

**POLITICAL SCIENCE (POL S) 203**  
**INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Winter 2019

T/Th 10:00am-11:20am

Kane Hall (KNE), Room 210

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Office Hours: T/Th 11:30am-12:15pm, or by appointment

Course Website: On Canvas (<https://canvas.uw.edu>)

Teaching Assistants (TAs): See course website for sections, office location, and office hours.

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**Course Description**

When are countries most likely to go to war? Why do tariffs and other barriers endure in spite of the seemingly universal benefits of free trade proclaimed by economists? Given the value often placed on having a clean environment, why do countries struggle so much to cooperate over its protection? What can governments do to stop non-state threats, such as terrorist organizations? These and related questions are becoming more and more difficult to ignore in an increasingly globalized world.

This course serves as an introduction to the study of international relations. The primary purpose is to provide the historical and theoretical foundations necessary for analyzing and understanding world politics. Students will be encouraged to develop analytical skills in order to formulate their own views concerning issues and policy options facing the international community. Inevitably, every single issue of international importance cannot be covered. Nevertheless, this course will prepare students for more advanced topics in international relations, and help them to think critically about a wide range of international events. The ultimate aim is for students to leave the course as more informed and engaged citizens of the world.

All information in the syllabus, as well as additional readings, assignments, and announcements can be found on the Canvas course website at <https://canvas.uw.edu>. It is the student's responsibility to check the website on a frequent basis, since this is where all course-related information and developments will be posted.

## Readings

There is one required textbook for the course (take note of the edition since earlier versions differ). The book is available for purchase at the University of Washington bookstore (<http://www.bookstore.washington.edu/>), or from many online retailers. An e-book version is also available at a much less expensive price directly from the publisher (<https://digital.wwnorton.com/worldpol4>).

- **(FLS)** Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2018. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions (Fourth Edition)*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company. ISBN: 978-0393675108.

Additional readings will be posted on the Canvas course website.

Students are also expected to keep up with current international events through daily reading of the *New York Times*, which will be incorporated into lectures and quiz sections. A discounted digital or hard copy subscription is available at [www.nytimes.com/uwashington](http://www.nytimes.com/uwashington).

## Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend all lectures and quiz sections, and come prepared by doing all assigned readings beforehand. If students are absent, it is their responsibility to obtain notes from lecture. Lecture notes will not be provided by the instructor or TAs.

Final grades for the course are determined by the following components. Take note of the relevant deadlines and exam dates:

- Midterm Exam #1 (25%) in class on Tuesday 2/5
- Midterm Exam #2 (25%) in class on Tuesday 2/26
- Final Exam (30%) in class on Monday 3/18 10:30am-12:20pm
- Section Participation (15%)
- InQuizitive Assignments (5%)

Exams will be a combination of short answer/identification and short essay questions based on all course materials (lectures, readings, and quiz sections) for the relevant part of the course. The Final Exam is cumulative, but will be weighted toward the material after Midterm Exam #2.

### *Section Participation*

Because this is a large introductory course, quiz sections provide the best opportunity to engage with your peers and discuss the course material and issues related to world politics. In the aim of making this experience rewarding for everyone involved, full and thoughtful participation is necessary. Section activities will include analyzing the readings and lecture material, policy debates, and applying course themes to current events. TAs will evaluate students based on the quantity *and* quality of their participation. Further details on the structure and expectations for section will be provided separately by your TA. Meeting times and locations for quiz sections are available on the university time schedule.

### *InQuizitive Assignments*

InQuizitive is an adaptive learning tool developed in conjunction with the FLS *World Politics* textbook we use in this course to assess and reinforce core concepts from the assigned textbook readings. Access to InQuizitive is included with the purchase of the FLS textbook (whether hard

copy or electronic). Details regarding assignments, setting up an account, and accessing the tool for our course are available under the “Assignments” section of the course website. Generally, the deadline for completing assignments will be by the day before quiz section meets for the relevant week (no late submissions are accepted), but will be clearly stated on the online InQuizitive platform for the course. For general information about InQuizitive, including instructions for setting up an account, go to <http://wvnorton.knowledgeowl.com/help/inquizitive-students>. To start, see the introductory video under the “Assignments” section of the Canvas course website.

