

POLS UN 1601 (Spring 2018)
International Politics
Tuesday/Thursday: 8:40-9:55AM, Barnard Hall Room 304

Professor: Katelyn Jones
Term Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
kjones@barnard.edu
233 LeFrak Center(2nd Floor of Barnard Hall)

Student Hours¹: Monday 9AM-10:30AM on the 2nd floor of the Diana Center
I am also available by appointment.

Teaching Assistants:

Ricky Clark (rtc2124@columbia.edu)
Maria Snegovaya (ms4391@columbia.edu)
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I. Scope and Purpose

This course is an introduction to international politics. It surveys major issues in international relations post-World War II from both theoretical *and* empirical perspectives. Some of the topics we will cover include: the causes of interstate war; ethnic conflict; foreign policy decision-making; economic development; the North-South gap; international trade; globalization; economic interdependence; the environment; population; the UN and other international organizations; and international law. Rather than focus extensively on specific countries, we will focus on countries' relations with each other.

The goals of this course are twofold. First, it aims to provide students with a solid understanding of the basic facts about international relations. Second, it intends to help students develop analytical and research tools for thinking about important questions in world politics, regardless of the issue or the countries involved.

II. Course Objectives

1. To explain basic facts about world politics from WWII to present.
2. To identify, define, and apply fundamental theories of international relations.
3. To understand the historical development of international politics.
4. To read and analyze the facts and circumstances regarding important topics in international relations.
5. To evaluate and examine current and historical events in terms of international relations.

¹ I believe the phrase "Office Hours" implies that students are interrupting an instructor's time in the office. So, I prefer to call my regularly available time for students as "Student Hours," because these hours are, after all, reserved for you and your needs. When you come to visit me during these times, know that I have reserved this time for students. You are not interrupting my work. Feel free to come with a friend or two. Also feel free to come by yourself! Whatever you like—these are, after all, your hours.

Through thoughtful engagement with course materials, regular lecture and section attendance and participation, and completion of assignments, students will develop the following capacities:

- verbal communication and presentation
- expository and analytical writing
- critical analysis of arguments and concepts
- teamwork and flexibility
- independent research

III. Assignments

A. Lecture Attendance and Participation (5%)

Attendance and participation in lectures is mandatory. Lectures will be interactive and often involve small-group work. I will also call on students regularly (twice over the course of the semester) to answer questions, ask questions, and share their insights. If students are absent on days that they are called on, their lecture participation grade will be negatively impacted. Students who participate *without* being called on will be noted, and their attendance scores will be positively impacted.

B. Lecture Quizzes (20%)

25 quizzes will be administered over the course of the semester during lecture. The quizzes will take three forms:

- 1) The quiz will be administered at the start of class and assess student's understanding of the day's assigned readings *and* the prior class' lecture.
- 2) The quiz will be administered in the middle of class and assess students' understanding of material covered up to that point in lecture.
- 3) The quiz will be administered at the end of class and assess students' understanding of the day's material.

As long as you attend, and pay attention in class and do the reading, you should have no problem doing well on these quizzes. These quizzes should *help* your grade.

There will be days when *more than one quiz* is administered during lecture. There will also be days when no quiz is administered. Quizzes will not be announced in advance. The lowest *two* quiz grades will be dropped when calculating final grades. There are *no make-up assignments* for missed quizzes.

C. Discussion Section Attendance and Participation (15%)

Attendance and participation in weekly discussion section is mandatory. Your Teaching Assistant will hand out a detailed section syllabus and review specific guidelines and expectations for discussion section with you the first day you meet.

D. Group Presentations in Discussion Section (10%)

Over the course of the semester, students will work in groups of 2 to deliver **one** group presentation about a current event in international relations. Students will sign-up for presentation dates during the second meeting of their discussion section. The presentation topic should be chosen and approved by their TA at least TWO DAYS before the actual

presentation date. Groups are strongly encouraged to meet with their TA to discuss the topic they want to present, and how they plan to present it. The presentation has two parts:

- 1) Each group will select *two* news articles from reputable sources (The New York Times, BBC, Al-Jazeera, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, etc.) that are about the topic. These articles should be emailed to your TA at least TWO DAYS before the presentation date, so that s/he can distribute them to students to read.
- 2) Each group will provide an approximately 5-10 minute presentation of the topic, explaining the issue at hand, why the event is important, *and* what course material illuminates about the issue. The group will also provide 2-3 questions for students to consider about the current event, helping extend the conversation. Each member of the group should speak during the presentation. The presentation format is up to you. You can be as creative as you want!

