

# INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

INTL 3200

FALL 2014

**Instructor: Kayce Mobley**

**Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:20-11:20 am and by appointment, Candler B03**

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<http://intro2ir.wordpress.com/>

*“All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players...”  
-Shakespeare, As You Like It*

*“History does not repeat itself, but it sometimes rhymes.”  
-Attributed to Mark Twain*

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

“International Relations,” or simply “IR,” is essentially the study of states’ interactions, including the fighting of wars, the conduct of trade, the signing of treaties, etc. In order to analyze these issues systematically, IR scholars develop and test theories.

As an introduction to this field of social science, this course has two primary objectives. First, it will familiarize you with the major theories of international relations and foreign policy and, in doing so, will serve as a baseline for all your future classes in the field.

Second, by the end of this course, you will be able to apply those theories and approaches to historical and contemporary issues, including the trials of ancient Greece, the struggles of modern states in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the current simmering tension between the US and China.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES

### Evaluation

15%	Attendance & Participation	Attendance and engagement in daily discussion and activities.
15%	Reading Quizzes	Short reading quizzes and assignments. Lowest grade will be dropped.
25%	Midterm	Midterm on Tuesday, September 30.
20%	Primary Source Paper	Due on Friday, October 31 by 5 PM. Further instructions will be given in class.
25%	Final Exam	Cumulative final exam on Tuesday, December 16.

### Required Texts

- Goldstein, Joshua S. and Jon C. Pevehouse. 2013-2014. International Relations, 2013-2014 Update, 10th Edition. New York: Pearson.
  - Available via the UGA bookstore.
  - Available via online retailers such as [Amazon](#).
- Feldman, Noah. 2013. Cool War: The Future of Global Competition. New York: Random House.
  - Available via online retailers such as [Amazon](#).
- Other readings will be available online via the course website or the UGA library website.

## COURSE POLICIES

### Absences, Tardiness, and Late Work

Attendance and participation make up 15% of your grade. You are allowed **2 unexcused and unpenalized absences** for the duration of this course. In addition, I grant excused absences for university-sanctioned events (conference, athletic event, etc.), documented medical excuses (you must have a note from a doctor or the health center), or proof of the death of a direct relative. **Hard copies of these excuses must be submitted within two days of your return to class.** Unexcused absences beyond the 2 freebies will automatically deduct points off your attendance and participation grade.

Do not make a habit of coming to class late or leaving class early. This behavior is rude to your fellow students and to your instructor. Missing more than 10 minutes of any class will cause that day to be counted as an absence. If you arrive to class less than 10 minutes late, you must ask the instructor to note your attendance after class.

You may **not** make up quizzes if you are absent. If your absence is unexcused, you will receive a 0 for that quiz. (Even if you miss a quiz due to one of your 2 allotted “freebie” unexcused absences, you will receive a 0 for the missed quiz.) If your absence is excused, that grade will simply not factor into your quiz score.

Missing a test requires advanced notice (at least 48 hours). Unless you are violently ill and can document this illness, you should be present for the test. Make-up exams will not be scheduled for unexcused absences (including family trips, weddings, etc.).

Points will be deducted from late assignments. This policy includes assignments that are to be submitted electronically as well as those submitted in hard copy. Knowing whether or not an assignment has been submitted is the responsibility of the student; the instructor will not contact you regarding missing or late assignments. No assignments will be accepted for grading after the instructor’s calculation and submission of final course grades.

## **Participation**

If you attend every class, but never say a word, you can expect to earn a poor participation grade. Participation entails **thoughtfully** asking questions, answering questions, providing feedback to classmates’ questions, etc.

## **Classroom Etiquette**

Turn your cell phone off or on silent when in class, and do not use it during class. If you use a laptop, use it for taking notes or viewing class material, not surfing YouTube or Facebook, however great the temptation might be. Distracting other students or your instructor with your use of technology during class is rude.

One purpose of this course is to evaluate every side of each issue, a goal achieved through civil, informed debate and discussion. We will discuss relatively controversial subjects throughout the course. Despite trespassing on some “hot button topics,” you must remain respectful of your classmates’ thoughts and opinions.

## **Academic Honesty**

When you matriculated to the University of Georgia, you signed and agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. Your work must meet all requirements outlined in those documents, which can be found at [www.uga.edu/honesty](http://www.uga.edu/honesty). If you were unaware of breaking the honor code, I will still hold you accountable for the violation. If you have any questions or concerns about the academic honesty policy, please direct them to the instructor.

