

Political Science 160  
**Introduction to World Politics**  
Fall 2018

Professor James Morrow  
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Course website: [umich.instructure.com](http://umich.instructure.com)

Lecture: MWF 10:00-10:50  
Angell A Auditorium

Office Hours: M 2:00-4:00 and by Appointment

Administrative Assistant

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Graduate Student Instructors

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**The Content of the Course**

This course provides an introduction to the analysis of world politics. It focuses on theories used to explain international and domestic politics central to world politics in its full generality. The evidence for such theories lies in patterns of behavior over time, although extensive examples and cases will be presented both to illuminate the concepts of the theories and to help the student see how theories try to explain individual events.

The course begins with an introduction to world politics. Six principles focus our attention on the key things we need to know to understand why events happen in world politics. The first part of the course introduces the subject. The second part uses these principles to explain why war occurs, how states prepare for the possibility of war, and the consequences of war afterwards. The third part of the course addresses issues in international political economy. The final part of the course covers the environment, human rights, and why the state system dominates world politics.

**Course Objectives**

This course has the following objectives:

- To explain the strategic logics of world politics so the student can understand why events occur.
- To develop the ability to use the concepts and arguments presented in the course to analyze current issues in world politics in paper assignments and discussion in section.
- To improve the student's ability to write effective short pieces through paper assignments and essay exams.

## **Administrative Guidelines**

Students are expected to attend all of the lectures and all of the meetings of their discussion section. The lectures will present material beyond that presented in the readings. Students are also expected to submit their papers by the due dates and take the examinations at the scheduled times. **Late papers will suffer a reduction of at least one grade.** Alternate times for the midterm and final examinations are possible only for students who can demonstrate that taking the exam at the scheduled time would impose a serious hardship on them; Professor Morrow is the final arbiter of what constitutes a serious hardship. Students who cannot take examinations at the scheduled times for medical reasons must produce a valid medical excuse from a doctor. Students who will be out of town on the day of an exam on university business must provide documentation in advance of the need to travel that day.

There may be instances when students must miss class due to their commitment to officially represent the University. These students may be involved in the performing arts, scientific or artistic endeavors, or intercollegiate athletics. Absence from classes while representing the University does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course missed during the period of absence. Students should provide reasonable notice for dates of anticipated absences and submit an individualized class excuse form.

Although the University of Michigan, as an institution, does not observe religious holidays, it has long been the University's policy that every reasonable effort should be made to help students avoid negative academic consequences when their religious obligations conflict with academic requirements. Absence from classes or examinations for religious reasons does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance shall be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities.

It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent. Such notice must be given by the drop/add deadline of the given term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments shall be offered an opportunity to make up the work, without penalty, unless it can be demonstrated that a make-up opportunity would interfere unreasonably with the delivery of the course. Should disagreement arise over any aspect of this policy, the parties involved should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies of the Department of Political Science. Final appeals will be resolved by the Provost.

If a student has **four** final exams scheduled for the same day, he or she may petition the University Final Examination Committee for an accommodation, provided he or she does it at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the exam period.

All administrative matters will be handled by Ms. Corina Simonelli, the administrative assistant. These matters include drop/adds, make-up exams, and the second step of the grade appeal process. Ms. Simonelli encourages email contact and tries to respond within 24 hours. Please include "160" in the title of an email to her. Only if an issue cannot be resolved with Ms. Simonelli should it be brought to Professor Morrow.

There is a strict limit of 20 students in each discussion section. Ms. Simonelli will be available immediately after the first three lecture classes to address administrative issues.

## Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you think you need an accommodation for a disability, please let Ms. Simonelli or me know at least two weeks prior to the time when the accommodation will be needed. Some aspects of this course, the assignments, the in-class activities, and the way the course is usually taught may be modified to facilitate your participation and progress. As soon as you make me aware of your needs, we can work with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) to help us determine appropriate academic accommodations. SSD (734-763-3000; <http://www.umich.edu/sswd>) typically recommends accommodations through a Verified Individualized Services and Accommodations (VISA) form. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such. Those students who have been approved by the SSD Office for special considerations in taking examinations should bring the VISA form to Ms. Simonelli or me as soon as possible so we can make arrangements to accommodate your needs.