### **Policy for Make-up Exams**

Make-ups for either the midterms or final exam will be permitted only under the gravest of circumstances and with appropriate documentation. Students are required to notify their TA before the exam takes place of any reason why they are unable to take the exam at the designated time. Any make-up exam must be taken prior to the exam being returned to the class. It is the student’s responsibility to contact their TA so that an appropriate time can be scheduled for the make-up. Only after written confirmation from the instructor or TA that the exam can be taken at an alternate time should a student consider that a make-up has been granted. *Note: personal travel plans are not a legitimate reason for requesting to take an exam at a different time and will not be granted.*

### **Grading Policy and Appeals**

Appeals must be made within one week of when the exam or assignment was originally returned to the class, or the grade posted online. Appeals simply asking for more points will not be considered. To make an appeal, a student is required to write a typed memo (no longer than 1 page single-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins) clearly explaining the reasons why they feel the grade they received was inappropriate. Students must submit the memo along with the original graded assignment to their TA, who will re-grade the assignment. If the student is still not satisfied, they may then submit a separate written appeal to the instructor who will then issue a final grade for the assignment. The memo, assignment, and the TA’s response to the original appeal must be submitted to the instructor within three days of receiving the appeal decision from their TA. Please note, however, that both the TA and the instructor reserve the right to re-grade the *entire* assignment once an appeal is made, which may result in an increase *or decrease* from the original grade.

### **Accessibility**

If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to the instructor as soon as possible so we can discuss your needs in this course. If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to: mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924, email [uwdrs@uw.edu](mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu), or online at <http://disability.uw.edu>. DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor, and DRS. It is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

*Please Note:* For exams, students with accommodations should follow the relevant procedures to make arrangements ahead of time with DRS to schedule taking their exams in the DRS Testing Center.

## Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is a serious offense at The University of Washington. All cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Conduct, and may result in a grade of 0.0 for the assignment in question.

University policies and guidelines regarding cheating and plagiarism can be found at <https://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>.

What constitutes academic misconduct? The University of Washington Student Conduct Code defines it as the following (WAC 478-120-024).

**Academic misconduct** includes:

- (a) **“Cheating,”** which includes, but is not limited to:
  - (i) The use of unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; or
  - (ii) The acquisition, use, or distribution of unpublished materials created by another student without the express permission of the original author(s).
- (b) **“Falsification,”** which is the intentional use or submission of falsified data, records, or other information including, but not limited to, records of internship or practicum experiences or attendance at any required event(s). Falsification also includes falsifying scientific and/or scholarly research.
- (c) **“Plagiarism,”** which is the submission or presentation of someone else’s words, composition, research, or expressed ideas, whether published or unpublished, without attribution. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
  - (i) The use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; or
  - (ii) The unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or acquired from an entity engaging in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
- (d) **Prohibited collaboration.**
- (e) Engaging in behavior specifically prohibited by an instructor in the course of class instruction or in a course syllabus.
- (f) **Multiple submissions** of the same work in separate courses without the express permission of the instructor(s).
- (g) Taking deliberate action to destroy or damage another’s academic work in order to gain an advantage for oneself or another.
- (h) The recording of instructional content without the express permission of the instructor(s), and/or the dissemination or use of such unauthorized records.

If you are uncertain what constitutes plagiarism, please ask the instructor. The Political Science/JSIS/LSJ/CHID Writing Center also offers guidance on plagiarism, general advice on writing, and related issues of academic integrity:

<http://depts.washington.edu/pswrite/forstudents.html>.

## Classroom Expectations

Some of the material covered in this course may be controversial. While debate is expected and in fact encouraged, students are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Students are expected to arrive on time and ready to start class and quiz sections. We have a very short period of time for each meeting, and it is disrespectful to the instructor/TA and your fellow classmates to show up late. All disruptive behavior is not permitted during class, including but by no

means limited to sleeping, talking outside of regular class discussion, using cell phones, and insulting classmates and/or the instructor. Laptops are permitted, but should be used solely for course work (e.g. taking notes, accessing course readings, etc.). Students found to be violating this policy will be prohibited from using an electronic device during lecture and/or section for the remainder of the course. Eating is permitted as long as it does not disrupt others.

