

Introduction to International Security
INR 3333 – Sec. 0880
University of Florida
Summer A 2013

Instructor: Stuart Strome

Class Location: AND134

Class Time: MTWRF 2:00-3:15 pm

Office Hours: TR – 9:30-11AM

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Course Description:

The realm of international security has undergone profound transformations during the past fifty years. In many ways, concerns over traditional interstate warfare between industrialized countries are becoming increasingly distant, while issues of poverty in developing states, economic insecurity, and environmental security have been pushed to the fore. Developments in the academy have paralleled events in the world, as traditional security concerns, including interstate warfare and nuclear non-proliferation, now compete for scholarly attention with topics including global environmental and health concerns, transnational terrorism, transnational criminal activity, civil conflicts, the intersection between different identities and security, etc. This transition begs a myriad of questions, many of which we will address together. In this course, we will examine a broad range of theoretical approaches to international security including more traditional realist and liberal theories of international relations, as well as contemporary challenges to these. We will pay special attention to what these theories auger for the future of international security, and how we should study it. While the first part of the course is geared towards providing you with multiple lenses through which to view our global political system, and the security issues attendant to it, the second portion of the course will provide a more in-depth treatment to important contemporary international security issues, including transnational terrorism, humanitarian interventions, technology in warfare, nuclear non-proliferation, and environmental and demographic threats to security.

Grades:

The composition of your grade is as follows:

10% - Attendance and participation

20% - Group presentation

35% - Midterm exam

35% - Final Exam

The grading scale is as follows:

A (93-100); A- (90-92); B+ (87-90); B (83-86); B- (80-82); C+(77-79); C (73-76); C- (70-72); D+ (67-70); D (63-66); D- (60-62); F (59 or below)

Readings:

Readings will come from the assigned textbooks, online journal articles, and the occasional supplementary readings provided in-class or online a week or so before they are assigned. Online resources may be accessed through the University of Florida library website (I will demonstrate how to do this on the first day of class). If you have any problems accessing the online materials, I would be happy to assist you either during office hours or after class. If you are not already, please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the e-learning website, as I may choose to post supplementary readings throughout the course of the semester on this site. You are expected to have read the assigned materials before class. At first glance, the assigned readings may look like a lot (especially given the time constraints of a summer class) but you'll notice that most of them are five to ten page excerpts, and therefore the reading load should be moderate. In addition to the required readings, I will be borrowing heavily from the suggested reading. All of what is covered on the exam will be discussed throughout the course of the class, but, if you are the type of person who likes to have the text in front of you, you may purchase the text (it is relatively cheap). I cannot stress enough how important it is to have read the assigned materials *prior* to class, as the lectures will be designed to place the readings into a larger context. Moreover, familiarity with the readings makes for productive and interesting discussion!

Texts:

- Betts, Richard K. 2008. *Conflict After the Cold War: Arguments on the Causes of War and Peace*. Pearson. ISBN-10: 0205583520, ISBN- 9780205851751 (4th Ed.) –**Required**
- Baylis, John, Wirtz, James J., Gray, Colin S. (eds). 2010. *Strategy in the Contemporary World: An Introduction to Strategic Studies*. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 9780199548873 (3rd Ed.)- **Required**
- Sterling-Folker, Jennifer (ed.). 2006. *Making Sense of International Relations Theory*. Boulder, CO: Lynne-Reiner (Suggested)

Moreover, comprehension of theory is of little use unless one is prepared to apply those theories to contemporary events. For that reason, it is required that you keep yourself up to date with global events. While domestic news outlets provide adequate coverage of domestic affairs, coverage of global events is incomplete at best, and impoverished at worst. While there are a few exceptions to this rule, to gain an adequate understanding of current events, it is best to **regularly peruse at least one of the following news sources**. I've tried to include a mix of left-leaning and right-leaning newspapers. If you have any questions about which are which, come and see me either after class or during office hours.

There may, or may not, be a couple of pop quizzes concerning this material (don't worry, they will be laughably simple).

- *New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Christian Science Monitor, Manchester Guardian (U.K.), The Times (U.K.), Financial Times (U.K.), The Economist (U.K.), BBC Global News (bbc.co.uk), Le Monde (France), Der Spiegel (Germany) Die Welt (Germany) El País (Spain), Al-Jazeera (Qatar)*

Attendance and Participation

As this class is composed of a lecture component, a presentation component, and a participation component, students are expected to attend every class prepared to discuss the readings as well as participate in any group activities throughout the course of the semester. Lively participation makes for both an enriching experience and an exciting class, so please, come prepared to offer your educated opinions and thoughts. Attendance will be taken randomly **at least five times throughout the semester** at the beginning of class, so make sure to be punctual as well as present! As I understand that certain unexpected problems arise (apartment roofs leak, cars break down, students fall ill, not to mention the ubiquitous "bad day") you will be granted **one free absence** that will not affect your attendance grade. Beyond that one free absence, if you are unable to attend class due to either medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances (such as a death in the family) **please provide official written evidence no later than 48 hours after the absence.** It will be difficult to achieve a satisfactory participation grade if you have three or more unexcused absences, especially given that attendance will not be taken every day. Please be reminded that **perfect attendance doesn't necessarily equate to a perfect participation grade.** A good participation grade requires at least *occasional* class participation in discussion, and an "A" requires that you come to class with questions or comments that suggests to me that you have critically engaged the reading material, presentations, and lectures. If you don't like to speak in front of the class, for whatever reason, it is perfectly acceptable to send your questions or comments to me through email. I'll be sure to keep the source of them anonymous.

