WWS 541 International Politics

Princeton University
Woodrow Wilson School Graduate Program
Fall 2003
Tuesday 1-4pm
Robertson Hall, room 011

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Course description

This course introduces theories of international relations and evaluates their explanation of foreign policy decisions and general patterns in world affairs over the last century. Broadly covering security policy and international political economy, topics include the causes of war, the role of international organizations, the politics of trade negotiations, and international cooperation for environmental protection. We will discuss the interaction between domestic and international actors in foreign policy, the role of non-state actors, and the constraints on state power that arise from globalization.

Course Assignments and Grading

Class participation: 20 percent
Presentation: 20 percent
Two Short papers: 30 percent
Research paper or final exam: 30 percent

Students will be expected to do the readings and participate in seminars. Contribution to discussion will be part of the participation grade. Once during the semester, each student will give a presentation that connects themes from the readings for the week with a contemporary policy issue. Two students may work together for a joint presentation. Two short papers (3-4 pages) written on a question related to the readings will be required. One paper should be about a topic covered during the first 6 weeks, and a second paper should be about a topic covered during the final 6 weeks of the course. The paper is due at the beginning of class on the day that we will discuss the readings that you address in your paper (late papers will not be accepted). Students will have the choice between writing an individual research paper or taking a final exam.

A research paper should combine theoretically informed discussion of a policy problem with suggestions for policy solutions to improve outcomes. For those writing a paper, you should stop by office hours to discuss your topic, and a 2-4 page proposal is due October 24th. The final 15-20 page paper is due at 4pm on January 13. Late papers will be deducted one-third letter grade for each day past the due date.
For the exam, you will receive a list of questions in early December as a study guide (group studying is encouraged). The exam questions will be chosen from this list and given to you January 14th at 9am, and answers will be due at 4pm. Late exams will be deducted one-third letter grade for each hour past the due date.

**Readings suggested for purchase**


*Readings marked with an asterisk are included in a course packet available for purchase and are also on reserve at Stokes Library. Readings marked with two asterisks are not included in the packet. These are available from JSTOR, and you can print them from the link at the course website.*

**The Nature of the International System**

- **Week 1 (Sept. 16) Anarchy and Power**


- **Week 2 (Sept. 23) International Society, War, and Peace**


• Week 3 (Sept. 30) Strategies


• Week 4 (Oct. 7) Decision-making, Domestic Politics and Foreign Policy


• Week 5 (Oct. 14) International Institutions


• **Week 6 (Oct. 21) Globalization and Development**


• **FALL RECESS (no class Oct. 28)**

**Topics in International Relations**

• **Week 7 (Nov. 4) The Politics of Trade Negotiations**


• **Week 8 (Nov. 11) Engagement and Sanctions**


- **Week 9 (Nov. 18)** TERRORISM AND PROLIFERATION


  Stern, Jessica. “The Protean Enemy” *Foreign Affairs* 82, no. 4 (Jul/Aug 2003).*

- **Week 10 (Nov. 25)** NGOs AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY


  Haas, Peter M. “Do Regimes Matter? Epistemic Communities and Mediterranean Pollution Control,” *International Organization* 43, no. 3. (Summer 1989): 377–403.**


- **Week 11 (Dec. 2)** HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERVENTION


- **Week 12 (Dec. 9) THE FUTURE**