## Course Requirements and Grading

Students will write two in-class examinations and two 1000-word papers for this class. Additionally, each discussion leader will grade his or her students on the basis of other activities in section. The assignments will have the following weights in the calculation of final grades for the course:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Date</u>
First Paper	20%	October 5
Midterm Examination	15%	October 22
Second Paper	20%	November 21
Final Examination	25%	December 14
Section Assignments	15%	Various Times
Multiple Choice Questions	5%	Various Times

The GSIs and the professor will meet weekly to insure consistency of grading across the sections.

We collect bluebooks in advance of the examinations and redistribute them the day of the exams. You will need to provide three bluebooks for the two exams, and we will announce when we will begin collecting them.

In addition to the papers, exams, and section activities, there are multiple choice questions at the Canvas site that you should answer after completing the reading and before lecture. They are designed to help you assess how well you understood the reading and can use the material to apply to a case. They are graded only on completion, not on whether your answer are correct or not. Each completed set of question is worth 1/4% of your final grade, so you need to complete 20 of them to receive full credit for this activity.

Any appeal concerning the grading of an assignment must be made in writing and submitted first to the leader of your discussion section. In the event that the disagreement cannot be resolved, you may appeal to the administrative assistant to have your assignment regraded by another reader. If you are not satisfied with the regrading, you may submit your written appeal to Professor Morrow. No appeal can be submitted until 24 hours after you have received the

graded work back; no appeal can be filed more than 10 days after you have received the graded work back. The appeal must explain in writing why the grade you received was in error and what the correct grade should be; also submit a clean copy of the paper with the appeal.

If you believe the primary instructor's response fails to address your claim of unfairness or error, you may petition the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies of the Department of Political Science at the latest within the first five weeks of classes following the completion of the course. You must convey in writing the basis for the complaint, with specific evidence in support of the argument that the grade either was given in error. This formal complaint also should summarize the outcome of the initial inquiry to the course instructor, indicating which aspects are in dispute. Within three weeks of the receipt of the petition, the DUS will determine whether to convene the Undergraduate Affairs Committee, the student, and the instructor(s) for a formal hearing. Further details on this process are included on the department website under Advising > Contesting a Grade.

### **Intellectual Honesty**

The LSA undergraduate academic community, like all communities, functions best when its members treat one another with honesty, fairness, respect, and trust. The College holds all members of its community to high standards of scholarship and integrity. To accomplish its mission of providing an optimal educational environment and developing leaders of society, the College promotes the assumption of personal responsibility and integrity and prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty and misconduct. Academic dishonesty may be understood as any action or attempted action that may result in creating an unfair academic advantage for oneself or an unfair academic advantage or disadvantage for any other member or members of the academic community. Conduct, without regard to motive, that violates the academic integrity and ethical standards of the College community cannot be tolerated. The College seeks vigorously to achieve compliance with its community standards of academic integrity. Violations of the standards will not be tolerated and will result in serious consequences and disciplinary action.

This course has two important issues of intellectual honesty. First, the examinations are closed book; you are not allowed to use any notes or books when writing them. You should bring several pens to the examinations in case one fails. You may write the examinations in pencil, but you forfeit your right to contest your grade if you do.

Second, you must use quotation marks and provide proper citations when you use the exact words of another author. You also need to cite an author whose argument you summarize or paraphrase in your papers. Your papers must provide citations and a list of references for the sources of facts you use in them. Your GSI will explain his or her preferred form of citation before the papers are due. Appropriate sources for papers will be discussed in class.

### **Student Mental Health and Well-being**

University of Michigan is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, contact Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at (734) 764-8312 and <https://caps.umich.edu/> during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or through its counselors physically located in schools on both North and Central Campus. You may also consult University Health Service (UHS) at (734) 764-8320 and

<https://www.uhs.umich.edu/mentalhealthsvcs>, or for alcohol or drug concerns, see [www.uhs.umich.edu/aodresources](http://www.uhs.umich.edu/aodresources). For a listing of other mental health resources available on and off campus, visit: <http://umich.edu/~mhealth/>.

## **Required Reading**

This course uses a draft textbook which I am writing. Paperbound copies of it will be available for purchase at the local bookstores. I will also place several copies on reserve in the library. The text contains only figures I have produced for reasons of copyright. I provide supporting graphics for the text through the Canvas site for the course.