## **Disability Resource Center**

If you have a documented disability and need special accommodation, inform your instructor during the first week of the semester. We will work with the Disability Resource Center to accommodate your needs.

## **Communicating with the Instructor**

The best way to contact your instructor is via email at [kaycemoble@gmail.com](mailto:kaycemoble@gmail.com) or [kayce@uga.edu](mailto:kayce@uga.edu) (though the UGA address will simply forward to the gmail account). In addition, I will hold office hours from 9:20-11:20am on Tuesdays in Candler B03. Feel free to stop by with any questions or concerns you have. If that time does not work for you, we can schedule an appointment for another time.

## **The Fine Print**

This syllabus is a general plan; some deviations will occur. As such, attending class, checking your UGA email, and keeping updated via the class website are all crucial.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

\*For the most current schedule of readings, visit the course website, <http://intro2ir.wordpress.com/>.

### I. FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### A. Introduction

*Tuesday, August 19: Course Introduction*

*Thursday, August 21: Introduction to IR, Theory, and Levels of Analysis*

Required:

- Read the course syllabus in full.
- [Baker, Peter. 2014. "As World Boils, Fingers Point Obama's Way." \*The New York Times\*. August 15.](#)

#### B. Setting the Stage

*Tuesday, August 26: Actors: The Background and Characteristics of States*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 1: The Globalization of International Relations." 1-40.

*Thursday, August 28: No Class*

*Tuesday, September 2: Actors: Filling Out the Cast of Characters*

Required:

- [2013. "Planet Money Makes a T--Shirt." NPR.](#)
  - This is a series of short videos and text. When the videos are done, the text should automatically be brought to the front, otherwise, scroll down.
- [Yardley, Jim. 2013. "Garment Trade Wields Power in Bangladesh." \*The New York Times\*. July 24.](#)
- [Bajaj, Vikas. 2010. "Garment Factories, Changing Women's Roles in Poor Countries." \*The New York Times\*. July 21.](#)

*Thursday, September 4: The Stage: Anarchy, Sovereignty, and Collective Action*

Required:

- [Hobbes, Thomas. 1651. "Chapter 13: Of the Natural Condition of Mankind as Concerning Their Felicity and Misery." \*Leviathan\*.](#)
- [Schiffman, Richard. 2014. "Are the Oceans Failed States?" \*Foreign Policy\*. July 8.](#)

### **C. Consequences of Anarchy and the Goals of States**

*Tuesday, September 9: Realism*

Required:

- [Thucydides. "The Melian Dialogue." \*History of the Peloponnesian War\*. 5.84-116.](#)
- G&P. "Chapter 2: Realist Theories." 42-63.

*Thursday, September 11: Realism (continued)*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 2: Realist Theories." 63-82.
- Feldman. "Introduction." xi-xiv.
- Feldman. "Chapter Two: Doomed to Conflict." 16-34.

*Tuesday, September 16: Liberalism*

Required:

- [Kant, Immanuel. 1795. "Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch."](#)

*Thursday, September 18: Liberalism (continued)*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 3: Liberal and Social Theories." 84-96.
- Feldman. "Chapter One: Bound Together." 3-15.
- [Roasa, Dustin. 2012. China's Soft Power Surge. \*Foreign Policy\*. November 18.](#)

*Tuesday, September 23: Critical Theory: Constructivism*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 3: Liberal and Social Theories." 96-124.
- Feldman. "Chapter Three: A One-Sided War of Ideas." 35-47.
- Feldman. "Conclusion to Part One: The Contradiction of Cool War." 48-51.

*Thursday, September 25: Other Critical Theories: Feminism and Marxism*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 12: The North-South Gap." 424-458.

***Tuesday, September 30: Midterm***

## D. Shifting Perspectives: Decision Making and Foreign Policy

*Thursday, October 2: Rationality and Game Theory*

Required:

- Listen: [Dubner, Stephen J. 2013. "Jane Austen, Game Theorist." \*Freakonomics Radio\*. July 4.](#)
- [Singh, Michael. 2012. Is the Iranian Regime Rational? \*Foreign Policy\*. February 23.](#)
- [Lombrozo, Tania. 2013. "The 'Prisoner's Dilemma' Tests Women In And Out Of Jail." \*Cosmos and Culture. NPR\*. July 29.](#)

*Tuesday, October 7: Critiques of Rational Choice: Individuals*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 4: Foreign Policy." 126-150.
- Feldman. "Chapter Four: A Glimpse Into the New China." 55-70.

