third movie review due by 12:30 pm

The movie review must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

December 9: The third take-home exam due by 12:30 pm

Choose and answer one of the three following questions:

- 1) Evaluate the statement: The ultimate prize of the biotechnology revolution will have profound, and potentially terrible, consequences for our political order and international security.
- 2) How do Huntington's (1996) arguments differ from Fukuyama's (1992)? Whose arguments are more convincing to you and why?
- 3) Would you believe that establishing a democratic government in Iraq is important for international security? If you were President George W. Bush, what would you do with Iraq?

The answer must include an introduction, body, and conclusion. It must be five pages long, typed, double-spaced, in the **Times New Roman** font and the **12** point font size, with **1** inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

September 2, 2008

SAMPLE FORMAT

Your Name

The first Monday reading summary

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

September 25, 2008

SAMPLE FORMAT

Your Name

The first take-home exam: 1) What are the main assumptions of realism, neorealism, and liberal institutionalism? How are they different?

About a half page long for Introduction

About four pages long for Body

About a half page long for Conclusion

September 30, 2008

SAMPLE FORMAT

Your Name

The first movie review

Introduction

Body

Conclusion