

Seung-Whan Choi
1136 BSB
Phone: 312-413-3280

Email: whanchoi@uic.edu
Web: <http://www.uic.edu/~whanchoi/>
Office Hours: T and R, 8:30 am – 9:30 am or by appointment

PolS 389 Seminar: Topics in International Relations:
Democracy, Terrorism, and Globalization
Spring 2014
Room 1115, 2BSB
T and R, 9:30 pm - 10:45 am

COURSE OVERVIEW

This seminar-style course aims to familiarize you with current, cutting-edge research topics on democracy, terrorism, and globalization. Completion of this course will fulfill the Writing-in-the-Discipline requirement as a political science major. More importantly, this course is designed to give you an opportunity to develop, design, and write a research paper that can be presented at an undergraduate conference in the future. Please note that your research paper must be related to the research topics of this course.

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 (15 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 3 points. If you fail to attend more than four times, your course grade will be lowered by one letter grade. If you fail to attend more than EIGHT 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 (15 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.

Research Paper Proposal (15 points): The purpose of this assignment is to help you to choose your research paper topic as early as possible. It should include both introduction and literature review as well as research design. The paper should be five to eight pages long, typed, double-spaced, in 12-point **Times New Roman** font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Draft of Research Paper (15 points): The purpose of this assignment is to help you to write up a draft of your research paper as early as possible. It should include all the necessary components of a research paper, i.e., introduction, literature review, theoretical discussion,

research design, results and implications, conclusion, and references. The draft should be at least 10 pages long, typed, double-spaced, in 12-point **Times New Roman** font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Peer Review of Drafts of Research Paper (15 points): The purpose of this assignment is to help you to become a critical but constructive reviewer. You will be asked to review drafts of your classmates' papers and expected to be critical of their strengths and weaknesses. The review should be one page long per draft, typed, **single-spaced**, in 12-point **Times New Roman** font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Research Paper (25 points): The purpose of this assignment is to allow you to demonstrate your research potential. It should include introduction, literature review, research design, empirical results (or case studies), conclusion and references. The paper should be about 15 to 20 pages long (including a reference page), typed, double-spaced, in 12-point **Times New Roman** font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Extra Credit Assignment (6 points): The purpose of this assignment is to get you to think critically about the movie *Bloody Sunday* in terms of how to combat terrorism. If you do not attend the movie session, your review will not be accepted. The movie review must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in 12-point **Times New Roman** font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

Class Discussion Leadership for Additional Extra Credit (6 points each): Students who volunteer to lead the second half of a class period will receive 6 points per discussion. You are expected to take a side with respect to the reading assignments of your choice. Your opening remarks should take about 20 minutes.

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 assignments' 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

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 60 days after you are officially able to check your final course grade online.

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 it 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

January 14 and 16: Introduction

- Kolodziej, Edward A. 2005. Ch. 1 International Relations and International Security: Boundaries, Levels of Analysis, and Falsifying Theories. In Kolodziej, Edward. *Security and International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 11-47.

January 21 and 23: The Kantian Peace in the Twenty-First Century

- Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. Ch. 8 The Kantian Peace in the Twenty-First Century. In Bruce Russett and John R. Oneal. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York and London: W.W. Norton & Company. 271-305.

January 28 and 30: The Causes of Civil War: Democracy, Ethnicity, and Religion

- Fearon, James D. and David D. Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review* 97(1): 75-90.

February 4 and 6: Terrorism: Past, Present, and Future

- Enders, Walter and Todd Sandler. 2006. Ch. 1 Terrorism: An Introduction and Ch. 11 The Future of Terrorism. In Walter Enders and Todd Sandler. *The Political Economy of Terrorism*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. 1-23 and 245-257.

February 11 and 13: Introduction to Globalization

- Keohane, Robert O. and Nye, Joseph S. Jr. 2000, Ch. 1 Introduction. In Joseph S. Nye, Jr. and John D. Donahue. Eds. *Governance in a Globalizing World*. Cambridge, MA: Visions of Governance for the 21st Century. 1-41.

February 18 and 20: How to Write a Research Proposal and Paper: Two Writing Samples

- Pape, Robert A. 2003. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 97 (3): 343-361.
- Wade, Sara Jackson and Dan Reiter. 2007. "Does Democracy Matter? Regime Type and Suicide Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 51 (2): 329-348.

February 25 and 27: Research Break. No Class

March 4 and 6: Peer Review of Research Paper Proposals (Research Paper Proposal Due)

March 11 and 13: Research Paper Proposal Presentations I

March 18 and 20: Research Paper Proposal Presentations II

March 25 and 27: Spring Break. University Closed

April 1 and 3: Movie Review: Bloody Sunday (Draft of Research Paper Due)

April 8 and 10: Peer Review of Drafts of Research Paper (Movie Review and Peer Review Due)

April 15 and 17: Democracy, Suicide Terrorism, and Globalization

- Pape, Robert A. 2003. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 97 (3): 343-361.
- Weede, Erich. 2003. Ch 16 Globalization: Creative Destruction and the Prospect of a Capitalist Peace. In Gerald Schneider, Katherine Barbieri, and Nils Petter Gleditsch. Eds. *Globalization and Armed Conflict*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. 311-323.

April 22 and 24: Research Break. No Class

April 29 and May 1: Research Paper Presentations and Final Thoughts

May 5: Research Paper Due by 9:30 am