This course provides an introduction to the study of international politics. We will cover the central concepts and theories used to understand topics in international relations, including the causes of war and peace, economic relations among states, intervention in civil conflicts, human rights, and the environment. We will address historical cases as well as changes taking place in the international system in the decade since the end of the Cold War.

Requirements:

Attendance at lectures on Mondays and Wednesdays, and active participation in weekly section meetings. Students are required to keep up with the weekly readings and are expected to keep abreast of current events in international relations.

There will be four short written assignments due in section in weeks 3, 6, 11, and 14. These assignments are intended as study aides and to give you feedback on how well you are understanding the course material. They will be graded and will be factored into your section participation grade.

There will be an in class mid-term exam on October 23 and a take-home final due Monday December 18.

Assignments and the final must be turned in on time, exceptions will be granted only for medical or family emergencies. Otherwise, late submissions will be penalized one grade per day.

Grading:

Participation in sections, including written assignments: 40%
In class mid-term exam: 30%
Take home final exam: 30%
The following books are for sale at Labyrinth Bookstore (536 W 112th Street, between Broadway and Amsterdam):


A reading packet of required articles is available for copying at the Institute of War and Peace Studies, IAB, 13th floor (open M-F 9-5). Bring an ID to check out readings.

All readings (books and articles) are also available on reserve at Butler Library.
LECTURE AND READING SCHEDULE

Week 1. Introduction
September 6.

I. Anarchy (and What States Make of It)

September 11 and 13.


In Art & Jervis: pp.2-6 and:


Week 3. International society, law, and constructions of anarchy
September 18 and 20.


In Art & Jervis:
Wendt, Alexander. “Anarchy is What States Make of It” pp.75-82. [the full article is on reserve]

In Lyons & Mastanduno:

****First Written Assignment Due in Section This Week****
II. Issues of War and Peace

Week 4. Uses of Force and Theories of War

September 25.
In Art & Jervis:

In Rotberg & Rabb:


September 27.
In Rotberg & Rabb:

In Art & Jervis:
   Keohane and Nye. “Complex Interdependence and the Role of Force” pp.229-244

Week 5. The World Wars

October 2. World War I
In Rotberg & Rabb:

October 4. World War II
In Rotberg & Rabb:
   Hughes, Jeffrey. “The Origins of World War II in Europe: British Deterrence Failure and German Expansionism” pp.281-322.
Week 6. The Cold War and its End

October 9. The Cold War

Mr X. (George Kennan). “The Sources of Soviet Conduct” Foreign Affairs (July 1947). pp.566-582.

Kennedy, Robert. Thirteen Days. (c.128pp.) – skim.


October 11. The End of the Cold War

In Lebow & Risse-Kappen:

skim Lebow’s “Introduction.” pp.1-23 for an overview of the issue and the contending ideas in the rest of the book. Then read:

Oye, Kenneth. “Explaining the End of the Cold War” pp.57-84.
Koslowski, Rey and Friedrich Kratochwil. “Understanding Change in International Politics” pp.127-166.

****Second Written Assignment Due in Section This Week****

Week 7. The Democratic Peace

October 16-18.

review Doyle “Kant, Liberal, Legacies and Foreign Affairs” in Art & Jervis [the full article is also printed in Brown, Lynn-Jones, & Miller, Debating the Democratic Peace, pp.3-57].

In Brown, Lynn-Jones, & Miller, Debating the Democratic Peace:

Week 8.
October 23. Mid-Term Exam

III. Issues of International Political Economy

October 25. Perspectives on IPE

In Frieden & Lake:

In Art & Jervis:
   Keohane, Robert. “Hegemony in the World Political Economy” pp.286-298

Week 9. Trade
October 30 - November 1.

In Frieden & Lake:
   Freeman, Richard “Are Your Wages Set in Beijing?” pp.343-353.


In Art & Jervis:
Week 10. Money and Finance

No Class November 6 – don’t forget to vote on Tuesday.

November 8.

In Art & Jervis:

In Frieden & Lake:
Eichengreen, Barry “Hegemonic Stability Theory of the International Monetary System” pp. 220-244.

Week. 11. Rich and Poor in a Global Economy

November 13. North-South Issues


In Frieden & Lake:
Broad, Cavanagh, and Bello “Development: The Market is Not Enough” pp.392-404.
Williamson, Jeffrey “Globalization and Inequality, Past and Present” pp.405-416.

November 15. Globalization

In Art & Jervis:
Wade, Robert “Globalization and its Limits” pp.363-381.

In Frieden & Lake:
Rodrik, Dani “Sense and Nonsense in the Globalization Debate” pp. 491-470.

****Third Written Assignment Due in Section This Week****
IV. Challenges to Sovereignty?

Week 12. November 20. The State is Dead, Long Live the State


In Lyons & Mastanduno:  
Krasner, Stephen. “Sovereignty and Intervention” pp.228-249.

In Art & Jervis:  

No Class November 22. Happy Thanksgiving

Week 13. Internal Conflict and Human Rights  
November 27. Civil Wars


November 29. Human Rights

In Lyons & Mastanduno:  


In Art & Jervis:  
Keck & Sikkink “Transnational Activist Networks” pp.547-553.
Week 14. December 4-6. The Environment

In Art & Jervis:
- Hardin, Garrett “The Tragedy of the Commons” pp.508-513
- Cooper, Richard “Toward a Real Global Warming Treaty” pp.525-533.

In Lyons & Mastanduno:


****Fourth Written Assignment Due in Section This Week****

Week 15. December 11. Conclusion

In Lyons & Mastanduno:


Final exam handed out in class.

**Final Exam Due On or Before Monday, December 18th.**