



**POLS 232:
International Relations**

Dr. Harris

Fall 2017

1. Basic information

Course: POLS 232 International Relations
Days: Mon, Wed, Fri
Time: 2.00-2.50pm
Room: Stadium 1204

Instructor: Dr. Peter Harris (peter@peterharris.com)
Office: Clark C-339
Office hours: Wed and Fri 4.00-5.30pm
Telephone: 970-491-2268 (office)

TAs: Ms. Nikki Jeffrey (nichola.jeffrey@colostate.edu)
Office hours: Wed 10.30am-1.30pm in Clark C-344

Mr. Peter Svaldi (peter.svaldi@colostate.edu)
Office hours: Mon 12-30-1.30pm; Tue 11.30am-1.30pm in Clark C-341

2. Course description

This is an introductory-level course on international relations. It is organized around three implicit questions. First, how does what happens overseas affect those who live inside the United States? Second, what impact does US politics have upon the rest of the world? And finally, to what extent is international politics really any different from national politics? Students will be introduced to a number of theoretical perspectives for studying international relations, each of which will bring into focus different aspects of the world in which we live. These theories will be applied to a variety of contemporary international issues: globalization and interdependence, war and peace, human rights, poverty and development, and more.

3. Student learning goals

Students who take this course will become more educated consumers of global politics and America's place on the world stage, both past and present. They will gain a solid overview of modern international history as well as an ability to dissect and discuss current issues. Students will gain experience of using a variety of theoretical approaches to understand global phenomena. There will be multiple opportunities for students to hone their written communication skills. Overall, the class will push students to become critical cosmopolitans—citizens who are educated about and tolerant of the wider world and who can use sophisticated analytic skills to address complex questions.

4. Syllabus

It is each student's individual responsibility to familiarize themselves with the contents of this syllabus. The following pages contain rules and deadlines that all students will be held to.

5. Assessment

5.1. Exams

There will be two multiple choice exams for this class—one midterm (Friday 29th September) and one final. The midterm is worth 30% of the final grade and the final is worth 40%.

There will be no opportunities to take these exams on a different day. The midterm exam has been scheduled during class time and so there is no excuse for missing it short of severe illness or a personal tragedy/catastrophe. The final exam is during our allotted time during final exams week. It is your responsibility to coordinate with sports and other extra-curricular groups to ensure that you are present for both exams. This is non-negotiable.

Students who miss the midterm through illness or a life emergency must provide documentation from Student Case Management. It is neither possible nor appropriate for me to validate students' explanations for why they missed an exam.

5.2. Essays

Students will complete three take-home writing assignments, each worth 10% of the final grade (total of 30%). Due dates are listed below, and in the course schedule.

The papers must three pages in length (SINGLE SPACED); with a Times New Roman 12pt font; and 1" margins. Students will be penalized for failing to follow these basic instructions.

Papers must be submitted electronically via Canvas. Students may turn in their papers early but I will accept NO late papers with NO exceptions. Students who have health issues or some other catastrophic life event must contact Student Case Management, who will then communicate with me directly. However, please bear in mind that paperwork from this office does not guarantee an extension or accommodation: you are given these prompts at the beginning of the semester and should complete the essays in advance of the due dates. Again, it is unworkable for me to be responsible for validating students' stories for why an assignment is late.

The prompts and due dates for the papers are as follows:

Paper #1: Which analytic lens for viewing international politics best captures reality? Why? In your answer, compare and contrast at least two of the lenses discussed in class. **Due October 6th at 12 noon.**

Paper #2: What is the most important security issue that faces humankind? Why, how, and for whom? Be sure to compare and contrast at least two security topics; and to draw on at least one of the analytic lenses discussed in class. **Due November 10th at 12 noon.**

Paper #3: Is globalization worth defending and extending, or should it be rolled back? Why, and for whose benefit? **Due December 8th at 12 noon.**

Each paper must make a clear and comprehensive argument to answer the question. Papers should begin with a thesis statement and proceed to develop reasons and evidence to justify the argument being put forward. You are also being graded on your ability to write succinctly, directly, and without any spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors. Take pride in your writing. Citations should be restricted to readings from the syllabus. Please use the Chicago Manual Style of footnotes, not in-text citations:

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html.

5.3. Grades

Letter grades for assignments, and for the course as a whole, will correspond to the following numeric scores. Note that there will be no +/- designations in this class.

