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**Office Hours:** M, 8:00am – 9:00am and Noon – 1:00pm

**PolS 389 Seminar: Topics in International Relations:  
Democracy, Terrorism, and Globalization  
Spring 2017  
Room 1115, 2BSB  
M, 9:00am - 11:30am**

## **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 find and download the readings listed in the course schedule using the UIC library Journals and E-Journals link at <http://library.uic.edu/home/collections/journals>.

## **GRADING POLICY:**

*Class Attendance (10 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 (10 points):* You are expected to actively participate in class discussion. Participation includes thoughtful comments, sophisticated questions about readings, clear evidence of actively listening to your fellow students, and other valuable contributions to classroom discussion.

*Four Critical Reviews (5 points each):* The purpose of these assignments is to get you to ponder your research idea. Each critical review must discuss important aspects of all the readings combined. Each critical review must be one page long, typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman font and 12-point font size, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

*Research Paper Outline (10 points):* The purpose of this assignment is to help you to choose your research paper topic as early as possible. It should include a paper title, a list of

research team member names, and a one-page outline. The title and the names should be on the first page and the outline should be on the second page, typed, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

*Research Paper Proposal (10 points):* The purpose of this assignment is to help you to quickly move forward with your research topic that you have chosen. It should include a title page with the authors' names, abstract, introduction, literature review, research design, and references. 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 by adding theoretical discussion, results (or case studies) and implications, conclusion, and more references. The draft should be at least 13 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 (10 points):* The purpose of this assignment is to help you 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 two pages long per draft, typed, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1 inch margins on standard letter-size paper.

*Research Paper (15 points):* The purpose of this assignment is to allow you to demonstrate your research potential. It should include a revised, polished version of your draft. The paper should be about 18 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 Assignments (1 points each):* The purpose of this assignment is to get you to think critically about the movies, *The Way Home* and *Bloody Sunday*, in terms of how to understand globalization and combat terrorism. If you do not attend the movie session, your review will not be accepted. Each 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 (3 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 (> 89); 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 **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 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. 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 9: Introduction**

- Brecher, Michael. 1999. "International Studies in the Twentieth Century and Beyond: Flawed Dichotomies, Syntheses, Cumulation: ISA Presidential Address." *International Studies Quarterly* 43(2): 213-264.

### **January 16: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. University Closed**

**January 23:** The first critical review on The Kantian/Democratic Peace in the Twenty-First Century, due by 9:00am (i.e., before the class begins)

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

**January 23: The Kantian/Democratic Peace in the Twenty-First Century**

- Oneal, John R. and Bruce Russett. 1999. “The Kantian Peace: The Pacific Benefits of Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations, 1885-1992.” *World Politics* 52(1): 1-37.
- Gartzke, Erik and Alex Weisiger. 2014. Under Construction: Development, Democracy, and Difference as Determinants of the Systemic Liberal Peace. *International Studies Quarterly* 58(1):130-145.
- Choi, Seung-Whan. Forthcoming. A Menace to the Democratic Peace? Dyadic and Systemic Difference.” *International Studies Quarterly*.

**January 30:** The second critical review on Terrorism: Past, Present, and Future, due by 9:00am (i.e., before the class begins)

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

**January 30: Terrorism: Past, Present, and Future**

- Choi, Seung-Whan. 2010. “Fighting Terrorism through the Rule of Law?” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 54(6): 940-966.
- Choi, Seung-Whan and Idean Salehyan. 2013. “No Good Deed goes Unpunished: Refugees, Humanitarian Aid, and Terrorism.” *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 30(1): 53-75.
- Choi, Seung-Whan. 2015. “Economic Growth and Terrorism: Domestic, International, and Suicide.” *Oxford Economic Papers* 67(1): 157-181.

**February 6:** The third critical review on Introduction to Globalization, due by 9:00am (i.e., before the class begins)

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

**February 6: Introduction to Globalization**

- Choi, Seung-Whan. 2010. “Beyond Kantian Liberalism: Peace through Globalization?” *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 27(3): 272-295.
- Li, Quan, and Adam Resnick. 2003. “Reversal of Fortunes: Democratic Institutions and Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to Developing Countries.” *International Organization* 57 (1): 175-211.

- Choi, Seung-Whan. 2009. “The Effect of Outliers on Regression Analysis: Regime Type and Foreign Direct Investment.” *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 4(2): 153-165.

**February 13: Undergraduate Research and Where to Publish (Research Paper Outline Due)**

- Kinkead, Joyce. 2003. “Learning through Inquiry: An Overview of Undergraduate Research.” *New Directions for Teaching and Learning* 93: 5-18.
- Micheal W. Giles and James C. Garand. 2007. “Ranking Political Science Journals: Reputational and Citational Approaches.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 40(4): 741-751.
- Hix, Simon. 2004. “A Global Ranking of Political Science Departments.” *Political Studies Review* 2: 293-313.
- Garand, James C. and Kristy L. Graddy. 1999. “Ranking Political Science Departments: Do Publications Matter?” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 32(1): 113-116.

**February 20:** The fourth critical review on How to Write a Research Proposal and Paper: Two Writing Samples, due by 9:00am (i.e., before the class begins)

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

**February 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.
- Choi, Seung-Whan and James Piazza. Forthcoming. “Foreign Military Interventions and Suicide Attacks.”

**February 27: Movie Review: The Way Home (Research Paper Proposal Due)**

**March 6: Peer Review of Research Paper Proposals (Movie Review Due)**

**March 13: Research Paper Proposal Presentations I**

**March 20: Spring Break. University Closed**

**March 27: Research Paper Proposal Presentations II**

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

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

**April 17: Research Break**

**April 24: Research Paper Presentations and Final Thoughts**

**May 1: Research Paper Due by 01:00pm, Email only**