

PSCI 2223-100: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
LECTURE
MATH 100
MW 9:05AM - 9:55AM
FALL 2022

Professor: Megan Shannon (she/ her)
Office: Ketchum 124
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Office hours: Wednesdays 10:00am - noon (no appointment necessary)

What This Class Promises to You

While George Washington and Thomas Jefferson warned Americans against entangling global relationships, their vision now seems impossible, since the world's most pressing problems require international cooperation. Not only does international politics affect our daily lives, it does so in puzzling ways. The goal of this class is to explore puzzles in international politics, including:

- If war is so costly, why do countries fight?
- If trade is economically efficient, why do countries sometimes restrict trade?
- If everyone values the earth's resources, why is global cooperation over the environment so hard to achieve?

We investigate these and other questions by identifying the interests, interactions, and institutions that lead to global outcomes. Actors have particular interests, but when they interact with others, they may end up with outcomes that do not reflect their interests. Global actors also work under institutions and rules that can constrain and change their behavior. By exploring the behavior that results from interests, interactions, and institutions, we explain today's events and make predictions about the future. By the semester's end, you will understand a variety of political problems facing the world today. You will also have a healthy appreciation for how much more there is to learn about international relations.

This is not a current events nor a history class. Even though we talk about historical events, and we think about the future, the theories we learn about apply to international politics across time. Moreover, this is not a class about any one particular country or region of the world. Even though we discuss particular countries as examples, the theories apply globally to a broad number of countries and regions.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this class, successful students will:

- (1) Understand the historical development of international relations as well as ongoing challenges to global order
- (2) Explain why conflict happens between and within countries and apply bargaining theory to actual conflict events
- (3) Identify how factor flows influence international trade, finance, and migration
- (4) Identify how interests, interactions, and institutions lead to various political outcomes, including international law, human rights, and global environmental protection

- (5) Begin to apply social science research methods to puzzles in international relations

Graded Components of the Course

Exams (top 3 grades), 75%

There will be four examinations administered through Canvas on the dates given in the syllabus schedule during our usual class time. The exception is Exam 4, which will be given on Wednesday December 14th from 7:30pm to 8:30pm. You will have 50 minutes to take each exam on Canvas **You must take all four exams**, and the top three exam grades will count toward your final grade. The exams are constituted by multiple choice questions and one essay question.

Examinations will not be given to anyone at a day and time other than that which is already specified on the syllabus unless you have discussed with me in advance special arrangements due to disability or final exam conflict. Students requiring accommodation on the exams must show a letter from Disability Services and must contact me five days prior to the exam to make arrangements.

International Institutions and International Human Rights Papers (7.5% each for a total of 15%)

You will write two short (three page) papers on topics in international institutions and international human rights. The due dates are given in the syllabus schedule.

Attendance (5%) and Participation (5%) in Recitation

Attendance will be taken at every recitation meeting. You have two 'free' absences this semester; after that, ten percent will be deducted from the attendance portion of the grade for each additional absence. Participation points can be gained by asking questions, contributing to class discussion, and being engaged. Participation points can be lost by checking cellphones during recitation, failing to engage in discussion, arriving late consistently, and leaving early consistently.

Requirement	Due Date and Time	Weight
Exam One	September 21 at 9:05am	Top Three Exams 75%
International Institutions Paper	October 3 at 9:05am	7.5%
Exam Two	October 17 at 9:05am	Top Three Exams 75%
Exam Three	November 9th at 9:05am	Top Three Exams 75%
International Human Rights Paper	December 5th at 9:05am	7.5%
Exam Four	December 14th at 7:30pm	Top Three Exams 75%
Attendance and Participation in Recitation	Ongoing	10%

Grading Scale

	B+ 89 - 87	C+ 79 - 77	D+ 69 - 67	
A 93 - 100	B 86 - 83	C 76 - 73	D 66 - 63	F 59 - 0
A- 92 - 90	B- 82 - 80	C- 72 - 70	D- 62 - 60	

Class Policies

Written Work Policy

Written work must be uploaded to Canvas. Work turned in late will be docked one letter grade for each day late, beginning at the end of class on the day the written work is due.

Electronic Device Policy

Electronic devices, including computers, tablets, and mobile phones, are not allowed while class is in session. This policy is aimed at providing the best learning environment for all students. Computers, phones, and other devices must be put in airplane mode or turned off and put away during class. If you need to make a call, send a text, or use an electronic device during class, leave the lecture hall and return when you are finished. Students will receive a warning when violating this policy. Students who repeatedly violate this policy will be asked to leave the class. Exceptions to this policy are at my discretion. Please talk to me if you feel you cannot adhere to this policy, and we will find a workable solution.

Commitment to Inclusivity

The University of Colorado is a learning community that seeks to understand the world around us. CU cannot achieve those goals without the engagement of its undergraduate students. You have unique gifts, skills, and insights that advance our search for truth and knowledge. That means your participation in this class is valuable. My commitment is to make sure that you feel included enough in our class community to participate, whether that be in lecture or recitation. If you feel your differences isolate you from CU's community or if you need specific accommodations, please speak with me early in the semester about what we can do together to help you engage in our class and the CU community. This class stresses active learning and we have a great deal of discussion in class.

Coming to my office hours

I will be in my office with the door open and available to talk on Wednesdays from 10am to noon. You do not need to make an appointment or let me know you are coming in advance - just drop by. I'm a fairly nice person and I hope you will not feel intimidated to stop by my office hours. You can come alone or with a friend. You can come to talk about the class, study skills, your career goals, etc. Understandably, you may find it hard to discuss difficulties, dilemmas, and dissatisfaction with me. Please resist the temptation to remain anonymous and let problems fester. If you have concerns about your class performance, the way the class is being taught, the functionality of the class on Canvas, or anything else related to this course, email me or your teaching assistant. We will work together to find a solution.