### Questions and Communication

If you have any straightforward administrative or logistical questions not of a personal nature (e.g. readings for the week; location of exam, etc.), please consult the website and syllabus first, and then email your TA if you are still uncertain. The answers to most such questions are often on the website or syllabus. If you still cannot obtain an adequate answer, email the instructor. Email is the preferred form of contact for these matters. All e-mail related to the course should begin with the Subject Heading "POL S 203: ..." For more substantive questions, please see your TA or instructor during office hours or make an appointment.

### Course Schedule

The following is a schedule of topics and readings for the course. The schedule is subject to change based on the pace of the class. The instructor will clearly announce any changes.

- *An Additional Note on the Readings:* Assigned readings from the textbook should be done before the relevant lecture. Any additional readings should be done before the following quiz section meeting (e.g. the Snyder and Thucydides readings in Week 1 should be done before quiz section meets). Please also be aware that listings for assigned readings may be split across pages.

## Part I: Overview, Sovereignty, and the Nature of the International System

### Week 1

T 1/8: Introduction and Overview – What is "International Relations" Anyway and Why Should We Care?

- FLS Introduction.
- Powner, Leanne C. 2007. "Reading and Understanding Political Science." Only read pg.1-14 (stop at "Formal Modeling" section). Read carefully, since this article provides a foundation for more effectively reading and understanding many of the subsequent readings in the course. The exercises included in-text are completely optional.
- \*Optional\*: Skim FLS Ch.1 for a general historical overview of the modern international system.

Th 1/10: Evolution of Sovereignty I – What is it, Who Gets it (and who doesn't), and How Has it Changed?

- FLS Ch.2 Excerpt pg.42-51.
- Snyder, Jack. 2004. "One World, Rival Theories." *Foreign Policy* (November/December): 53-62.
- Thucydides. "The Melian Dialogue." From *The History of the Peloponnesian Wars*. (4 pgs).

**Week 2**

T 1/15: Evolution of Sovereignty II – The Past/Present/Future of the Nation-State in the International System

- Huntington, Samuel P. 1993. “The Clash of Civilizations?” *Foreign Affairs* 72(3): Abridged version pg.159-166.
- Lozano Bielat, Hope. 2015. “Islamic State and the Hypocrisy of Sovereignty.” *E-International Relations* (March 20).
- Boyle, Joe. 2015. “Islamic State and the Idea of Statehood.” *BBC News* (January 6).

**Part II: International Security**

Th 1/17: The Puzzle of War – Or Why Fight When it’s So Bloody Expensive? War as a Concept & Crisis Bargaining

- FLS Ch.3 Excerpt pg.88-103.
- Schelling, Thomas C. 1996. “The Diplomacy of Violence” from *Arms and Influence* Abridged excerpt pg.350-358.

**Week 3**

T 1/22: Why Bargaining Can Fail...and Wars Begin

- FLS Ch.3 Excerpt pg.103-135. (We will be covering the “Prisoner’s Dilemma” as part of this topic. For a further review and discussion, see FLS pg.82-84).
- Posen, Barry R. 1993. “The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict.” *Survival* 35(1): Abridged version pg.114-128.

Th 1/24: Rallying ’Round the Flag! Domestic Politics, Diversion, and War

- FLS Ch.4 Excerpt pg.138-155.
- Hetherington, Marc J., and Michael Nelson. 2003. “Anatomy of a Rally Effect: George W. Bush and the War on Terrorism.” *PS: Political Science and Politics* 36(1): 37-42.

**Week 4**

T 1/29: Are Democracies Distinctive? Assessing Democratic Peace and Victory

- FLS Ch.4 Excerpt pg.168-183.
- Doyle, Michael W. 1986. “Liberalism and World Politics.” *American Political Science Review* 80(4): Abridged version pg.78-92.