I will also provide electronic versions of three chapters that review the last 500 years of world history that you will need to read for background during the first month of the course. I will make these chapters available online through the Canvas site.

GSI's may also require additional readings as part of their section activities.

The course website is available through your personal page in UM Canvas. This page contains outlines and presentations corresponding to the chapters of the text. I will also make presentation materials for each class lecture available in advance of class. The Canvas site also provides links to additional web sources that you may find useful for the course.

## **Outline of Lecture Topics and Required Readings**

### I. Introduction

September 5: Introductory Meeting

September 7: Six Principles for Understanding World Politics

Chapter 1, Six Principles of World Politics and Chapter 2, What is World Politics?

September 10: The Logic of Threats and Promises

Chapter 5, The Logic of Threats and the Problem of Credibility and Chapter 6, The Logic of Promises and the Problem of Commitment

September 12: Making Threats and Promises Effective

Chapter 3, Actors in World Politics and Chapter 4, Preferences

### **First Paper Assignment out**

September 14: Current Event: The Logic of Threats

### II. Conflict and Security

September 17: Interstate War and Crisis Bargaining

Chapter 10, War and the Problem of Bargaining

September 19: Perceptions

Chapter 8, Perceptions and How They Matter in Decisions

September 21: Changing Perceptions  
Chapter 9, Persuasion and How Perceptions Change

September 24: Current Event: Perceptions

September 26: Commitment Problems and War  
Chapter 11, Commitment Problems and War

September 28: Security Policy: Arms, Alliances, and Rivalries  
Chapter 13, Arms and Alliances: The Elements of Security Policy

**By September 30: Read three online history chapters and take online quiz on them.**

October 1: Security Policy: The Long Run  
Chapter 14, Structural Theories of War: Balance of Power and Power Transition

October 3: Security Policy: The Mobilization of Military Power  
Chapter 7, Military Power: Its Sources and Limits

October 5: Current Event: Security Policy

**The First Paper is due at the beginning of lecture on October 5.**

October 8: The Domestic Politics of War  
Chapter 15, The Fate of Leaders

October 10: External Changes in Leaders and Regimes  
Chapter 16, The Enemy Outside

October 12: Current Event: Domestic Politics and War

October 15: **No Class**; Fall study break

October 17: The Democratic Peace  
Chapter 17, The Democratic Peace

October 19: Diplomacy: Economic Sanctions, Foreign Aid, and the Termination of Rivalries  
Chapter 18, Diplomacy: Foreign Aid, Economic Sanctions, and the Termination of Rivalries

October 22: **Midterm Examination in Class**

October 24: Diplomacy: How States Make Foreign Policy  
Chapter 12, Bureaucratic Politics

October 26: The Problem of Civil War  
Chapter 19, The Problem of Civil War

October 29: Terrorism  
Chapter 20, Terrorism

October 31: Current Event: Civil Conflict

**Second Paper Assignment out**

III. International Political Economy

November 2: The Problems of International Cooperation: Enforcement  
Chapter 21, International Cooperation and the Problem of Enforcement

November 5: The Problems of International Cooperation: Distribution and Information  
Chapter 22, The Problems of Cooperation: Distribution and Information

November 7: Review of Basics of Economics

November 9: **No Class**

November 12: Economic Development  
Chapter 23, Economic Development

November 14: The Politics of International Trade  
Chapter 24, The Politics of Trade

November 16: Current Event: Trade and Institutions

November 19: Monetary Affairs  
Chapter 25, The Politics of Monetary Affairs

November 21: The Politics of International Finance  
Chapter 26, Globalization

**The Second Paper is due at the beginning of lecture on November 21.**

November 23: **No Class**; Thanksgiving break

November 26: Current Event: Finance

IV. Transnational Challenges

November 28: The Environment and International Cooperation  
Chapter 27, Cooperation on International Environmental Issues

November 30: International Law  
Chapter 28, International Law and Norms

December 3: Human Rights

December 5: Why a System of Sovereign States?  
Chapter 29, Sovereignty

December 7: Current Event: International Law and Sovereignty

December 10: Wrap Up  
Chapter 30, Conclusion

**The Final Examination is Friday, December 14 from 4:00 PM-6:00 PM.**