

International Relations
POLI-2500-06, 3 credits
Fall 2020
MWF 7:40-8:25am, Woldenberg Art Center 205

Contact Information

Drew H. Kinney

Office Hours: MW 10:45am-12:45pm, by [appointment](#) (via Zoom)

Email: dkinney@tulane.edu

Course site: [Canvas](#)

Catalog/Course Description. This course introduces students to the foundations of international relations, such as: states, the state system, and nationalism; theories in international relations (e.g., feminism, constructivism, realism, liberal theory, post-colonial theory, post-modernism, Subaltern studies, and Marxism); foreign policy, political leadership, and decision-making; international security (e.g., terrorism, the causes of war, nuclear weapons, civil-military relations, human & environmental security); international institutions and social norms; and, finally, international political economy and development.

Learning Objectives. Upon completion of this course, students will:

- 1) understand ideas and disputes in the field of International Relations, with the aim of teaching students to investigate the world more skeptically and rigorously;
- 2) be able to make and evaluate arguments about international political dynamics;
- 3) be able to think critically about their impact on world politics, rather than merely thinking abstractly about their research conclusions. This includes thinking about *the types of questions* we ask in IR.

Program-Level Outcomes. This course addresses the following program outcomes:

- 1) students will become better writers and thinkers by receiving critical feedback on their prose and analysis;
- 2) students will gain research skills and use the proper methodologies necessary to write a research paper in the discipline of political science;
- 3) students will become familiar with the principal questions and debates in the discipline's field of IR, such as the causes of war/peace, the merits of international trade, and the power of norms in international affairs.

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

Break-down of course grades:

Midterm Exam (due Oct. 2)	25%
Reaction Papers (see below)	30%
Final Exam (due Dec. 2)	25%
Participation	20%

Participation Individual participation is worth 20% of your grade. Simply showing up for class is not sufficient to earn participation points. You are expected to attend classes regularly and participate in discussions. I want you to talk so that you engage with the material and your classmates. It is not any more complicated than that. You are free to ask about current events, readings you did not understand, et cetera. This way we can learn interactively.

Reaction Papers. You will submit three 2-page reaction papers (each worth 10% each for a total of 30% of your grade) on all sections minus the two sections (III & VI) in which we take the midterm and final exams. You have a **choice** as to which topic you would like to discuss in the third paper. These papers are critical summaries of the main themes for each corresponding section. Here is a [rubric](#) that explains in more detail how to complete this assignment. All must be turned in via Canvas by 11:59 pm on the due date.

Paper 1: The State & Nation in IR (due Sept. 3)

Paper 2: Theories of International Relations (due Sept. 15)

Paper 3: International Security (due Oct. 24) *or* Norms & Institutions (due Nov. 12)

Midterm Exam. The midterm exam covers all topics discussed in class from our introduction on August 21st to September 28th. You are to do this assignment alone, not with other students in class. This is a take home exam that is due via Canvas on October 2nd by 11:59 pm.

Final Exam. The final exam covers all topics discussed in class from October 12 to November 20. You are to do this assignment alone, not with other students in class. This is a take home exam that is due via Canvas by 11:59 pm on December 2nd.

Course Grading Policies

Makeup exams. You are not automatically entitled to a makeup examination, which are only given in cases of compelling and well-documented excuses, e.g., acute illness, religious observances, athletic events. Oversleeping is not included on that list. You must also have documentation from a physician (not a nurse) or the appropriate administrator at the College. If you have sufficient cause to warrant a makeup exam, I will determine the date and time of the exam.

Late submissions. If you submit work late, I reserve the right to fail you (with a zero) on that particular assignment. If you find yourself needing more time to complete assignments, please proactively contact me via email and ask for an extension.

Grading. I encourage you to come see me if you have questions about a grade for an assignment. However, I do ask that you wait one week (a cooling off period). During that time, please re-read your assignment and be prepared to defend your position by incorporating relevant course materials.

Readings. You are responsible for all reading assignments. Come prepared to discuss them, and please make sure to have them handy during class. All readings are available through the syllabus via links, which are marked in blue (below). Clicking on the Further Reading “doc” will bring you to a Google Doc of additional readings on each course topic. These links will remain active beyond the length of the course, so you can use them for independent research, capstones, and the like. Clicking “Notes” brings you to a Google Doc that raises general and specific questions related to the readings for each topic. Ideally, you will click this link before you read for class, as a reading guide. These will also serve as study guides because I update them after each lecture.