C. In-Class Midterm Exam (20%)

An in-class midterm exam will be administered on Thursday, March 8, during class time. Details about the exam format and content will be distributed in class.

D. Take-Home Final Exam (30%)

Final exam questions will be emailed to students, and exams *must* be uploaded to Canvas as **Word documents** only.

Final questions: emailed after lecture on 4/26; due TBA (exam time)

IV. Grading

Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A:	93.5 or greater
A-:	89.5-93.4%
B+:	86.5-89.4%
B:	83.5-86.4%
B-:	79.5-83.4%
C+:	76.5-79.4%
C:	73.5-76.4%
C-:	69.5-73.4%
D+:	66.5-69.4%
D:	63.5-66.4%
D-:	59.5-63.4%
F:	59.4 or below%

Prof. Jones supervises all gradings, sets grading guidelines, and reviews TA performance. Any student who wishes to challenge a grade must wait *at least* 24 hours after the assignment was returned before sharing their concerns. After 24 hours have passed, the student must discuss the concern with the TA who graded the exam. If the student remains unsatisfied after this meeting, the student must write 250 words explaining the reason for challenging the grade and submit this to Prof. Jones who will then review the work in question. Please note

that a grade change is extremely unlikely, and that Prof. Jones reserves the right to lower a grade as well as raise it.

V. Late Assignment Policy

As a rule, late work is not accepted. Extensions *may* be granted with sufficient notice.

VI. Course Materials

Students in POLS UN 1601 are expected to acquire the following textbook, which is available for purchase at Book Culture (536 West 112th Street, between Broadway and Amsterdam). It is also available on reserve at both Butler and Barnard College libraries:

Pevehouse and Goldstein, *International Relations, Eleventh Edition* (Pearson 2017)

The textbook readings are marked by “GP” throughout the schedule. Relevant news articles and academic journal articles will also be made available on the course website in PDF form. These additional readings are noted in the below course outline by ***.

VII. Course Expectations

You can expect that I will come to class prepared, be available during student hours or another decided appointment time, answer your questions via email within a 24 hour period Monday-Friday, provide useful feedback on your assignments and performance, return written work in a reasonable amount of time, and provide clear instructions and guidelines for all assignments.

As students, you are expected to come to class prepared (having done the readings and with the articles/textbooks read), to be attentive and respectful in class, to check your email at least daily during the week (M-F), to understand the course expectations, and to adhere to all policies laid out by the University and in this course syllabus. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this.

Finally, I *strongly discourage* the use of electronic devices in this class. Numerous studies have shown that students learn better when they are handwriting their notes. Nonetheless, if you choose to use a laptop during lecture, you are required to sit on the left side of the classroom so as not to distract non-laptop/tablet using students.

VIII. Academic Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability and require academic accommodations, you must visit the Office of Disability Services (ODS) for assistance. Students requesting eligible accommodations in their courses will need to first meet with an ODS staff member for an intake meeting. Once registered, students are required to visit ODS each semester to set up new accommodations and learn how to notify faculty. Accommodations are not retroactive, so it is best to register with ODS early each semester to access your accommodations. If you are registered with ODS, **please see me to schedule a meeting outside of class in which you can bring me your faculty notification letter and we can discuss your accommodations for**

this course. Students are not eligible to use their accommodations in this course until they have met with me. ODS is located in Milbank Hall, Room 008.

IX. Student Wellness

It is important for undergraduates to recognize and identify the different pressures, burdens, and stressors you may be facing, whether personal, emotional, physical, financial, mental, or academic. We as a community urge you to make yourself--your own health, sanity, and wellness--your priority throughout this term and your career here. Sleep, exercise, and eating well can all be a part of a healthy regimen to cope with stress. Resources exist to support you in several sectors of your life, and we encourage you to make use of them. Should you have any questions about navigating these resources, please visit these sites:

- <http://barnard.edu/primarycare>
- <http://barnard.edu/counseling>
- <http://barnard.edu/wellwoman/about>
- [Stressbusters Support Network](#)

X. Barnard Honor Code

All assignments in this class are to be completed in accordance with the Barnard Honor Code, with expectations outlined in the following paragraph. Any student who violates the Honor Code will face dean's discipline at her or his home college, and will earn a failing grade in the course.

