

National and International Security - (PWAD 350)

Fall 2017

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Time and Location: Phillips 215. M W 2.30-3.45

Office Hours: M W 12.30-2 and by appt.

Introduction: Welcome to the study of national and international security. In this course, we will examine global security challenges such as international wars, internal wars, non-state violence, economic disputes, financial crises, and problems of coordination and cooperation. We will adopt a multi-disciplinary approach, drawing on lessons from political science, economics, history, sociology, and anthropology. We will begin by examining problems of international security, such as interstate crises and war. In the second section of the course, we will first examine conflict associated with non-state actors, and will then discuss non-traditional security issues, such as financial crises and problems of common pooled resources. Throughout, we will use scientific research, historical accounts, and film to gain a better grasp on the dynamics of security problems in the international system.

I am assuming that you are familiar with basic American diplomatic history in the twentieth and twenty first centuries, and that you are keeping up with current events. Though some of the theories presented are very general and abstract, the purpose of the course is to use these theories to explain real world security problems facing both the U.S. and the international system. For us to do so, you must be familiar with the contemporary security problems facing the world and the role of the U.S. in such situations. **I therefore expect you to be keeping up with current events.** I would also like to stress that this is a challenging course and the material presented will be difficult. We are going to be using several academic fields, so you will be expected to consume information from a wide variety of approaches. Many of the arguments presented will stem from economics and political science, and will therefore use formal mathematical modeling and/or advanced statistics. However, I do not expect any of you to have any background in either formal modeling or statistics. My main concern is not in the technical details, but that you develop an intuitive understanding of the central arguments and can explain them verbally. I therefore expect you to struggle with the material, but in the end, you should be able to use the arguments to understand real world cases and concepts.

Grading: Your final course grade will be determined as follows:

Exams	2 @ 20% each
Position Papers	2 @ 30% each

1. **Exams.** The exams will consist of twenty two questions, of which you will pick twenty to answer. The exams will focus primarily on theoretical aspects of the course, though there will be some historical questions as well. Primarily, the questions will be drawn from what is discussed in lecture, though some material may come from the readings as well, particularly the historical questions. The tests will be given through the course's Sakai site. You will have one hour to take each exam. For the first exam, you will be responsible for all material from the start of the class to the midterm. The second exam will mostly focus on the second half of the course, though you will more than likely be required to reference material from the first part as well. The first exam will be held on **October 4**, the second will be held at the time of the final exam, which is **December 8 @ 4 pm**.
2. **Position Papers.** You will also be asked to write two position papers based on what has been covered in class. These papers should be about 6 pages in length, double-spaced. In the first paper, you will use two of the theoretical concepts discussed in the class to explain a security related crisis of your choice. For example, you might choose to analyze the border dispute involving India, China, and Bhutan involving the Doklam Plateau. You may decide to use two concepts: the lessons of history and selectorate theory to explain and predict what is driving the dispute. Your paper should briefly

introduce the background of the dispute, discuss how both models would explain what is happening and predict what the outcome of the crisis will be, and conclude by discussing which explanation you think better fits the case, and predicting what YOU think the outcome will be. If you want to discuss a historical crisis that is over, such as the Cuban Missile Crisis, that is fine - but you will need to place more emphasis on the explanation part versus the prediction. A list of current disputes are available on the course website. Since the problems of the world are often fluid, feel free to discuss conflicts that are not listed on this site. The first paper is due on **October 9**. The second paper is due on **November 29**. The focus of this paper is slightly different. Following the midterm, we will discuss civil wars and economic threats to the U.S. in the international system. You therefore have one of two choices. If you want to analyze a civil war, you should first introduce your case, discuss what the key commitment problem is, and conclude by outlining strategies to overcome this commitment problem and reach a resolution. Again, if you choose a case from history, your focus should be more on how the commitment problem was overcome versus how to overcome it in the future. If take the second option and analyze an economic threat to the U.S., your essay should introduce your problem, discuss how exactly it is a threat to the U.S., discuss what options the U.S. may take to mitigate the threat, and conclude by predicting whether or not the U.S. will be successful. Failure to turn in your essay on time will result in a one letter grade penalty for each day that it is late, including weekends and holidays. The only exception to this is in the case of documented emergencies, in which case, I must see written documentation from you.