Nota Bene. It is essential that you complete the readings in the course. If it becomes apparent that the class is not keeping up with the readings, I reserve the right to administer surprise quizzes. If this occurs, I will redistribute the relative weight of the course assignments.

Course Feedback. Aside from the formal evaluation at the end of the term, I welcome and encourage feedback throughout the semester on course structure, readings, lectures, et cetera. If you would like to see additional topics covered, please let me know and I will give it consideration. Comments, suggestions, and criticisms will have no bearing (positive or negative) on your grade. You may leave anonymous feedback via Google Forms by: 1) signing in to the course Canvas site; 2) clicking the “Modules” tab; 3) clicking “Course Feedback” tab.

Attendance Attendance is a requirement if you wish to do well in this course. In-class notes, discussion, and lecture material are the basis for the course’s exams.

I give you two allowed absences, no questions asked. You will be responsible for course material and discussion content for days that you miss. For absences beyond the given two allowed absences, you must provide some sort of documentation, excluding in certain circumstances as discussed with me. Missing more than three courses without good cause, e.g., illness, religious holidays, family deaths, will result in a 2% grade reduction per absence. It is possible to earn a failure due to absence (FA) in this course.

COVID-19 Guidelines. Faculty and students must comply with University policies on COVID-19 testing and isolation, which are located here. Faculty and students must wear face coverings in all common areas, including classrooms, and follow social distancing rules. Failure to comply is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and students will be subject to University discipline, which can include suspension or permanent dismissal.

ADA/Accessibility Statement. Any students with disabilities or other needs, who need special accommodations in this course, are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor and should contact Goldman Center for Student Accessibility: <http://accessibility.tulane.edu> or 504.862.8433.

Code of Academic Conduct. The Code of Academic Conduct applies to all undergraduate students, full-time and part-time, in Tulane University. Tulane University expects and requires behavior compatible with its high standards of scholarship. By accepting admission to the university, a student accepts its regulations (i.e., [Code of Academic Conduct](#) and [Code of Student Conduct](#)) and acknowledges the right of the university to take disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, for conduct judged unsatisfactory or disruptive.

Religious Accommodation Policy. Per Tulane's [religious accommodation policy](#), I will make every reasonable effort to ensure that students are able to observe religious holidays without jeopardizing their ability to fulfill their academic obligations. Excused absences do not relieve the student from the responsibility for any course work required during the period of absence. Students should notify me within the first two weeks of the semester about their intent to observe any holidays that fall on a class day or on the day of the final exam.

Title IX. Tulane University recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. As such, Tulane is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination including sexual and gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence like sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or is experiencing these types of behaviors, know that you are not alone. Resources and support are available: you can learn more at allin.tulane.edu. Any and all of your communications on these matters will be treated as either "Confidential" or "Private" as explained in the chart below. Please know that if you choose to confide in me I am mandated by the university to report to the Title IX Coordinator, as Tulane and I want to be sure you are connected with all the support the university can offer. You do not need to respond to outreach from the university if you do not want. You can also make a report yourself, including an anonymous report, through the form at tulane.edu/concerns.

Confidential	Private
Except in extreme circumstances, involving imminent danger to one's self or others, nothing will be shared without your explicit permission.	Conversations are kept as confidential as possible, but information is shared with key staff members so the University can offer resources and accommodations and take action if necessary for safety reasons.
Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) (504) 314-2277 <i>or</i> The Line (24/7) (504) 264-6074	Case Management & Victim Support Services (504) 314-2160 <i>or</i> srss@tulane.edu
Student Health Center (504) 865-5255	Tulane University Police (TUPD) Uptown: (504) 865-5911 Downtown: (504) 988-5531
Sexual Aggression Peer Hotline and Education (SAPHE) (504) 654-9543	Title IX Coordinator (504) 314-2160 <i>or</i> msmith76@tulane.edu

