

PSCI 3328
International Relations
FALL 2019

Instructor: Vito D’Orazio

Time and Location: T, Th 2:30-3:45am, GR 2.530

Contact: dorazio@utdallas.edu 972-883-6212

Office Hours: Wednesday 10:00am–12:00pm, GR 3.108D

Teaching Assistant: Min Shi

Contact: Min.Shi@UTDallas.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00-11:00am, GR 3.318

Course Goals and Overview

This is the introductory political science course on international relations. This course has three major goals: (1) to learn what it means to study international relations (and political science more generally) *scientifically*; (2) to understand general theories for international behavior and apply those theories to real-world events; (3) to develop and expand your knowledge base on important topics in international relations, including civil and international conflict, international economics and development, and human rights and the global environment.

These three learning objectives will be assessed through the course’s homework assignments and quizzes. Each of these are writing assignments, and the goal for each student is to demonstrate an analysis and synthesis of course materials.

Course Requirements

You are required to complete one reading assignment before every class, with some exceptions such as the day of the international trade game. There will be eleven graded homework assignments, two vocab quizzes, and two in-class essays.

Final Grade Composition

Eleven Homeworks	30% (3% each, 1 bonus)
Vocab Quizzes	20%
Essay Quizzes	40%
Attendance & Participation	10%

Attendance and participation (10%)

These are the easiest points you can get. Show up, be attentive, and participate to get full credit.

Short homework assignments (30%)

There will be eleven short homework assignments to be submitted through eLearning by midnight **the day before class**. For each assignment (unless otherwise noted): summarize the reading (3-5 sentences), raise two thoughtful questions, and discuss your reaction to the reading (1-2 paragraphs). For example, by midnight of August 21, read *FLS Introduction and Chapter One*, complete the assignment, and submit through eLearning.

Note that there are eleven homework assignments, but that you cannot receive more than 30 points toward your final grade. Thus, if you complete all eleven assignments and your scores sum to 31, 32, or 33, you still only receive 30 points toward your final grade.

Two Vocab Quizzes (10% each)

There will be two vocabulary quizzes, at the end of the 1st and 3rd sections of the course. These quizzes are intended to familiarize you with course terminology, which I expect to see incorporated into your essays.

Two Essay Quizzes (20% each)

Each quiz is an open book exam. You will be provided with two essay questions, will pick one, and write a *one page* essay on it. Essays should include in-text citations from course readings. If you cite readings that are not required, include their citation in a reference list at the end of your essay. The reference list will not count towards your one page limit. A perfect essay has a clearly stated thesis that is supported with facts and examples using the vocabulary of the class. It demonstrates both analysis and synthesis of course materials. The structure and organization make sense, and include an introduction, conclusion (which may be very short), a thesis, and topic sentences. The writing is clear, precise, and deliberate—grammar and spelling do not need to be perfect, but the writing must be get the point across in an understandable way. The vocabulary that we use in class is incorporated into the arguments. All parts of the question are answered. Finally, to get above a 90, the answer must be creative. Hypotheticals, counterfactuals, and new applications are some ways to be creative in a response.

Grade Scale

A+	≥ 97%	B	= 83-86%	C-	70-72%
A	= 93-96%	B-	= 80-82%	D	65-69%
A-	= 90-92%	C+	= 77-79%	F	≤ 64%
B+	= 87-89%	C	= 73-76%		

See <http://catalog.utdallas.edu/now/undergraduate/policies/academic> for additional information about university grading policies.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

Required Texts

- Frieden, J. A., Lake, D. A., and Shultz, K. A. (2018). *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. Norton, 4th edition
 - Available at UTD bookstores
 - You may buy or rent an electronic copy at nortonebooks.com
- Uriarte, M. (2016). *The White Donkey: Terminal Lance*. Little, Brown and Company
 - Available at UTD bookstores, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other retailers
- Additional readings are available through the library and will be made available online. Students are not required to print materials.

Course Outline

Part I – The International System

Day 1: Introductions and Syllabus **August 20**

- FLS: Introduction

Day 2: International Relations Foundations **August 22**

- FLS: Chapter One: What Shaped Our World? A Historical Introduction
- Homework 1

Day 3: Power Transition Theory and China **August 27**

- Schweller, R. (2018). Opposite but compatible nationalisms: A neoclassical realist approach to the future of us–china relations. *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, 11(1):23–48

Day 4: Grand Theory and Territorial Expansion in China **August 29**

- Taylor Fravel, M. (2010). International relations theory and china's rise: Assessing china's potential for territorial expansion. *International Studies Review*, 12(4):505–532
- Homework 2

Day 5: Grand Theory and Foreign Policy **September 3**

- 2016 Democratic and Republican Party Platform
- Homework 3: The Party Platform Assignment

Compare and contrast the Democratic and Republican position on the foreign policy topic assigned to you (I will assign these in class). What are the similarities and differences? Who are the relevant actors and what are their interests? Are institutions important for your policy? Consider whether the foreign policy position of each party is Realist, Liberal, or Constructivist. Please submit these as your homework assignment, and be prepared to discuss in class. The party platforms are available on eLearning.

