



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

*Department of Political Science, International Affairs, and Public
Administration*

PSCI 3310 International Relations

This course focuses on theory and practice in international relations. The purpose of this course is for you to acquire knowledge about contemporary issues in international relations. This course will familiarize you with leading concepts, theoretical approaches, and contemporary policies. We will analyze the continuity and change of international politics in the post-Cold War era, paying particular attention to conflict and cooperation. In this course, you will not only apply theoretical concepts to cases, but you will also analyze historical and contemporary cases from a decision making perspective.

The objectives for this course include encouraging participation and enhancing problem-solving skills, as well as heightening your awareness and critical thinking about international politics. What is learned in this class not only will increase your knowledge of contemporary international issues and problems, but it can also be put in your “suitcase of learning” and used in analysis of future events in the international system.

Course Requirements

Required Text and Readings

Art, Robert J. and Robert Jervis. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues* 13th ed. Boston, MA: Pearson, 2017.

Assignments

Students are responsible for readings, class discussions, accurate bibliography listing sources, a security issue memorandum, a source essay for the security issue memorandum, and a security issue briefing.

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected and is essential if you want to do well in this course. Attendance will be taken periodically in class.

Pop Quizzes

True or false quizzes related to the reading scheduled for the respective day will be administered

periodically. The quizzes are to provide an added incentive for students to come to class having read the day's assigned readings. Each student should come to class prepared to discuss the readings. Quizzes will consist of two questions. If there are no mistakes on the quiz, then the grade is 100%. If one question is missed, then the grade is 75%. Missing both questions leads to the grade of 50%. If a student misses the class or walks into class after the quiz has been administered, then the grade is a zero. There are NO MAKE UP quizzes. Documented excused absences (i.e., a doctor's note if you were absent with illness, an obituary for the death of a family member, or letter from faculty or coach for ETSU-sponsored activity in which you participate) will not be counted in the grade calculation if a quiz is missed. The lowest quiz grade for the semester will be dropped, and the remaining grades will be averaged for a final quiz grade.

List of Sources

Each student will submit an accurately cited list of ten sources in Chicago bibliographic style that represent reliable primary and secondary sources from which data and information can be gathered for the Security Issue Source Essay. This is an individual assignment.

This skill supports INtopFORM category of Seeking information. The INtopFORM categories of Questioning, Seeking, Evaluating, Using, and Communicating are highlighted in Security Issue Memorandum, Briefing, and Source Essay. Simply stated, each student will enhance their writing and oral communication skills with the written and oral assignments in the class. Moreover, each student will have to research independently, and then work in groups to develop and write the memorandum, in-class briefing, and source essay.

Security Issue Memorandum, Briefing, and Source Essay

Each student will receive a group assignment and topic by lottery (e.g., draw number from a hat). The group of 3-4 students will prepare a written document consisting of two parts: 1) a brisk, insightful memorandum on a contemporary security issue, and 2) a clear, compelling essay in which the group identifies and describes the course material used to prepare the memorandum. A 10-12 minute presentation/briefing of the substance of your co-authored memorandum is required. The document (the memorandum and source essay appendix) is due on the day of the presentation. Failure to submit the document on the same day as the presentation will result in a penalty of 10% per day that it is late.

Directions about how to write the memo and source essay, as well as the security issue topics, will be made available in a hand-out. The hand-out will be made available after the Drop/Add period ends for spring semester.

Exams

There will be two examinations administered during the semester. The exams will be comprised of objective questions, and the possibility of short answer or essay questions. There will be **no make-up exams** except when a student can provide a genuine, **documented** excuse.

Any student with a special need for an accommodation in course activities should make arrangements with the professor.

Respectfulness and Academic Misconduct

Behavior interfering with the educational environment will lead to lowering of a student's grade. It is strongly encouraged that you are respectful toward your classmates and professor. Do NOT use your cell phone in class. Do NOT text message in class.

If you want to bring your children or a visitor to class, please consult your professor in advance. If you have a nervous bladder on the day of exams, please be sure to use facilities before class. This class is only 55 minutes and should not require bathroom breaks during exams. If you need to leave the classroom when a regular class is in session, please do so in a quiet manner that is the least disruptive to the class. Moreover, if you know that you will be leaving a class early, please sit near the door out of courtesy for your classmates and instructor.

Tardiness is disruptive to the learning environment; therefore, you are expected to be on time for class. *Consistent* tardiness will be penalized, but a student will receive a warning before any points are deducted.