Discussion Decorum

There is a fine line between spirited disagreement and offensive behavior, a line that, in the heat of argument, is sometimes transgressed. Please, let's try to keep discussions fun and exciting, but free from hostility and pettiness.

Group Debate

Beginning the second week of class, Friday classes will be occupied by group debates. Depending on the number students enrolled, each student will be assigned to a group (the size of groups will depend upon how many students are enrolled). During the class period, two groups – each representing opposing sides of a contemporary debate in international security– will each present a 15-minute presentation stating their position, marshalling relevant evidence in support of it, and presenting the class with questions to ponder. The remaining class time will be reserved for a group discussion concerning the issue, critiques of the arguments set forth, discussion of points left unaddressed in the presentations,

and finally, possible resolutions to the questions raised by the presenters. I encourage all those not presenting to fully participate, as this will represent an important part of your participation grade. Additionally, those not presenting should save any handouts or PowerPoint presentations that may accompany the presentation, as they could possibly show up on an exam. The presentation constitutes a major portion of your grade, and should be taken seriously! **It is strongly suggested that you and your group meet with me during office hours or after class a week or two before your presentation in order to clarify what is expected.** In the meantime, here is an admittedly incomplete rubric of the necessary elements of a "good" presentation. 1) Clear presentation of thesis and explanation of the theoretical basis of that thesis; 2) Thoroughly addressing and grappling with the assigned reading materials; 3) Marshalling evidence for your thesis, whether that evidence be historical, contemporary, quantitative or qualitative; 4) Engaging the class, either through a power point presentation, handouts, interactive discussion (although you must have an initial purpose in mind for this. It can't just be asking the class's opinion). I encourage you to be creative. Points *will* be given for gusto! Just try not to offend anyone in the process. As mentioned prior, the group project *may* require extra reading materials, which will be provided by the instructor at least two weeks prior to the presentation.

Make-Ups

Make-up exams will be given under only the most exceptional of circumstances. If you have a prior conflict with one of the exam dates, please come and see me as soon as possible. Make-ups will be given only with official medical documentation delivered to me no later than 24 hours after the completion of the exam. All make-up exams will be given in essay form.

Honor Code

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted in this class, included exams, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Counseling

The Counseling Center is located in P301 Peabody Hall. It is open Monday through Friday, 8AM to 5PM. To schedule an appointment, stop by the Counseling Center, or call 352-392-1575. On evenings and weekends, services are available through the Alachua County Crisis Center by calling 352-264-6789. Students may also call the clinician on-call at Student Mental Health at 352-392-1171.

Disabilities

Any student requiring adaptations or accommodations because of any kind of disability (learning disability, attention deficit disorder, psychological, physical, etc.) should contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) for information about their rights and responsibilities. Also, if you feel you need any special arrangements please in addition to what the DRC offers, please do not hesitate to come and see me either after class or during my office hours.

Class Disruptions

Make sure to place your cell phone on silent mode before you come into class. Laptops are allowed for taking notes during class, but please refrain from playing games, sending emails, or instant messaging during class. Please be courteous and respectful both during lecture and when your fellow classmates are speaking.

Schedule

Week 1

May 13th – Introduction and How to Access Online Materials

May 14th-17th – “What is International Security?” and Security after the Cold War

Readings: Online journal articles

- Walt, Stephen. 1991. “The Renaissance of Security Studies” *International Security* 35(2): 211-239 (*online*)
- Matthews, Jessica. 1989. “Redefining Security” *Foreign Affairs* 68(2): 162-77 (*online*)

AND From the Betts Reader

- Fukuyama, Francis. “The End of History”, pp. 6-18
- Mearsheimer, John J. “Why we will soon miss the Cold War”, pp. 19-34
- Huntington, Samuel. “Clash of Civilizations”, pp. 35-53

Week 2

May 20th – 21st - Theories of International Relations: Realism

Readings: From the Betts Reader

- International Realism: Anarchy and Power, pp. 66-68
- Machiavelli, Niccolo. “Doing Evil in Order to Do Good”, pp. 74-77
- Hobbes, Thomas “The State of Nature and the State of War”, pp. 78-81
- Carr, Edward Hallett. “Realism and Idealism”, pp. 82-99
- Waltz, Kenneth. “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory”, pp. 100-106
- Gilpin, Robert. “Hegemonic War and International Change”, pp. 107-119

May 22nd – 23rd - Theories of International Relations: Liberalism

Readings: From the Betts Reader

- International Liberalism: Institutions and Cooperation – pp. 133-135
- Kant, Immanuel. “Perpetual Peace”, pp. 136-142
- Wilson, Woodrow. “Community of Power vs. Balance of Power”, pp. 146-148
- Doyle, Michael. “Liberalism in World Politics”, pp. 149-163
- Nye, Joseph P. and Robert Keohane. “Power and Interdependence”, pp. 164-171

AND online

- Keohane, Robert O. and Lisa L. Martin. 1995. “The Promise of Institutional Theory” *International Security* 20(1): 39-51 (online)

May 24th – Debate – Can we eradicate interstate war?

