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**Office Hours: R, 1:30–3:30 pm or by appointment**

**PolS 578 Research Topics in International Relations:  
Democracy, Globalization, and International Conflict  
Spring 2008  
Room 1171, BSB  
M, 6:00 - 8:30 pm**

## **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This seminar-style course aims to familiarize you with current, cutting-edge research topics on democracy, globalization, and international conflict. More importantly, this course is designed to give you an opportunity to develop, design, and write a research paper that can be presented at a professional conference or sent out to a journal for publication in the near future. Please note that your research paper must be related to the research topics of this course.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

The seven required textbooks are as follows:

- Henderson, Errol. 2002. *Democracy and War: The End of an Illusion?* Boulder and London: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, Alastair Smith, Randolph M. Siverson and James D. Morrow. 2003. *The Logic of Political Survival*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.
- Enders, Walter and Todd Sandler. 2006. *The Political Economy of Terrorism*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
- Nye, Joseph S. Jr. and John D. Donahue. Eds. 2000. *Governance in a Globalizing World*. Cambridge, MA: Visions of Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- Rousseau, David L. 2005. *Democracy and War: Institutions, Norms, and the Evolution of International Conflict*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Schneider, Gerald, Katherine Barbieri, and Nils Petter Gleditsch. Eds. 2003. *Globalization and Armed Conflict*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.
- Tsebelis, George. 2002. *Veto Players: How Political Institutions Work*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation and Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

The required journal articles can be assessed through the UIC University Library link of Electronic Journals, Newspapers, and Magazines at <http://www.uic.edu/depts/lib/reference/resources/journals/>.

## **GRADING POLICY:**

*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.

*Class Discussion Leadership (15 points):* You are expected to make opening remarks at the beginning of at least two classes during this semester. You should identify and criticize the theory, hypothesis, methods, and results of the reading assignments of your choice. Your remark should take 15 to 30 minutes.

*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 due date is *February 25*. The paper should be eight to ten 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 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 due date is *March 31*. The draft should be at least 15 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 and expected to identify and criticize their theory, hypothesis, methods, and results. The due date is *April 7*. 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 an introduction, literature review, research design, empirical results (or case studies), conclusion and references. The due date is *May 5*. The paper should be about 20 to 25 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 (5 points):* The purpose of this assignment is to get you to critically think about the Hollywood movie *Gandhi* in terms of how to build world peace. If you do not attend the movie session, your review will not be accepted. The due date for the review is *February 25*. 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.

The grading scale is as follows: A ( $\geq 90$ ); B (80-89); C (60-79); 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

**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: Introduction**

- Walt, Stephen M. 1998. "International Relations: One World, Many Theories." *Foreign Policy* 110: 29-46.

### **January 21: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. University Closed**

### **January 28: *Democracy and War I***

- Rousseau, David L. 2005. *Democracy and War: Institutions, Norms, and the Evolution of International Conflict*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

### **February 4: *Governance in a Globalizing World***

- Nye, Joseph S. Jr. and John D. Donahue. Eds. 2000. *Governance in a Globalizing World*. Cambridge, MA: Visions of Governance for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### **February 11: *The Political Economy of Terrorism***

- Enders, Walter and Todd Sandler. 2006. *The Political Economy of Terrorism*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

### **February 18: Movie Review: *Gandhi***

### **February 25: Research Paper Proposal Presentations (Research Paper Proposal and Movie Review Due)**

### **March 3: *Democracy and War II***

- Henderson, Errol. 2002. *Democracy and War: The End of an Illusion?* Boulder and London: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

### **March 10: *Veto Players and The Logic of Political Survival***

- Tsebelis, George. 2002. *Veto Players: How Political Institutions Work*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation and Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, Alastair Smith, Randolph M. Siverson, and James D. Morrow. 2003. *The Logic of Political Survival*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

### **March 17: *Globalization and Armed Conflict***

- Schneider, Gerald, Katherine Barbieri, and Nils Petter Gleditsch. Eds. 2003. *Globalization and Armed Conflict*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

**March 24: Spring Break. University Closed**

**March 31: Globalization, Democracy, and Peace (Draft of Research Paper Due)**

- Li, Quan and Rafael Reuveny. 2003. "Economic Globalization and Democracy: An Empirical Analysis." *British Journal of Political Science* 33 (1): 29-54.
- Barbieri, Katherine and Jack S. Levy. 2003. Ch. 14 The Trade-Disruption Hypothesis and the Liberal Economic Theory of Peace. In Gerald Schneider, Katherine Barbieri, and Nils Petter Gleditsch. Eds. *Globalization and Armed Conflict*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. 277-298.
- Dreher, Axel. 2006. "Does Globalization affect Growth? Evidence from a New Index of Globalization." *Applied Economics* 38 (10): 1091-1110.

**April 7: Peer Review of Drafts of Research Paper (Peer Review Due)**

**April 14: Terrorism and Regime Type**

- Li, Quan. 2005. "Does Democracy Promote or Reduce Transnational Terrorist Incidents?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49 (2): 278-297.
- Wade, Sara Jackson and Dan Reiter. 2007. "Does Democracy Matter? Regime Type and Suicide Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 51 (2): 329-348.
- Lafree, Gary and Laura Dugan. 2007. "Introducing the Global Terrorism Database." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 19 (2): 181-204.

**April 21: Research Break. No Class**

**April 28: Research Paper Presentations and Final Thoughts**

**May 5: Research Paper Due by 5:00 pm**