90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 0-59 = F

At the end of the semester, I will calculate your final score and round up scores of .5 or higher in order to determine what letter grade you should receive. This is the only time I will round up. Grades always are non-negotiable. Do not email me asking for a higher grade or extra credit opportunities.

Do not pay attention to the running total that Canvas calculates. These might not be accurate. Instead, work out your own current grade with the aid of a calculator.

6. Required texts

There is one required text to purchase for this class, which has been placed on order with the CSU Bookstore and can also be purchased online:

- **John Baylis, Steve Smith, Patricia Owens, eds., *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations 7th Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).**

This book is referred to as “BSO” in the course schedule, below.

All other required readings are freely available online or else can be accessed via the CSU Library’s online holdings. It is therefore necessary that you learn how to access readings using the library. Please do so before the beginning of the semester.

From home:

1. Go to lib.colostate.edu
2. From the Search/Find tab, choose Journal Titles
3. Enter the Journal Title, the Year, and whatever other information you have
4. This will return a list of services through which CSU subscribes to the journal in question
5. Pick one (e.g. JSTOR), click the link, and then find the actual issue that you need
6. Once you have located the issue, find the article and save the PDF to your computer

From CSU:

1. Do as above, or
2. Find the article via Google Scholar and click the link. You should get to the PDF automatically.

7. Course policies

Please read the following course policies with care; they have been designed to help the class run as smoothly as possible, and to allow students to get the most out of the course. By signing up to take this class, you are agreeing to abide by and respect them. **I reserve the right to dock students 10% of the final grade for repeated or egregious violations of these rules.**

7.1. Attendance Attendance is required but will not be monitored formally via an attendance sheet or the like. Students who miss classes will be severely penalized indirectly—that is, in terms of their exam grades. The TAs and I do not share lecture notes or PowerPoint slides, and we will not use office hours to “catch up” students who miss class. It is impossible to do well in this class without regular attendance—but it is always your prerogative to choose to do poorly.

Note, however, that while attendance is mandatory, much of your learning will take place outside of the classroom. Reading, note-taking, completing assignments and discussing the material with your peers, your instructor, and the TAs should total around six hours of work per week.

If you are sick and contagious, please do not come to class—you should prioritize looking after yourself.

7.2. Laptops and cell phones Laptop usage is a major nuisance in classrooms and is detrimental to students' learning outcomes. Laptops and tablets are both distracting and unnecessary. Pen-to-paper note-taking is much more effective than note-taking on a laptop, and is a valuable skill to master during college.

As a result, laptops are banned in the classroom. Students who are using their laptops in class will be asked to stop doing so. The only exception to this rule will be if there is a student in the class who requires a laptop as part of their RDS-agreed accommodation for a documented disability, in which case laptops will be allowed for the whole class.

Cell phones and all other devices must be turned off when you enter the classroom.

7.3. Lateness You are required to be on time. Do not come late to class. Lateness is rude, unprofessional, and almost always avoidable. If you have scheduling issues that may require you to be late on a regular basis, you must let me know at the beginning of the semester.

Relatedly, please do not leave during class unless in the case of an emergency or an illness. Make sure you have had a drink and used the bathroom beforehand. This is basic stuff.

7.4. Academic dishonesty Do not cheat. This course adheres to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code. Students are expected to understand and adhere to these and all other University regulations about cheating, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, and will also be expected to observe all University procedures and deadlines for withdrawals. I take rules seriously and will pursue academic dishonesty to the fullest extent possible. Be aware that ignorance of the rules is not an excuse for breaking University rules.

7.5. Students with disabilities Students with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, visual, hearing, etc.) who need to arrange reasonable classroom accommodations can request accommodation via the Resources for Disabled Students office. However, this must be done at the beginning of the semester or else I cannot guarantee that any accommodations will be made.

Please see the following link for more information:
<http://rds.colostate.edu/accommodation-process>