*Thursday, October 9: Critiques of Rational Choice: Groups*

Required:

- Feldman. "Chapter Five: China's Permeable Elite." 71-85.
- Feldman. "Chapter Six: Legitimacy Without Democracy." 86-96.
- Feldman. "Conclusion to Part II: Governance and Conflict." 97-98.

*Tuesday, October 14: Paper Workshop*

Required:

- **Bring 3 copies of your full rough draft to class. This task will count as 2 quiz grades.**

## II. TESTING THE THEORIES: CONFLICT

*Thursday, October 16: Choosing War*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 5: International Conflict." 152-190.
- [2004. "21 Rationales for War." \*Foreign Policy\*. September 1.](#)
- [Groll, Elias. 2013. The Spaghettification of US Foreign Policy. \*Foreign Policy\*. September 9.](#)

*Tuesday, October 21: Carrying Out War*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 6: Military Force and Terrorism." 192-230.
- Feldman. "Chapter Seven: The Race for Allies." 101-116.

*Thursday, October 23: Ethics of Choosing War*

Required:

- [Thucydides. "The Mytilenian Debate." \*History of the Peloponnesian War\*. 3.35-28 & 35-50.](#)

*Tuesday, October 28: Traditional (State) Effects of Conflict*

Required:

- [Walt, Stephen. 2013. "How Long Will China Tolerate America's Role in Asia?" \*Foreign Policy\*. December 2.](#)
- [Byman, Daniel. 2014. "An Eye for a Tooth: Israel's Problem with Deterrence." \*Foreign Policy\*. July 24.](#)
- Betts, Richard K. 1994. "The Delusion of Impartial Intervention." *Foreign Affairs* 73(6): 20-33.

*Thursday, October 30: Non-Traditional (Human) Effects of War*

Required:

- Listen: [Ashbrook, Tom. 2013. "The Once and Future Iliad." \*NPR On Point\*. May 6.](#)
- Lake, Anthony and Roger Morris. 1971. "The Human Reality of Realpolitik." *Foreign Policy* 4 (Autumn): 157-162.
- [Zabriskie, Phil. 2012. "You Can't Go Home Again." \*Foreign Policy\*. November 12.](#)

**Friday, October 31: Final Draft of Primary Source Paper Due by 5 PM.**

- **Hard copy required. Drop in box outside of Candler B03 by 5 PM.**
- **Digital copy also required. E-mail to [kayce@uga.edu](mailto:kayce@uga.edu) by 5 PM.**

### **III. TESTING THE THEORIES: COOPERATION**

*Tuesday, November 4: The Democratic Peace*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 10: International Integration." 354-384.
- Feldman. "Chapter Eight: Managing War, Building Peace." 117-130.

*Thursday, November 6: International Trade*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 8: International Trade." 282-318.

*Tuesday, November 11: Global Finance and Business*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 9: Global Finance and Business." 320-352.
- Feldman. "Chapter Nine: Corporate Cool War." 131-146.



*Thursday, November 13: International Organization and Law*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 7: International Organization, Law, and Human Rights." 232-264.

#### **IV. TRANSNATIONAL ISSUES: BLURRING THE LINES OF SOVEREIGNTY, CONFLICT, AND COOPERATION**

*Tuesday, November 18: Human Rights*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 7: International Organization, Law, and Human Rights." 264-281.
- Feldman. "Chapter Ten: The Future of Human Rights." 147-161.

*Thursday, November 20: Environment and Population*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 11: Environment and Population." 386-422.

*Tuesday, November 25: No Class (Thanksgiving Break)*

*Thursday, November 27: No Class (Thanksgiving Break)*

*Tuesday, December 2: Development*

Required:

- G&P. "Chapter 13: International Development." 460-496.

*Thursday, December 4: Conclusion*

Required:

- G&P. "Postscript." 498-500.
- Feldman. "Conclusion: How Will It End?" 162-166.

**Tuesday, December 16: Final Exam, 8:00-11:00 AM**