Week 3

May 27th – Memorial Day – No Class!

May 28th-29^h – Theories of International Relations: Constructivism

Readings: From Betts Reader and online

- Wendt, Alexander. 1992. “Anarchy is What States Make of it: The Social Construction of Power Politics” *International Organization* 46(2): 391-425 (online)
- Mueller, John. “The Obsolescence of Major War”, *Betts* pp. 249-261
- Weldes, Jutta. 1996. “The Cultural Production of Crises: US Identity and Missiles in Cuba” in Weldes (ed.) *Constructing National Interests*, Pp. 35-62 (online)

May 30th - Current Issues in International Security: Tracing the Evolution of Warfare

Readings: From Baylis et al.

- Sheehan, Michael. “The Evolution of Modern Warfare” *Baylis et al.*, Pp. 43-64

May 31st – MIDTERM

Week 4

June 3rd – Current Issues in International Security: Technology and Warfare

Readings: Baylis et al. Pp. 43-65 and from Betts Reader

- Cohen, Eliot. “Technology and Warfare” in *Baylis et al.*, Pp. 141-157

- Levy, Jack S. "The Offense/Defense Balance of Military Technology", *Betts* – pp. 442-453

June 4th-5th – Current Issues in International Security: Nuclear Weapons

Readings: Baylis et al. Pp. 208-225, Betts Reader and online article

- Waltz, Kenneth. "The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: More may be better", *Betts* pp. 465-476
- Walton, Dale. "The Second Nuclear Age: Nuclear Weapons in the Twenty-first Century" *Baylis et al.* Pp. 208-225
- Sagan, Scott. 1995. "The Perils of Proliferation: Organization Theory, Deterrence Theory, and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons" *International Security* 18(4): 66-107 (*online*)

June 6th-7th – Current Issues in International Security: Humanitarian Intervention

Readings: Baylis et al. Pp. 308-329, Betts Reader and online journal articles

- Farrell, Theo. "Humanitarian Intervention and Peace Operations" in *Baylis et al.*, Pp. 308-29
- Finnemore, Martha "Constructing Norms of Humanitarian Intervention", *Betts* pp. 262-279
- Kuperman, Alan J. 2008. "The Moral Hazard of Humanitarian Intervention: Lessons from the Balkans" *International Studies Quarterly* 52(1): 49-80 (*online*)
- Mamdani, Mahmood. "The Politics of Naming: Genocide, Civil War, Insurgency" *London Review of Books*, March 8, 2007 (*online*)

June 7th – Debate 1 – Would a nuclear Iran result in a more or less peaceful Middle East?

Debate 2 – Should the West Intervene in Syria?

Week 5

June 10th-11th – Current Issues in International Security: Ethnicity, and Conflict

Readings: From Betts Reader

- Betts, Richard. "Politics: Ideology and Identity, *Betts* pp. 364-367
- Gellner, Ernest. "Nations and Nationalism", *Betts* pp. 368-379
- Kaufman, Chiam. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars", *Betts* pp. 394-411

June 12th-13th – Current Issues in International Security: Terrorism and Guerilla Warfare

Readings: Baylis et al., Pp. 186-205 and Betts Reader

- Kiras, James D. "Irregular Warfare: Terrorism and Insurgency" *Baylis et al.*, Pp. 186-205
- Crenshaw, Martha. "The Logic of Terrorism" *Betts* pp. 481-494
- Juergensmeyer, Mark. "Religious Radicalism and Political Violence" *Betts* pp. 495-510

June 14th – Debate – Are terrorists rational actors?

Week 6

June 17th – Contemporary Issues in International Security: Iraq and Afghanistan

Readings: Baylis et al. Pp. 266-284 and online journal article

- Biddle, Stephen. "Iraq, Afghanistan, and American Military Transformation" *Baylis et al.* Pp. 266-284
- Mearsheimer, John and Stephen Walt. "An Unnecessary War", *Foreign Policy* January/February 2003, Pp. 52-59 (*online*)
- TBA

June 18th – 19th – Contemporary Issues in International Security: Environmental, Health, and Security Issues

Readings: Online and Betts Reader

- Elhefnawy, Nader. 2008. "The Impending Oil Shock" *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy* 50(2): 37-66 (*online*)
- Victor, David G. "What Resource Wars?" *The National Interest* (Nov/Dec 2007), Pp. 48-55 (*online*)
- Homer-Dixon, Thomas. "Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict" *Betts* pp. 614-628

June 20th –

Debate 1 – Is the U.S. more secure now than it was 10 years ago?

Debate 2 – Will environmental issues lead to more conflict?

June 21st – Final Exam