Emergency Preparedness & Response.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM: TU ALERT	RAVE GUARDIAN
In the event of a campus emergency, Tulane University will notify students, faculty, and staff by email, text, and phone call. You were automatically enrolled in this system when you enrolled at the university. Check your contact information annually in Gibson Online to confirm its accuracy.	• Download the RAVE Guardian app from the App Store • Communicate with dispatchers silently by selecting "Submit Tip" feature in the app • Use the Safety Timer feature to alert your "guardian" (TUPD, family, friend) when travelling alone at night For more information, visit publicsafety.tulane.edu/rave-guardian
ACTIVE SHOOTER / VIOLENT ATTACKER	SEVERE WEATHER
 • RUN – run away from or avoid the affected area, if possible • HIDE – go into the nearest room that can be locked, turn out the lights, silence cell phones, and remain hidden until all-clear message is given through TU ALERT • FIGHT – do not attempt this option, except as a last resort For more information on Active Shooter emergency procedures or to schedule a training, visit emergencyprep.tulane.edu	• Follow all TU Alerts and outdoor warning sirens • Seek shelter indoors until the severe weather threat has passed and an all-clear message is given • Do not attempt to travel outside if weather is severe • Monitor the Tulane Emergency website (tulane.edu/emergency/) for university-wide closures during a severe weather event

Course Outline

August 19, Introduction

Optional: Daniel W. Drezner, “[Theory of International Politics and Zombies](#),” *Foreign Policy* (18 August 2009).

I. The State & Nation in International Relations.

Further Reading, Notes

August 21, the State in International Relations I

Timothy Mitchell. “[The Limits of the State: Beyond Statist Approaches and Their Critics](#),” *The American Political Science Review* 85, no. 1 (1991): p. 77-96.

Miguel Angel Centeno. “[Blood and Debt: War and Taxation in Nineteenth-Century Latin America](#),” *American Journal of Sociology* 102, no. 6 (1997): p. 1565-1605.

August 24, the State in International Relations II

Andreas Osiander. (2001). “[Sovereignty, International Relations, and the Westphalian Myth](#),” *International Organization* 55(2), 251-87.

August 26, Anarchy & the State I

Pat Moloney. “[Hobbes, Savagery, and International Anarchy](#),” *The American Political Science Review* 105, no. 1 (2011): p. 189-204.

August 28, Anarchy & the State II

August 31, Nationalism

Anderson, B. (1983). *[Imagined communities: Reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism](#)* (read introduction). London, United Kingdom: Verso.

II. Theories of International Relations. *Further Reading, Notes*

September 2, Realism & Liberal theory

John J. Mearsheimer and Zbigniew Brzezinski. “[Debate: Clash of the Titans](#),” *Foreign Policy* (2005): p. 46-50.

September 4, Constructivism

Alexander Wendt. “[Constructing International Politics](#),” *International Security* 20(1)

September 7, Labor Day

September 9, Feminism I

J. Ann Tickner. “[Hans Morgenthau’s Principles of Political Realism: A Feminist Reformulation](#),” *Millennium* 17, no. 3 (1988): p. 429-440.

September 11, Feminism II

Annick T.R. Wibben. 2004. “[Feminist International Relations: Old Debates and New Directions](#),” *The Brown Journal of World Affairs*, 10(2), 97-114.

September 14, Marxism

Robert W. Cox. “[Social Forces, States and World Orders: Beyond International Relations Theory](#),” in Robert O. Keohane (ed.), *Neorealism and Its Critics* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1986), p. 204-254.

September 16, Non-Western Approaches

Sanjay Seth. “[Postcolonial Theory and the Critique of International Relations](#),” *Millennium* 40, no. 1 (2012): p. 167-183.

September 18, Review

III. Foreign Policy. *Further Reading, Notes*

September 21, IR and Foreign Policy

Gideon Rose. 1998. “[Neoclassical Realism and Theories of Foreign Policy.](#)” *World Politics* 51(1): 144-172.

September 23, A Debate on IR and Foreign Policy

Colin Elman. 1996. “[Horses for Courses: Why Not Neorealist Theory of Foreign Policy?](#)” *Security Studies* 6(1): 7-53.

Kenneth Waltz. 1996. “[International Politics Is Not Foreign Policy.](#)” *Security Studies* 6(1): 54-57.

September 25, Foreign Policy on Multiple Levels of Analysis

Robert D. Putnam. “[Diplomacy and domestic politics: the logic of two-level games,](#)” *International Organization* 42, no. 3 (1988): p. 427-460.

September 28, Foreign Policy Decision-Making

Keith L. Shimko. 1994. “[Metaphors and Foreign Policy Decision Making.](#)” *International Society of Political Psychology* 15(4): 655-71.

