

**UNIVERSITY OF OREGON**  
**DEPT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

*Prof. Ronald Mitchell*

Time: T-Th 10:00-11:20 (Winter 2008) CRN: 24363	Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 11:30-1:00
Classroom: 250 Clinical Services Bldg	Office: PLC-921
Course Website via Blackboard	Phone: 346-4880
GTF: (phone, office, office hours - see website)	Email: rmitchel@uoregon.edu

## **PS 205: Introduction to International Relations**

### *Goals of course:*

Why does international conflict occur? How can nations resolve it? From the Trojan and Peloponnesian Wars in ancient Greece through the wars among Native American tribes to recent conflicts in Bosnia and Iraq, nations have gone to war. For centuries, historians have recorded the acts of war, describing in detail the who, what, when, where, and how of international conflict. As political scientists and public citizens, however, we want to better understand why nations go to war and how we can make it less likely. Are war and armed conflict inevitable given the structure of nation-states and the international system? Does war arise because people are inherently evil? Even if we assume that conflict among states is inevitable, does that mean that war is inevitable? What alternatives to resolving conflict by military force exist and how effective are they?

If state concerns about security are important to contemporary international relations, so too are economic issues, human rights, and environmental protection. In an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, we need to understand how states regulate, and why they fail to be able to regulate, the multinational corporations that are increasingly in charge of the flows of goods, capital, information, and people around the world. The European Union, NAFTA, and other regional trade blocs are lowering their barriers to trade, influencing not only what we can buy but all aspects of people's lives. The news media and the Internet make us increasingly aware of violations of human rights around the world, yet we know little about how to prevent these all-too-common atrocities. Scientists make us increasingly aware of the ubiquity of our degradation of the natural environment, and how quickly we are increasing the rate at which we degrade it. What obstacles does the international system pose to efforts to protect the globe from such problems as ozone depletion and climate change and what strategies exist to overcome them?

This course will introduce students to some of the answers to these and related questions -- and more important, to ways to think about answering these questions -- by reviewing major schools of thought on the causes of international conflict and the means of resolving it. It will examine themes of continuity as well as themes of change. We will examine how well lessons from the Peloponnesian War of the 5th century BC hold up in explaining why countries develop nuclear weapons today. We will examine how increasing economic, informational, and ecological interdependence will change and reshape international relations in the future. The course will help you develop a theoretical and empirical understanding of such questions, while providing you with tools to allow you to gain a causal understanding of many social problems and their resolution.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Two books are on sale at the UO Bookstore (to save money, you may buy earlier editions, which should be adequate for the course). A few copies will be on reserve at Knight Library.

- Joseph S. Nye, Understanding International Conflicts: An Introduction to Theory and History 6th Edition (New York: Longman, 2007). The syllabus refers to this as Nye.
- Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, eds., International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues 8th edition (New York: Longman, 2007). The syllabus refers to this as Art and Jervis.
- E-Reserves Readings. Many additional required articles will be made available on the course's Blackboard website.
- Daily reading of the *New York Times* is required -- the UO Bookstore has a relatively cheap subscription rate.

- The course Blackboard website will help you succeed in the class. Check the website every 2 or 3 days for class news, lecture notes will usually be posted before class; links for relevant news articles, online surveys, etc..

#### **REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:**

- *Readings:* No points, but all elements of the class and your grade depend on staying on top of the readings. Readings are intended as another source for information about international relations -- they are additional to (rather than redundant with) class lectures. I welcome students raising issues from the readings in class.
- *Discussion section - 15%:* You must attend and actively participate in discussion section each week. Discussion sections will focus on two case studies and on clarifying issues from the class. The requirements for the case studies (including 2 single-page writing assignments) will be provided during the term. Active participation and written assignments will be used to determine your section grade. Case materials will be on the website.
- *2 of 3 pop quizzes - 5% each (10% total):* Three classes will begin with 10-minute unannounced quizzes of 10-20 questions on the readings and lectures. *There will be no makeups.* Your grade will include only your top two scores, so missing one will not affect your grade. Those taking all three will have their lowest score dropped.
- *Midterm exam - 30%* The in-class mid-term will include both essay and short-answer questions.
- *Final exam - 45%* The in-class final will include essay, medium, and short-answer questions.
- *Surveys:* Students are encouraged to fill out 3 surveys that will be posted on the course website during the term. Survey answers will be confidential and ungraded. Those who fill them out *prior to the deadline* will receive 1% for filling out all three surveys (i.e., 1/3 of 1% for each survey). Deadlines are noted in the syllabus.
- *Late assignments:* Late assignments will lose 2 points per day. Thus, an assignment that is 0-24 hours late would have 2 of 100 points deducted, one that is 25-48 hours late would have 4 of 100 points deducted, etc.
- *Grade complaints:* Contested assignments will first be read by a second GTF. If the second GTF assigns the same grade, no grade change will occur. If the second GTF assigns either a higher *or lower* grade, the professor will read the assignment and independently assign the final grade, which can be either higher or lower.

#### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, PLAGIARISM, FABRICATION, CHEATING, AND MISCONDUCT:**

I consider enrolling in this course as your agreement to abide by the University Policy on Academic Dishonesty. Make sure you read and understand the websites at: <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/> and [http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/programs/student\\_judi\\_affairs/academic-dishonesty.htm](http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/programs/student_judi_affairs/academic-dishonesty.htm). This is an ungraded requirement for the course that you **MUST** complete by the end of week 1. When you hand in an assignment, make sure that everything in it is your own work -- otherwise, don't hand it in. I will not consider ignorance of these policies nor the lack of an intention to cheat or plagiarize as a legitimate defense. Raise any questions and concerns you have with the professor before problems arise.

## ***Introduction and Basic Concepts***

**All readings are required** unless preceded by **Rec'd:** to designate Recommended Reading!!!

### ***Tuesday, January 8***

Introduction to class. No readings assigned.

### ***Thursday, January 10***

**Assignment #1: Absolutely required reading** for the course are two web pages related to plagiarism and cheating.

[http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/programs/student\\_judi\\_affairs/academic-dishonesty.htm](http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/programs/student_judi_affairs/academic-dishonesty.htm) and

<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/> Make sure you understand what they imply about your conduct in this class. Raise any questions you have with the professor.

Nye, Ch. 1.

Thucydides. 1954. *History of the Peloponnesian War*. Edited in translation by Sir Richard Livingstone. New York: Oxford University Press. Book V: Ch 84-116. On E-Reserves.

Crawford, Neta C. 1994. "A Security Regime Among Democracies: Cooperation Among Iroquois Nations."

*International Organization* 48:3 (Summer), 345-385. On E-Reserves.

**Rec'd:** Aristophanes. 1964. *Lysistrata*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. Pages 1-25. On E-Reserves.

## ***Realist Theories of IR***

### ***Tuesday, January 15***

Nye, Ch. 2.

Morgenthau. "Six Principles of Political Realism," in Art and Jervis.

Hobbes, Thomas. 1996. *Leviathan*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Ch. XIII (183-188). On E-Reserves.

**Rec'd:** Waltz. "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Art. "The Fungibility of Force," in Art and Jervis.

### ***Thursday, January 17***

Prisoner's Dilemma Game conducted in section – see web page for instructions and come prepared.

Mearsheimer. "Anarchy and the Struggle for Power," in Art and Jervis.

Jervis. "Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Art. "Coercive Diplomacy," in Art and Jervis.

## ***Liberal Institutional Critiques of Realism***

### ***Tuesday, January 22***

Oye. "The Conditions for Cooperation in World Politics," in Art and Jervis.

Wendt. "Anarchy is What States Make of It," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Doyle. "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs," in Art and Jervis.

## ***The Feminist Critique of Realism and Liberal Institutionalism***

### ***Thursday, January 24***

Goldstein, Joshua S. 2001. *War and gender: how gender shapes the war system and vice versa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pages: 1-58. On E-Reserves.

Keohane, Robert O. 1989. International relations theory: contributions of a feminist standpoint. *Millennium* 18 (2):245-53. On E-Reserves.

Weber, Cynthia. 1994. Good girls, little girls and bad girls: male paranoia in Robert Keohane's critique of feminist international relations. *Millennium* 23 (2):337-49. On E-Reserves.

**Rec'd:** Tickner. "A Critique of Morgenthau's Principles of Political Realism," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Fukuyama, Francis. 1998. Women and the Evolution of World Politics. *Foreign Affairs* 77 (5):24-40. On E-Reserves.

## ***The Use Of Force***

### ***Tuesday, January 29: The World Wars, Alliance Theory, and International Organizations***

*First Case Writing Assignments - both Group and Individual  
- due at beginning of discussion section for this week*

Due date for Survey on Nuclear Weapons (Survey #1) on Web.

Nye, Ch. 3 and Ch. 4.

Walt. "Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Art. "The Four Functions of Force," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Schelling. "The Diplomacy of Violence," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Roberts. "The United Nations and International Security," in Art and Jervis.

### ***Thursday, January 31: Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction***

Nye, Ch. 5.

Sagan. "Nuclear Instability in South Asia," in Art and Jervis.

Waltz. "Nuclear Stability in South Asia," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Tannenwald, Nina. 1999. The nuclear taboo: the United States and the normative basis of nuclear non-use.

*International Organization 53 (3):433-68. On E-Reserves.*

### ***Tuesday, February 5: Terrorism***

Hoffman. "What is Terrorism?" in Art and Jervis.

Huntington. "The Clash of Civilizations?" in Art and Jervis.

Zakaria. "Why Do They Hate Us?" in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Pape. "The Logic of Suicide Terrorism," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Abrams, Max. 2006. "Why terrorism does not work." *International Security* 31 (2):42-78. On E-Reserves.

## ***International Political Economy***

### ***Thursday, February 7***

Nye, Ch. 7.

Gilpin. "The Nature of Political Economy," in Art and Jervis.