Day 6: Understanding Interests, Interactions, Institutions **September 5**

- Vocab Quiz I
- FLS: Chapter Two: Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

Part II – Conflict**Day 7: Bargaining Theory and International Conflict** **September 10**

- FLS: Chapter Three: Why Are There Wars?

Day 8: Bargaining Theory Applied to the Iraq War **September 12**

- Lake, D. A. (2011). Two cheers for bargaining theory: Assessing rationalist explanations of the iraq war. *International Security*, 35(3):7–52
- Homework 4

Day 9: Regimes and Conflict **September 17**

- Weeks, J. L. (2012). Strongmen and straw men: Authoritarian regimes and the initiation of international conflict. *American Political Science Review*, 106(02):326–347

Day 10: Domestic Sources of Conflict **September 19**

- FLS: Chapter Four: Domestic Politics and War
- Homework 5

Day 11: Institutions and Conflict **September 24**

- FLS: Chapter Five: International Institutions and War

Day 12: Institutions and Failed States **September 26**

- Krasner, S. D. (2004). Sharing sovereignty: new institutions for collapsed and failing states. *International security*, 29(2):85–120
- Homework 6

Day 13: Civil Conflict and Terrorism **October 1**

- FLS: Chapter Six: Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil War and Terrorism

Day 14: Strategies of Terrorism **October 3**

- Kydd, A. and Walter, B. (2006). The strategies of terrorism. *International Security*, 31(1):49–80
- Homework 7

Day 15: Quiz II **October 8**

- Essay Quiz 1

Part III – International Political Economy**Day 16: International Trade Game** **October 10**

- International Trade Game

Day 17: International Trade **October 15**

- FLS: Chapter Seven: International Trade

Day 18: Domestic Opposition and International Trade **October 17**

- Margalit, Y. (2012). Lost in globalization: International economic integration and the sources of popular discontent¹. *International Studies Quarterly*, 56(3):484–500
- Homework 8

Day 19: Sanctions and Regime Types **October 22**

- Escribà-Folch, A. and Wright, J. (2010). Dealing with tyranny: International sanctions and the survival of authoritarian rulers. *International Studies Quarterly*, 54(2):335–359

Day 20: International Financial Relations **October 24**

- FLS: Chapter Eight: International Financial Relations

Day 21: Financial Relations: Euro Crisis I **October 29**

- Walter, S. (2016). Crisis politics in europe why austerity is easier to implement in some countries than in others. *Comparative Political Studies*, 49(7):841–873

Day 22: Financial Relations: Euro Crisis II **October 31**

- Bechtel, M. M., Hainmueller, J., and Margalit, Y. (2014). Preferences for international redistribution: The divide over the eurozone bailouts. *American Journal of Political Science*, 58(4):835–856
- Homework 9

Day 23: Development **November 5**

- FLS: Chapter Ten: Development: Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations

Day 24: Institutions and Development **November 7**

- Vocab Quiz II
- Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., and Robinson, J. A. (2001). The colonial origins of comparative development: An empirical investigation. *The American Economic Review*, 91(5):1369–1401

Part IV – Transnational Politics**Day 25: Introduction to Transnational Issues** **November 12**

- FLS: Chapter Twelve: Human Rights

Day 26: Genocide and Rwanda **November 14**

- Power, S. (2001). Bystanders to genocide: Why the united states let the rwanda tragedy happen. *Atlantic Monthly*, 288(2):84–108
- Homework 10

Day 27: The White Donkey **November 19**

- Uriarte, M. (2016). *The White Donkey: Terminal Lance*. Little, Brown and Company
- Homework 11

Day 28: Global Environment as a Transnational Issue

November 21

- FLS: Chapter Thirteen: The Global Environment

Day 29: Managing the Global Environment

December 3

- Keohane, R. O. and Victor, D. G. (2011). The regime complex for climate change. *Perspectives on politics*, 9(01):7-23

Day 30: Quiz IV

December 5

- Essay Quiz II