- 7.6. Religious holidays* Please notify me of any pending absence well in advance of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class or an examination in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.
- 7.7. Following instructions* As noted above, students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the contents of this syllabus, other instructions posted online, and for checking their emails/Canvas at least once per day. Please do not email me with questions regarding course organization before checking the syllabus and your emails/Canvas. I will always contact you using your CSU email address—and so that is the account that you must check.
- 7.8. Participation* Participation in class is an absolute requirement. This means answering questions, raising questions, discussing the readings, and listening to others. Mere attendance is not sufficient. The best forms of participation are comments rooted in the reading for that day. The worst forms of participation are comments that are based upon opinions that you already held, or thoughts “off the top of your head.” Being argumentative, rude, or condescending does not count as participation.
- That said, there is such a thing as participating too much. Keep your comments short and incisive, resisting the urge to launch into monologues.
- 7.9. Reading* You are expected to have done the reading that is listed for each class day in advance of that class day. You are expected to have prepared notes, formulated questions for discussion, and generally to be able to discuss the readings in an intelligent fashion. When you do not do the reading, it is painfully obvious to the instructor and to others in the classroom; it is embarrassing and it severely detracts from what we, as a class, are trying to achieve together. Do not come to class unless you have done the reading.
- On the other hand, students are not expected to have mastered each individual reading. Many of the readings for this class are complex or otherwise confusing. It is legitimate, therefore—indeed, it is encouraged and highly appreciated—for students to raise questions about the readings in class, and to seek clarification.

8. Class schedule (subject to change at instructor's discretion)

SECTION A
KEY CONCEPTS AND APPROACHES TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Week 1

Mon August 21	Lecture: Introductions Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No reading
Wed August 23	Lecture: States and Statehood Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peggy Hoyle, "Somaliland: Passing the Statehood Test," <i>IRBU Boundary and Security Bulletin</i> 8, no. 3 (2000): 80-91. (12pp)
Fri August 25	Lecture: Sovereignty, Autonomy, and Control Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Thompson, "Protection of Migrants' Rights and State Sovereignty," <i>UN Chronicle</i> 50, no. 3 (2013), https://unchronicle.un.org/article/protection-migrants-rights-and-state-sovereignty (4pp).

Week 2

Mon August 28	Lecture: Anarchy Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Streithorst, "Hobbes Was Right: Anarchy Sucks," <i>Pieria</i>, 2 April 2014, http://www.pieria.co.uk/articles/hobbes_was_right__anarchy_sucks (7pp).
Wed August 30	No class (APSA)
Fri September 1	No class (APSA)

Week 3

Mon September 4	No class
Wed September 6	Lecture: International Society Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shogo Suzuki, "Japan's Socialization into Janus-Faced European International Society," <i>European Journal of International Relations</i> 11, no. 1 (2005): 137-164. (30pp)

- Fri September 8 Lecture: Globalization
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 1 (17pp)

Week 4

- Mon September 11 Lecture: Realism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 6 (13pp)

- Wed September 13 Lecture: Liberalism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 7 (11pp)

- Fri September 15 Lecture: Constructivism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 9 (15pp)

Week 5

- Mon September 18 Lecture: Marxism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 8 (13pp)

- Wed September 20 Lecture: Poststructuralism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 10 (14pp)

- Fri September 22 Lecture: Post-Colonialism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 11 (15pp)
• BSO Chapter 18 (16pp)

Week 6

- Mon September 25 Lecture: Feminism
Readings:
• BSO Chapter 12 (14pp)
• BSO Chapter 17 (15pp)

Wed September 27 Review session (attendance optional)

Fri September 29 **MIDTERM EXAM**

SECTION B INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Week 7

- Mon October 2 Lecture: Security as a 'Contested Concept'
Readings:
 - BSO Chapter 15 (13pp)
- Wed October 4 Lecture: Wars
Readings:
 - BSO Chapter 14 (13pp)
- Fri October 6 Lecture: New Wars?
Readings:
 - Mary Kaldor, "In Defence of New Wars," *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development* 2, no. 1 (2013): 1-16 (17pp)

FIRST WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE @ 12 NOON (CANVAS)

Week 8

- Mon October 9 Lecture: Trust and Mistrust
Readings:
 - Deborah Welch Larson, "Trust and Missed Opportunities in International Relations," *Political Psychology* 18, no. 3 (1997): 701-734. (34pp)
- Wed October 11 Lecture: Gender Inequality and War
Readings:
 - Valerie M. Hudson, Mary Caprioli, Bonnie Ballif-Spanvill, Rose McDermott, and Chad F. Emmett, "The Heart of the Matter: The Security of Women and the Security of States," *International Security* 33, no. 3 (2008/09): 7-45. (39pp)
- Fri October 13 Lecture: WMD
Readings:
 - BSO Chapter 26 (13pp)
 - Carol Cohn, "Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals," *Signs* 12, no. 4 (1987): 687-718 (32pp)

Week 9

- Mon October 16 Lecture: Human security
Readings:
 - BSO Chapter 30 (14pp)

