

PS 1400: Introduction to International Relations

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Middlebush 132

Prof. Simone Dietrich

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304 Professional Building

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-1:30 pm

TA: Travis Ernst tle9tb@missouri.edu (Monday 10am-12pm, Thursday 12:30-2:30pm)

This course will introduce you to the scientific study of International Relations (IR). It explores the theories, history, and issues in international relations. The course begins with general discussions of approaches to the study of IR, of the principle actors on the world stage and of their primary behaviors. The focus of this section will be on security issues. We will then cover international organizations and international law, before turning our attention to questions of international political economy. Later in the course we will address transnational issues such as human rights, environmental concerns, and global inequality. Throughout the class, you will be asked to think critically about the phenomena under study. Upon successful completion of the course, you will be equipped with analytical tools essential for understanding the complex reality of politics and policymaking in world politics.

Required Books: There are two books required for this course. The Frieden et al textbook is available for purchase at the campus bookstore and Amazon. The Fearon book is coming out November 14, 2012 and will be available at the same venues.

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2009. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Fearon, Kate. 2012. *City of Soldiers. A Year of Life, Death, and Survival in Afghanistan*. Olive Branch Press.

Course Requirements:

- **15%** Quizzes in class*
- **50%** Short exams (25% each): There will be two in-class exams, the first on September 27 and the second on November 8. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer.
- **35%** Final exam: There will be a final exam on December 13, 7:30-9:30am (room TBA). This exam will be cumulative; that is, unlike the first two exams, it will cover material from the entire course, but with emphasis on the last section of the course. The final exam is slightly longer than the midterm exams.

*Quizzes will be given in-class. For each quiz, you will be expected to answer a question that covers the readings assigned for the class and/or the previous class's lecture. You will have 15 minutes to outline a

response to the question, providing a concrete thesis statement and additional anecdotes and examples from the lecture and readings. Quizzes will be returned within one calendar week of when they are given. Though the exact number of quizzes will depend on class participation and feedback, you should expect between 4 and 10 quizzes during the semester.

Your final grade will be calculated on the following scale

- 90-100 : A
- 80-89 : B
- 70-79 : C
- 60-69 : D
- < 60 : F

Electronic devices I encourage the *responsible* use of laptops in class, for taking notes. All other electronic devices (including - but not limited to - cell phones, PalmPilots, Pocket PCs, iPhones, and Blackberrys) must be turned off prior to entering the classroom. It is a simple matter of respect for others. Negative consequences are in order for inappropriate use of electronic devices (e.g. using laptops to surf the internet, IM, etc.; using cell phones for text messaging; answering calls during class etc.). Violations shall result in a verbal warning. If the student persists in the inappropriate use of electronic devices, she/he will be asked to leave the classroom and recorded as absent for the day. The use of any electronic device during a test or examination is strictly prohibited. Inappropriate uses of electronic devices during tests or examinations are considered in violation of academic integrity! Students may not use audio and/or video recording devices in class.

Special academic needs If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible. If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573- 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on “Disability Resources” on the MU homepage.

Academic integrity Academic integrity is held in the highest regard at the University of Missouri. Academic integrity is expected and required. Enrollment constitutes acknowledgement by the student of her/his awareness of all definitions, rules, and procedures relating to academic integrity. Any Academic integrity violations will be dealt with swiftly and severely! If you ever have any questions concerning the University’s Academic Integrity policy, please consult your instructor immediately.

Class Schedule: NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to alter the class and/or reading schedule at any time. Changes to reading assignments, deadlines, or test dates will be announced in a timely manner. You are expected to complete the reading assignments before class.

Week 1 - Introduction

Tuesday, August 21 Why Study International Relations?: Course Overview and Introduction

Thursday, Aug 23 Isms of IR? Actors in IR-Who they are, where they come from
Introduction and Ch1

Week 2 - Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

Tuesday, August 28 History

Ch1

Thursday, Aug 30 Framework and Intro to Game Theory

Ch2, pages 75-79

Week 3 - Conflict, War

Tuesday, September 4 Review of Game Theory; What is War? Bargaining and War, Part I
pages 75-79; pages 80-88; skim 88-119

Thursday, Sept 6 Bargaining and War, Part II

pages 88-119

Week 4 - Civil War & Domestic Politics of War

Monday, Sept 11 Civil Wars and Domestic Politics of War: Diversionary Wars

pages 122-125; 126-143

Wednesday, Sept 13 Domestic Politics of War: Interest Groups and War and Catch-Up

pages 143-153

Week 5 - Democratic Peace

Tuesday, Sept 18 Democratic Peace

pages 154-167

Thursday, Sept 20 No Class

Week 6 - Exam

Tuesday, Sept 25 First Exam Review

Thursday, Sept 27 First Exam

Week 7 - Alliances and Collective Security

Tuesday, Oct 2 Alliances

pages 171-189

Thursday, Oct 4 Collective Security

pages 189-196

Week 8 - Peacekeeping and UN System

Tuesday, Oct 9 Peacekeeping

pages 196-213

Tuesday, Oct 11 UN System Visit UN website (www.un.org)

Week 9 - International Trade and Financial Investment

Tuesday, Oct 16 International Trade

Chapter 6

Thursday, Oct 18 International Financial Investment

pages 260-282

Week 10 - Foreign Direct Investment and International Monetary Relations

Tuesday, Oct 23 Foreign Direct Investment

pages 282-292

Thursday, Oct 25 International Monetary Relations

Chapter 8

Week 11 - Development

Tuesday Oct 30 Development I

Chapter 9

Thursday November 1 Development II

Chapter 9

Week 12 - Exam

Tuesday Nov 6 Second Exam Review

Thursday Nov 8 Second Exam

Week 13 - Transnational Actors

Tuesday Nov 13 Peaceful and Violent Transnational Actors

pages 366-405

Thursday Nov 15 No class.

No class Nov 19-23 (Thanksgiving)

Week 14 - Human Rights and Environment

Tuesday, Nov 27 Human Rights

Chapter 11

Thursday, Nov 29 Environment

Chapter 12

Week 15 - Perspectives from the Field (Afghanistan) & Final Exam Review

Tuesday, Dec 4 City of Soldiers

Fearon, Kate. 2012. City of Soldiers. A Year of Life, Death, and Survival in Afghanistan. New York: Olive Branch Press. Chapters TBA.

Thursday, Dec 6 Course wrap up & Final Exam Review

Final exam scheduled for December 13, 7:30-9:30am, room TBA