September 30, Midterm Review¹

Midterm¹ October 2

¹ We will review for the midterm during class on September 30, then you'll gain access to the exam on Canvas. You will submit the take-home exam on October 2nd no later than 11:59pm via Canvas.

IV. International Security.

Further Reading, Notes

October 5, *The Security Dilemma*

Robert Jervis. “[Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma](#),” *World Politics* 30, no. 2 (1978): p. 167-214.

October 7, *The Security Dilemma*

Continue reading Jervis.

October 9, *Polarity*

Martha Finnemore. “[Legitimacy, Hypocrisy, and the Social Structure of Unipolarity: Why Being a Unipole Isn’t All It’s Cracked Up To Be](#),” *World Politics* 61, no. 1 (2009): p. 58-85.

October 12, *Alliances & Balancing*

Thomas J. Christensen and Jack Snyder. “[Chain Gangs and Passed Bucks: Predicting Alliance Patterns in Multipolarity](#),” *International Organization* 44, no. 2 (1990): p. 137-168.

October 14, *Terrorism I*

John Mueller. “[A False Sense of Insecurity?](#)” *Regulation* 27, no. 3 (2004): p. 42-46.

October 16, *Terrorism*

Robert Pape. “[The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism](#),” *The American Political Science Review* 97, no. 3 (2003): p. 343-361.

October 19, *Human Security*

Roland Paris. “[Human Security: Paradigm Shift or Hot Air?](#)” *International Security* 26, no. 2 (2001): p. 87-102.

October 21, *Environmental Security*

Marc A. Levy, “[Is the Environment a National Security Issue?](#)” *International Security* 20, no. 2 (1995): p. 35-62.

October 23, *Review*

V. Institutions and Norms.

Further Reading, Notes

October 26, Institutions I

John J. Mearsheimer. 1994. "The False Promise of International Institutions." *International Security* 19(3) 5-49.

October 28, Institutions II

John G. Ruggie. 1995. "The False Premise of Realism." *International Security* 20(1): 62-70.

October 30, The Institution of Language

Charlotte Epstein. "Theorizing Agency in Hobbes's Wake: The Rational Actor, the Self, or the Speaking Subject?" *International Organization* 67, no. 2 (2013): p. 287-316.

November 2, Nuclear Non-Use

Nina Tannenwald, "The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use," *International Organization* 43, no. 3 (1999): p. 433-468.

November 4, Apartheid

Audie Klotz, "Norms Reconstituting Interests: Global Racial Equality and U.S. Sanctions against South Africa," *International Organization* 53, no. 3 (1995): p. 451-478.

November 6, Landmines

Richard Price, "Reversing the Gun Sights: Transnational Civil Society Targets Land Mines," *International Organization* 52, no. 3 (1998): p. 613-644.

November 9, Compliance

Andrew P. Cortell and James W. Davis. 2000. "Understanding the Domestic Impact of International Norms: A Research Agenda." *International Studies Review* 2(1): 65-87.

November 11, Review

VI. International Political Economy.

Further Reading, Notes

November 13, International Trade

Helen V. Milner & Keika Kubota. 2005. “[Why the move to free trade? Democracy and trade policy in the developing countries,](#)” *International Organization*, 59(1), 107-143.

November 16, Institutions & Growth

Mancur Olson. 1993. “[Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development,](#)” *American Political Science Review*, 87(3), 567-576.

November 18, The Neo-Liberal Era ²

Quinn Slobodian. 2018. “[A History of Neoliberalism,](#)” *The Dig Podcast*. November 14.

November 20, Global Inequality & Austerity

Branko Milanovic. 2012. “[Global inequality recalculated and updated: the effect of new PPP estimates on global inequality and 2005 estimates.](#)” *Journal of Economic Inequality* 10: 1-18.

November 23, International Capital Mobility

Ian Goldin. 2020. “[Just How Bad Could a Coronavirus Recession Get?](#)” *The New York Times*, March 12.

Alisha Haridasani Gupta. 2020. “[How Global Cooperation Could Be Key to Containing the Coronavirus.](#)” *The New York Times*, June 5.

Final Exam²

Due December 2

² Final exams will be made available on Canvas after class on November 23, and will be due via Canvas on December 2nd no later than 11:59pm.