Class Materials

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2022. World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions, 5th edition. New York: W.W. Norton. ISBN 978-0-393-87222-4. The ebook is available here: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/worldpol15>.

Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings

This schedule is subject to change with advance notice. You will get the most benefit from reading the designated pages before coming to lecture.

August 22 and 24: Foundations and History of International Politics

Why should we care about international politics? What makes international politics different from domestic politics? What historical events contributed to the current world order?

Aug 22: Introduction

Aug 24: Chapter 1

August 29 and 31: Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

What do actors want from politics? Why can't actors always get what they want? Do rules matter in world politics?

Aug 29: Chapter 2, pp 42-68

Aug 31: Chapter 2, pp 69-84

September 7 and September 12: International Conflict

If war is so costly, why do countries fight?

Sept 7: Chapter 3, pp 92-120

Sept 12: Chapter 3, pp 120-142

September 14 and 19: Domestic Politics and War

What domestic interests affect matters of war and peace?

Sept 14: Chapter 4, pp 144-162

Sept 19: Chapter 4, pp 162-192

Exam 1 over Intro and Ch 1, 2, 3 and 4: Wednesday September 21 at 9:05am on Canvas

September 26 and September 28: International Institutions and War

Can international law and institutions prevent war?

Sept 26: Chapter 5, pp 194-215

Sept 28: Chapter 5, pp 216-242

October 3 and October 5: Civil War and Terrorism

Why does war happen within countries? Why do terrorists kill?

Oct 3: International institutions paper due to Canvas at 9:05am

Oct 3: Chapter 6, pp 246-278

Oct 5: Chapter 6, pp 278-302

October 10 and 12: International Trade

What's so good about trade? Why do countries sometimes restrict trade?

Oct 10: Chapter 7, pp 306-336

Oct 12: Chapter 7, pp 336-363

Exam 2 over Ch 5, 6, 7: Monday October 17 at 9:05am on Canvas

October 19 and 24: International Finance and Migration

How and why do labor and capital flow overseas?

Oct 19: Chapter 8, pp 364-389

Oct 24: Chapter 8, pp 390-404

October 26 and October 31: International Monetary Policy

Without world government, how do countries supply money and regulate currency?

Oct 26 : Chapter 9, pp 406-433

Oct 31: Chapter 9, pp 433-444

November 2 and November 7: International Development

Why are some countries rich and others poor?

Nov 2: Chapter 10, pp 446-460

Nov 7: Chapter 10, pp 460-482

Exam 3 over Ch 8,9, and 10: Wednesday November 9 at 9:05am on Canvas

November 14 and November 16: International Law and Norms

Without global police to enforce it, can international law change how countries behave?

Nov 14: Chapter 11, pp 484-498

Nov 16: Chapter 11, pp 499-518

November 28 and November 30: Human Rights

If everyone values human rights, why hasn't the human rights movement been more successful?

Nov 28: Chapter 12, pp 520-533

Nov 30: Chapter 12, pp 534-562

December 5 and 7: The Global Environment

If everyone values the earth's resources, why is global cooperation over the environment so hard to achieve?

Dec 5: International human rights paper due to Canvas at 9:05am

Dec 5: Chapter 13, pp 564-594

Dec 7: Chapter 13, pp 595-606

Exam 4 over Ch 11,12, and 13: Wednesday, December 14th at 7:30pm on Canvas

Institutional Policies

Classroom Behavior

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior at <https://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-course-related-behavior> and the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution policies at <https://www.colorado.edu/sccr/student-conduct>.

Requirements for COVID-19

As a matter of public health and safety, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements and all public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. CU Boulder currently requires COVID-19 vaccination and boosters for all faculty, staff and students. Students, faculty and staff must upload proof of vaccination and boosters or file for an exemption based on medical, ethical or moral grounds through the MyCUHealth portal.

The CU Boulder campus is currently mask-optional. However, if public health conditions change and masks are again required in classrooms, students who fail to adhere to masking requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. For more information, see the policy on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct. If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please follow the steps in the Accommodation for Disabilities statement on this syllabus.

If you feel ill and think you might have COVID-19, if you have tested positive for COVID-19, or if you are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you should stay home and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office

at <https://www.colorado.edu/health/public-health/quarantine-and-isolation> (contacttracing@colorado.edu). If you are fully vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay home; rather, you should self-monitor for symptoms and follow the further guidance of the Public Health Office (contacttracing@colorado.edu).

Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the Disability Services website at <https://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/>. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see <https://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions>.

Preferred Student Names and Pronouns

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

Honor Code

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code academic integrity policy. Violations of the Honor Code may include, but are not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at <https://www.colorado.edu/sccr/honor-code>.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. The university will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by or against members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or email cureport@colorado.edu. Information about university policies, reporting options, and the support resources can be found on the OIEC website at <https://www.colorado.edu/oiec/> and <https://www.colorado.edu/oiec/reporting-resolutions/making-report>.

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about their rights, support resources, and reporting options. To learn more about reporting and support options for a variety of concerns, visit Dont Ignore It at <https://www.colorado.edu/dontignoreit/>.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See the campus policy regarding religious observances at <https://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-absences-classes>. Students should use their free absences from recitation section for observance of religious holidays.