Approved by the student body in 1912 and updated in 2016, the Code states:

We, the students of Barnard College, resolve to uphold the honor of the College by engaging with integrity in all of our academic pursuits. We affirm that academic integrity is the honorable creation and presentation of our own work. We acknowledge that it is our responsibility to seek clarification of proper forms of collaboration and use of academic resources in all assignments or exams. We consider academic integrity to include the proper use and care for all print, electronic, or other academic resources. We will respect the rights of others to engage in pursuit of learning in order to uphold our commitment to honor. We pledge to do all that is in our power to create a spirit of honesty and honor for its own sake.

This syllabus is a general plan for the course; changes may occur.

SCHEDULE

We will follow this as closely as possible.

Week 1: Introduction to the Course + Levels of Analysis

T (1/16): no reading

R (1/18): GP (Chapter 1, pages 2-19)

***Charles King. "The Decline of International Studies." In *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 94, Issue 4, 88-98.

***Stephen M. Walt, "One World, Many Theories," *Foreign Policy* 110 (Spring 1998): 29-46.

Week 2: Actors, Principals, WWI, and WWII

T(1/23): GP (Chapter 1, pages 19-24)

***Byman, Daniel L., and Kenneth M. Pollack. "Let us now praise great men: Bringing the statesman back in." *International Security* 25.4 (2001): 107-146.

R (1/25): ***John Lukacs. 1989. "The Coming of the Second World War." *Foreign Affairs* 68 (4): 165-174.

*** Perlmutter, Oscar William. "Acheson and the Diplomacy of World War II." *The Western Political Quarterly* 14, no. 4 (1961): 896-911.

Week 3: The Cold War and Realism

T (1/30): GP (Parts of Chapters 1 and 2, pages 24-42)

***Hans J. Morgenthau. "Six Principles of Realism." From *Politics Among Nations*.

***John J. Mearsheimer, "Power and Fear in Great Power Politics," in G.O. Mazur, ed., *One Hundred Year Commemoration to the Life of Hans Morgenthau (1904-2004)* (New York: Semenenko Foundation, 2004), pp. 184-196, available at: <http://johnmearsheimer.uchicago.edu/pdfs/A0033x2.pdf>

***Larry Rohter, "Word for Word: Kissinger on Pinochet," *New York Times*, Dec. 28, 2003.

R (2/1): GP (Chapter 2, pages 43-66)

***Thucydides, "The Melian Dialogue" in *The Peloponnesian War*, Book 5 Chapters 84-116.

***Thomas Hobbes, "Chapter XIII," in *Leviathan*. Ed. Richard Tuck. Cambridge UP.

Week 4: Realism Continued; Liberal and Social Theories Part 1

T (2/6): GP (Chapter 3, pages 71-87)

***Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace*. Sections I and II (pages 3-23). The Library of Liberal Arts, 1957.

R (2/8): ***Maysam Behravesh, "Constructivism: An Introduction," *E-IR*. February 2011.

***Alexander Wendt. "Anarchy is what States Make of it: The Social Construction of Power Politics." In *International Organization*, Vol. 46, No. 2 (Spring, 1992), pp. 391-425.

Week 5: Liberal and Social Theories Part 2

T (2/13): GP (Chapter 3, pages 87-92)

***Podcast—“Lenin’s Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism – A New Talking Empire Podcast”: <https://imperialglobalexeter.com/2016/10/04/lenins-imperialism-the-highest-stage-of-capitalism-a-new-talking-empire-podcast/>

***Fukuyama, Francis. “The End of History?” *The National Interest*, no. 16, 1989, pp. 3–18. *JSTOR*, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/24027184.

R (2/15): GP (Chapter 3, pages 92-101)

***Cynthia Enloe. “Gender Makes the World Go Round” and “Conclusion: The Personal is International,” in *Bananas, Beaches, and Bases*. Los Angeles: U California Press, 2014.

***Foucault, Michel. “Part Five: Right of Death and Power Over Life,” in *The History of Sexuality*. New York: Random House, 135-159.

Week 6: Critical Theory, International Conflict and Causes of War

T (2/20): GP (Chapter 5, pages 129-141—stop at “Religious Conflict”)

***Ashley, Richard K. “The geopolitics of geopolitical space: toward a critical social theory of international politics.” *Alternatives* 12.4 (1987): 403-434.