Scott. "The Great Divide in the Global Village," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Keohane. "Hegemony in the World Political Economy," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Betts and Christensen. "The Rise of China: Getting the Questions Right," in Art and Jervis.

### ***Tuesday, February 12***

## ***MIDTERM EXAM***

### ***Thursday, February 14: Globalization and Development***

*"Hunger Game" (© Carolyn Shaw) to be played in class*

*Source for game: [https://ctools.umich.edu/access/content/attachment/1110216049249-18643300/Announcements/89f5606f-6e55-4847-807b-84eba6f1e69a/Shaw\\_hunger\\_game.doc](https://ctools.umich.edu/access/content/attachment/1110216049249-18643300/Announcements/89f5606f-6e55-4847-807b-84eba6f1e69a/Shaw_hunger_game.doc)*

Frankel. "Globalization of the International Economy," in Art and Jervis.

Micklethwait and Wooldridge. "Why the Globalization Backlash Is Stupid," in Art and Jervis.

Rodrik. "Trading in Illusions," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Milner, Helen V. 2005. "Globalization, development, and international institutions: normative and positive perspectives." *Perspectives on Politics* 3: 4 (December), 833-854. On E-Reserves.

**Rec'd:** Waltz. "Globalization and Governance," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Wolf. "Will Globalization Survive?" in Art and Jervis.

## ***Regime Theory***

### ***Tuesday, February 19***

Keohane. "International Institutions," in Art and Jervis.

Ratner. "International Law: The Trials of Global Norms," in Art and Jervis.

Mearsheimer, John. 1995. The false promise of int'l institutions. *International Security* 19 (3):5-49. On E-Reserves.

**Rec'd:** Hoffman. "The Uses and Limits of International Law," in Art and Jervis.

**Thursday, February 21: The European Union (Guest lecture)**

Due date for Survey on Human Rights (Survey #2) on Web for extra credit points.

Moravcsik. "Europe without Illusions," in Art and Jervis.

Grieco, Joseph M. 1995. "The Maastricht Treaty, economic and monetary union and the neo-realist research programme." *Review of International Studies* 21:1 (January), 21-40. On E-Reserves.

**Human Rights**

**Tuesday, February 26**

View Witness to Evil: [http://archives.cbc.ca/IDD-1-71-1686/conflict\\_war/romeo\\_dallaire/](http://archives.cbc.ca/IDD-1-71-1686/conflict_war/romeo_dallaire/)

Howard and Donnelly. "Human Rights in World Politics," in Art and Jervis.

Keck and Sikkink. "Transnational Activist Networks," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Drezner. "The State and Global Governance of the Internet," in Art and Jervis.

**Thursday, February 28**

Due date for Survey on Environmental Issues (Survey #3) on Web for extra credit points.

Powers, Samantha. 2001. "Bystanders to Genocide." *Atlantic Monthly* 288 (2): 84-108. On E-Reserves.

Carpenter, R. Charli. 2003. 'Women and Children First': Gender, Norms, and Humanitarian Evacuation in the Balkans 1991-95." *International Organization* 57 (4):661-94. On E-Reserves.

Gettleman, Jeffrey. 2007. " Rape Epidemic Raises Trauma of Congo War." *The New York Times*. October 7. On E-Reserves.

**The Environment**

*Second Case Writing Assignments - both Group and Individual  
- due at beginning of discussion section for this week*

**Tuesday, March 4**

Hardin. "The Tragedy of the Commons," in Art and Jervis.

Mitchell, Ronald B. 2002. International environment. In *Handbook of International Relations*, edited by Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse, and Beth Simmons, 500-16. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. On E-Reserves.

**Thursday, March 6**

Alley, Richard B. 2004. "Abrupt Climate Change" *Scientific American* 62-69. On E-Reserves.

Oreskes, Naomi. 2007. The scientific consensus on climate change: how do we know we're not wrong? In *Climate change*, edited by J. F. C. DiMento and P. Doughman. Cambridge: MIT Press. 65-99. On E-Reserves.

Homer-Dixon. "Environmental Changes as a Cause of Acute Conflict," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** For intros to climate change, see Exploratorium: <http://www.exploratorium.edu/climate/index.html> and

Baumert & Kete, World Resources Inst: [http://earthtrends.wri.org/features/view\\_feature.cfm?fid=31&theme=3](http://earthtrends.wri.org/features/view_feature.cfm?fid=31&theme=3)

**Rec'd:** Brown Weiss, Edith. 1990. "In fairness to future generations." *Environment* 32:6. On E-Reserves.

**Summary and Conclusions**

**Tuesday, March 11**

Nye, Ch. 9.

Gause. "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?" in Art and Jervis.

Walt. "Taming American Power," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Jervis. "The Era of Leading Power Peace," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Kaufmann. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Naim. "The Five Wars of Globalization," in Art and Jervis.

**Rec'd:** Walzer, Michael. 1977. *Just and unjust wars: a moral argument with historical illustrations*. New York: Basic Books. Ch. 2 (21-33) On E-Reserves.

**Thursday, March 13**

**FINAL EXAM REVIEW SESSION**