- Wed October 18 Lecture: Child Soldiers
Readings:
- Lisa Alfredson, "Child Soldiers, Displacement and Human Security," *Disarmament Forum* 3 (2002): 17-27. (11pp)
- Fri October 20 Lecture: Refugees
Readings:
- Sarah Kenyon Lischer, "Security and Displacement in Iraq: Responding to the Forced Migration Crisis," *International Security* 33, no. 2 (2008): 95-119. (25pp)

SECTION C INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Week 10

- Mon October 23 Lecture: Global Political Economy
Readings:
- BSO Chapter 16 (14pp)
- Wed October 25 Lecture: Global Trade and Finance
Readings:
- BSO Chapter 281 (12pp)
- Fri October 27 Lecture: Globalization in Crisis
Readings:
- Elizabeth C. Economy, "Beijing Is No Champion of Globalization," *Foreign Affairs*, 22 January 2017, <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/2017-01-22/beijing-no-champion-globalization>. (6pp)

Week 11

- Mon October 30 Lecture: America and the World Economy
Readings:
- Charles S. Maier, "The Politics of Productivity: Foundations of American International Economic Policy after World War II," *International Organization* 31, no. 4 (1977): 607-633. (27pp)
- Wed November 1 Lecture: Making Globalization Work
Readings:
- John Gerrard Ruggie, "International Regimes, Transactions, and Change: Embedded Liberalism in the Postwar Economic Order," *International Organization* 36, no. 2 (1982): 379-415. (37pp)

- Fri November 3 Lecture: Making Globalization Work...For America
Readings:
- Nicola Phillips, "U.S. Power and the Politics of Economic Governance in the Americas," *Latin American Politics and Society* 47, no. 4 (2005): 1-25. (26pp)

Week 12

- Mon November 6 Lecture: Poverty, Hunger, and Development
Readings:
- BSO Chapter 29 (14pp)
 - Madeleine Bunting, "Clinton is proving that a feminist foreign policy is possible – and works," *The Guardian*, 16 January 2011, <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/jan/16/hillary-clinton-feminist-foreign-policy>. (3pp)
- Wed November 8 Lecture: Migrants and Remittances
Readings:
- Claire L. Adida and Desha M. Girod, "Do Migrants Improve their Hometowns? Remittances and access to public services in Mexico, 1995-2000," *Comparative Political Studies* 44, no. 1 (2011): 3-27. (25pp)
- Fri November 10 Lecture: What Happens in America...
Readings:
- Lawrence O. Gostin, "'America First': Prospects for Global Health," *The Milbank Quarterly* 95, no. 2 (2017): 224-228. (5pp)
- SECOND WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE @ 12 NOON (CANVAS)**

SECTION D INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ORGANIZATION

Week 13

- Mon November 13 Lecture: The Rise of Modern International Order
Readings:
- BSO Chapters 2-3 (28pp)
- Wed November 15 Lecture: Ethics in World Politics
Readings:
- BSO Chapter 13 (13pp)
 - Eleanor Roosevelt, "The Struggle for Human Rights," Speech in Sorbonne, Paris, 28 September 1948, <https://www2.gwu.edu/~erpapers/documents/speeches/doc026617.cfm>. (8pp)

- Fri November 17 Lecture: Laws of War
 Readings:
- Kathleen R. Carter, "Should International Relations Consider Rape a Weapon of War?" *Politics & Gender* 6, no. 3 (2010): 343-371. (29pp)

FALL BREAK

Week 14

- Mon November 27 Lecture: International Organizations
 Readings:
- BSO Chapters 20-21 (27pp)

- Wed November 29 Lecture: NGOs
 Readings:
- BSO Chapter 22 (13pp)

- Fri December 1 Lecture: International Law
 Readings:
- BSO Chapter 19 (13pp)

Week 15

- Mon December 4 Lecture: Human Rights
 Readings:
- BSO Chapter 31 (13pp)

- Wed December 6 Lecture: Humanitarian Interventions
 Readings:
- BSO Chapter 32 (13pp)
 - Samantha Power, "Bystanders to Genocide," *The Atlantic*, September 2001, <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2001/09/bystanders-to-genocide/304571>. (25pp)

- Fri December 8 Lecture: Rising Powers
 Readings:
- BSO Chapter 5 (13pp)
 - Elizabeth Cobbs Hoffman, "Come Home, America," *New York Times*, 4 March 2013, <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/05/opinion/come-home-america.html>. (4pp)

THIRD WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE @ 12 NOON (CANVAS)

The final exam will take place during finals week in our regular classroom.