R (2/22): GP (Chapter 5, pages 150-158)

***Listen to “Bruce Hoffman on the Islamic State” podcast (*Security Studies Podcast*), available at: <https://soundcloud.com/security-studies-podcast/e1-bruce-hoffman>

Week 7: International Organizations Part I (Theories, the UN, and Responses to Terrorism)

T (2/27): GP (Chapter 7, pages 198-216)

***Hurd, Ian. “Legitimacy and authority in international politics.” *International organization* 53.2 (1999): 379-408.

R (3/1): GP (Chapter 6, pages 173-192)

***Barak Mendelsohn, “ISIS’ Gruesome Gamble,” *Foreign Affairs*, August 2014.

***Leah Farrall, “How Al Qaeda Works: What the Organization’s Subsidiaries Say about Its Strength,” *Foreign Affairs* 90, no. 2 (March/April 2011): 128-38.

Week 8: MIDTERM REVIEW AND EXAM

T (3/6): In-Class Midterm Review

R (3/8): In-Class Midterm Exam

SPRING BREAK 3/10-3/18

Week 9: International Organizations Part II (The European Union and International Law)

T (3/20): GP (Chapter 10, pages 303-318)

***Alasdair R. Young, "The U.K. is in Brexit trouble. It can't decide whether to be closer to the E.U. or to the U.S.," on *Monkey Cage, The Washington Post*, 7 December 2017.

***Chase Foster and Jeff Frieden, "Europeans have lost faith in their governments and institutions. Why? We did the research," on *Monkey Cage, The Washington Post*, 22 September 2017.

R (3/22): GP (Chapter 7, pages 216-225)

**Hugo Grotius, Book III, Chapter 3: "On Just or Solemn War According to the Law of Nations on Declarations of War," in *On the Laws of War and Peace*. Liberty Fund, 2005. Pages 1246-1269.

Week 10: International Organizations Part III, Foreign Policy

T (3/27): GP (Chapter 7, pages 225-235)

*** Scott Straus. 2005. "Darfur and the Genocide Debate." *Foreign Affairs* 84(1).

R (3/29): GP (Chapter 4, 107-124)

***William Howell and Jon Pevehouse, "When Congress Stops Wars," *Foreign Affairs*, October 2007.

Week 11: The UNSC's Impact (or lack thereof) and Introduction to International Trade

T (4/3): ***Mearsheimer, John J. "The false promise of international institutions."

International security 19.3 (1994): 5-49.

***Bell, Christine, and Catherine O'Rourke. "Peace agreements or pieces of paper? The impact of UNSC Resolution 1325 on peace processes and their agreements." *International & Comparative Law Quarterly* 59.4 (2010): 941-980.

R (4/5): GP (Chapter 8, pages 240-267)

*** "WTO's Neoliberalism." *Dawn*. October 2005.

***Franklin Foer, "Soccer Vs. McWorld." *Foreign Policy*. October 2009.

Week 12: International Trade Institutions, International Finance, and Development

T (4/10): GP (Chapter 9, pages 272-296)

***Hopewell, Kristen. "Different paths to power: The rise of Brazil, India and China at the World Trade Organization." *Review of International Political Economy* 22.2 (2015): 311-338.

R (4/12): GP (Chapter 11, pages 330-356)

***Listen to The Guardian podcast: "Global Development podcast: gender equality."

Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/audio/2011/sep/26/global-development-podcast-gender-equality>

***Daniel Drezner, "Bottom Feeders" in *Foreign Policy* November/December 2000. 64-70.

Week 13: Development continued....and a New World Order?

T (4/17): GP (Chapter 12, pages 362-388)

Watch: "Yindabad" Available via Kanopy at: <https://barnard.kanopystreaming.com/video/yindabad>

R (4/19): ***Gideon Rose, "Introduction." *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2017.

***Richard Haass, "World Order 2.0: The Case for Sovereign Obligation." *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2017.

***Joseph S. Nye Jr. "Will the Liberal Order Survive? The History of an Idea" *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2017.

***Michael Mazarr, "The Once And Future Order: What Comes After Hegemony?" *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2017.

***Evan A. Feigenbaum, "China and the World." *Foreign Affairs*. January/February 2017.

Week 14: Nuclear Proliferation and other Hot Topics

T (4/24): ***Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Available at: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt/text>

***Scott D. Sagan, "The Perils of Proliferation: Organization Theory, Deterrence Theory, and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons," *International Security* 18, no. 4 (Spring 1994): 66-107.

***Nina Tannenwald, "The UN just passed a treaty outlawing nuclear weapons. That actually matters." *Monkey Cage* in *The Washington Post*. 17 July 2017. Available at: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/07/17/the-u-n-just-passed-a-treaty-outlawing-nuclear-weapons-that-actually-matters/?utm_term=.f6e636c2ce18

R (4/26): TBA

Final exam questions distributed after lecture on 4/26. Due by 5PM on exam day scheduled by registrar.