According to the ETSU Honor Code, "East Tennessee State University is committed to developing the intellect and moral character of its students. To that end, all instances of plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct [will] be punished in accord with Tennessee Board of Regents Policy. Any knowledge of conduct of this nature [will] be reported to the proper authorities." The penalty for academic misconduct in this class is a grade of F for the assignment and the reporting of academic misconduct to the Provost of the School of Arts and Sciences whereupon a permanent report will go into your academic file. In the case of a second academic misconduct offense, the penalty is permanent expulsion from ETSU.

*Inclement Weather Policy**

East Tennessee State University will generally remain open during periods of inclement weather. The President (or appointed representative) may officially close or suspend selected activities of the University because of extreme weather conditions. When a decision to close is reached, the notice will be posted on GoldAlert, the University's main web page www.etsu.edu, and campus and local radio and TV stations will be notified. If your professor is unable to come to work due to inclement weather, you will receive an email canceling class on the morning of the regularly scheduled class.

Grading

A	94-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A-	90-93	B	84-86	C	74-76	D	60-66
		B-	80-83	C-	70-73	F	0-59

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Pop Quizzes	10%
List of Sources	5%
Security Memorandum	15%
Source Essay	10%
Security Issue Presentation	10%

Tentative Course Schedule and Readings

I. The Nature of Anarchy and the Mitigation of Anarchy

- Jan. 22 Introduction to class and requirements
- Jan. 27 Thucydides “The Melian Dialogue,” p. 10
Morgenthau, “Six Principles of Political Realism,” p. 19
- Jan. 29 Waltz, “The Anarchic Structure,” p. 48
Mearscheimer, “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power,” p. 70
- Feb. 3 Wendt, “Anarchy is What States Make of It,” p. 78
Doyle. “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs,” p. 139
- Feb. 5 Jervis, “Offense, Defense, and the Security Dilemma,” p. 104
Walt, “Alliances: Balancing and Bandwagoning,” p.153
- Feb. 10 Hoffman, “The Uses and Limits of International Law,” p. 176
Keohane, “International Institutions: Can Interdependence Work?” p. 181

II. Uses of Force

- Feb. 12 Art, “The Four Functions of Force,” p. 195
Schelling, “The Diplomacy of Violence,” p. 203
- Feb. 17 Hoffman, “What is Terrorism?” p. 218
Cronin, “Ending Terrorism,” p. 401
- Feb. 19 * **EXAM 1**
- Feb. 24 FILM – Trinity and Beyond – the Atomic Bomb Movie (100 min.)
- Feb. 26 Jervis, “Losing Control in Crisis,” p. 259
Sokoloski, “Our Not So Peaceful Nuclear Future,” p. 264
Schelling, “A World without Nuclear Weapons?” p. 269

III. Contemporary Issues in World Politics

- Mar. 2 Jervis, "The Era of Leading Power Peace," p. 376
 Art, "The United States and the Rise of China," p. 393
- List of sources properly cited DUE
- Mar. 4 Annan, "Reflections on Intervention," p. 408
 Western and Goldstein, "Humanitarian Intervention Comes of Age," p. 427
- Mar. 9 Downes, "To the Shores of Tripoli," p. 434
 Hartzell and Hoddie, "Crafting Peace through Power Sharing," p. 442
- Mar. 11 Howard and Donnelly, "Human Rights in World Politics," p. 414
 Ratner, "International Law: The Trials of Global Norms," p. 474
- Mar. 16, 18 Spring break, **NO CLASS**
- Mar. 23, 25, 30 Preparation for Memorandum and Source Essay
 Groups meet, organize, research, write
- Apr. 1 Lin, "Cyber Conflict and National Security," p. 461
 Dupont, "The Strategic Implications of Climate Change," p. 541
- Apr. 6 Cox, "Power Shifts, Economic Change, and the Decline of the West?" p. 560
 Walt, "The Future of the European Union," p. 571
- Apr. 8 Waltz, "Globalization and Governance," p. 500
 Ikenberry, "The Future of the Liberal World Order," p. 522
- Apr. 13 Posen, "Emerging Multipolarity: Why Should We Care?" p. 532
- Apr. 15 * **EXAM 2**
- Apr. 20, 22, Presentations (3 per day)
 27, 29 * Security Issue Memorandum and Source Essay are due on the day of in-class briefing

SAMPLE