Required Reading: The required text for this course is: G. John Ikenberry. 2014. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. It is available both online and in the bookstore. There will also be several articles drawn from scholarly journals. I have posted the articles on the course website. The powerpoint presentation will also be posted here for the day's lecture. I encourage you to check the website often for updates.

Course Schedule and Reading List

August 23: Introduction. No reading assignment.

August 28: Foundations of Violence. Ikenberry 1.

August 30. No Class. American Political Science Association Meeting.

September 4. No Class. Labor Day!

September 6: Anarchy in the International State System. Ikenberry 3.

September 11: Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy. Ikenberry 19, 26.

September 13: Rationalist Explanations of Foreign Policy. Ikenberry 11, 12, Bruce Bueno de Mesquita. 2002. Domestic Politics and Foreign Policy. *International Studies Quarterly* 46(1): 1-9.

September 18: Bargaining and Strategic Interaction. James D. Fearon. 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.

September 20: Immediate Deterrence and Crisis Bargaining. James D. Fearon. 1994. Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review* 88(3): 577-592.

September 25: Extended Deterrence and Alliances. Ikenberry 4.

September 27: Dynamic Commitment Problems. Ikenberry 17, James Lindsay & Ray Takeyh. 2010. After Iran Gets the Bomb. *Foreign Affairs* 89(2): 33-49.

October 2: Film. *The Unknown Known*.

October 4. First Exam.

October 9: Violent non-state actors. No Reading Assignment, **Position Paper #1 Due!**

- October 11. Film.** *Terror in Europe.*
- October 16. Scientific studies of terrorism.** Todd Sandler. 2014. The Analytical Study of Terrorism: Taking Stock. *Journal of Peace Research* 51(2): 257-271.
- October 18. Civil Wars.** Barbara Walter. 2009. Bargaining Failures and Civil War. *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 243-261.
- October 23. Intervention.** Ikenberry 18; V. Paige Fortna. 2004. Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War. *International Studies Quarterly* 48: 269-292.
- October 25. Film.** *Rwanda's Untold Story.*
- October 30. The Postwar Liberal Order.** Ikenberry 5, 10.
- November 1. No Class.** Peace Science Society International Meeting.
- November 6. Economic Sanctions.** Navin Bapat, Tobias Heinrich, Yoshi Kobayashi, & T. Clifton Morgan. 2014. The Determinants of Sanctions Effectiveness: Sensitivity Analysis using New Data. *International Interactions* 39(1): 79-98.9.
- November 8. Financial Crises I.** Carmen M. Reinhart & Kenneth S. Rogoff. 2009. *This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly.* Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapter 13.
- November 13. Financial Crises II.** Layna Mosley & David A. Singer. 2009. The Global Financial Crisis: Lessons and Opportunities for International Political Economy. *International Interactions* 35(4): 420-429.
- November 15. Populism.** Noam Gidron & Bart Bonikowski. 2013. Varieties of Populism: Literature Review and Research Agenda. SSRN Online.
- November 20. Film.** *Populism Worldwide: After Brexit, the Battle for Europe.*
- November 22. No Class.** Thanksgiving Holiday!
- November 27. Development and Debt.** Kathleen R. McNamara. 2015. A Less Perfect Union. *Foreign Affairs.* 22.
- November 29. The Tragedy of the Commons.** No Reading Assignment, **Position Paper #2 Due!**
- December 4. Power Transitions.** Ikenberry 27-29.
- December 6. Review and Wrap Up.** No Reading Assignment.
Second Exam on December 8 @ 4 pm.