**Part III: International Political Economy**

Th 1/31: International Trade I – Who Gains and Who Loses from the International Division of Labor?

- FLS Ch.7 Excerpt pg.294-306, 340-345.
- Krugman, Paul. 1994. “Competitiveness: A Dangerous Obsession.” *Foreign Affairs* 73(2): 28-44.

**Week 5**

**\*\*\*T 2/5 Midterm Exam #1 in Class – Bring Exam Books\*\*\*  
Covers all material from Parts I and II of the course**

Th 2/7: International Trade II – To (free) Trade, or not to (free) Trade?

- FLS Ch.7 Excerpt pg.306-337.
- Sutherland, Peter D. 2008. “Transforming Nations: How the WTO Boosts Economies and Opens Societies.” *Foreign Affairs* 87(2): 125-136.
- Rodrik, Dani. 2001. “Trading in Illusions.” *Foreign Policy* 123(March/April): 54-62.

**Week 6**

T 2/12: International Finance I – Multinational Corporations (MNCs) to the Rescue?

- FLS Ch.8 Excerpt pg.346-355; 371-377.
- Kristoff, Nicholas. 2009. “Where Sweatshops are a Dream.” *New York Times* Op-ed (January 14).
- Silverstein, Ken. 2010. “Shopping for Sweat: The Human Cost of a Two-Dollar T-shirt.” *Harper’s Magazine* (January): 36-44.

Th 2/14: International Finance II – Do States and Debt Mix? The Promise and Perils of Sovereign Lending

- FLS Ch.8 Excerpt pg.355-371.
- Drezner, Daniel W. 2012. *The Irony of Global Economic Governance: The System Worked*. Council on Foreign Relations Working Paper. (18 pgs).

**Week 7**

T 2/19: International Monetary Relations I – Money Matters (or does it?)

- FLS Ch.9 Excerpt pg.386-411.

Th 2/21: International Monetary Relations II – Choices and Crises in Monetary Policy

- FLS Ch.9 Excerpt pg.412-421.
- Kirshner, Jonathan. 2013. “Bringing Them All Back Home? Dollar Diminution and U.S. Power.” *Washington Quarterly* 36(3): Abridged version pg.550-559.

**Week 8**

**\*\*\*T 2/26 Midterm Exam #2 in Class – Bring Exam Books\*\*\*  
Covers all material from Part III of the course**

**Part IV: Global Governance & Transnational Relations**

Th 2/28: Is “International Law” Really Law (and does it even matter)?

- FLS Ch.2 Excerpt pg.68-78; and Ch.11 Excerpt pg.462-475.
- Snyder, Jack, and Leslie Vinjamuri. 2003/2004. “Trials and Errors: Principle and Pragmatism in Strategies of International Justice.” *International Security* 28(3): Abridged version 596-616.

## Week 9

T 3/5: Alliances – Are We Better Fighting Together?

- FLS Ch.5 Excerpt 186-205.
- Posen, Barry R. 2013. “Pull Back: The Case for a Less Activist Foreign Policy.” *Foreign Affairs* 92(1): 116-128.
- Brooks, Stephen G., G. John Ikenberry, and William C. Wolforth. 2013. “Lean Forward: In Defense of American Engagement.” *Foreign Affairs* 92(1): 130-142.

Th 3/7: Global Environmental Politics – Why is it So Hard to Go Green?

- FLS Ch.13.
- Victor, David G. 2006. “Toward Effective International Cooperation on Climate Change: Numbers, Interests, and Institutions.” *Global Environmental Politics* 6(3): Abridged version pg.515-522.

## Week 10

T 3/12: Terrorism I – Taking Seriously Conflict Inside and Beyond the State

- FLS Ch.6 Excerpt pg.236-243; 268-291.
- Pape, Robert A. 2003. “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism.” *American Political Science Review* 97(3): Abridge version pg.213-230.

Th 3/14: Terrorism II and Wrapping Up

- No assigned readings.

**\*\*\*Final Exam in class on Monday, March 18 10:30am-12:20pm – Bring Exam Books\*\*\*  
Cumulative across the entire course, but emphasis on material from Part IV**

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