

## POLI 4048: International Conflict and Cooperation Spring 2018

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Classroom: 218 Coates Hall  
Course Hours: T/TH 1:30-2:50  
Office Hours: T/TH 9:00-10:00  
and by appointment

several relevant topics in the study of international conflict, such as the role of military power and alliances, the sources of threat credibility in deterrence and coercive bargaining, and other theories. We conclude the class with an examination of issues such as U.S. grand strategies, the problem of terrorism, the ethics of force, and peacekeeping and peacemaking. The goal is not only to familiarize you with the theoretical approaches to international conflict and cooperation, but also to develop the skills to analytically and critically approach the literature in this area.

### Reading Materials

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### Top Hat

We will be using the Top Hat ([www.tophat.com](http://www.tophat.com)) classroom response system in class. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. You can visit the Top Hat Overview (<https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide>) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation has been sent to you by email, but if don't receive this email, you can register by simply visiting our course website: <https://app.tophat.com/e/572597>

Note: our Course Join Code is [572597](#)

Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: [www.tophat.com/pricing](http://www.tophat.com/pricing). Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email ([support@tophat.com](mailto:support@tophat.com)), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

## **Course Requirements and Grading Scheme**

The final grade in this course will be based on three main components: (1) two in-class examinations, (2) Four in-class quizzes, and (3) class participation.

1. Two in-class midterm examinations (75% of final grade)
  - The exams will be a combination of short-answer identification/definition questions and essay questions. Each exam will be worth a total of 35% of the student's final grade. Questions will be based on the student's comprehension of both the assigned reading materials and the class lectures.
2. Four in-class quizzes (20%)
  - The quizzes are multiple choice and the questions will be based on the class readings and lectures. The dates of the quizzes are not announced, so if you know in advance that you will

**Copyright Statement**

Unless otherwise noted, the handouts used in this course are copyrighted. By “handouts,” I mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, web pages, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because these are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless I expressly grant permission.

**Students with Disabilities Policy**

If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a Coordinator in the Office of Disability Services so that such accommodations may be arranged. After you receive your Accommodation Letters, please meet with someone in that office to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible. For additional information, check the Office of Disability Services Faculty Handbook.

**Equal Opportunity Statement**

LSU’s PS 1 assures equal opportunity for all qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, marital status, sexual orientation, or veteran’s status in admission to, participation in, and treatment or employment in the programs and activities that the University operates.

**Practical Advice on Reading and Taking notes**

For your own benefit and not just for this course, I strongly encourage you to read about research, repeatedly showing that taking notes with a laptop or tablet and having an instructor posting lecture notes do NOT benefit a student’s cognitive and learnin

## Course Schedule and Readings

### CLASS INTRODUCTION

#### THEORY AND EVALUATING THEORY

Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce. 2003.

. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

— Read Chapter 2 (pp. 51-81).

Wagner, R. Harrison. 2001. “Who’s Afraid of ‘Rational Choice Theory’?” Typescript:  
University of Texas-Austin.

#### (NEO)REALISM AND THE BALANCE OF POWER

Morgenthau, Hans Joachim. 2006.

7<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

— Read Ch. 1: “A Realist Theory of International Politics”.

Mearsheimer, John. 2001.

New York: W.W. Norton.

— Read Ch. 2: “Anarchy and the Struggle for Power”

Waltz, Kenneth. 1988. “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory.”  
18 (4): 615-628.

#### ALLIANCES AND WAR

Snyder, Glenn H. 1984. “The Security Dilemma in Alliance Politics.”  
495.

36 (4): 461-

#### NO CLASS: MARDI GRAS BREAK

#### POWER TRANSITION AND HEGEMONIC STABILITY

Blainey, Geoffrey. 1988.

New York: Free Press.

— Read Chapter 8: “The Abacus of Power”

Tammen, Ronald L. Et al. 2000.

New York:

Chatham House.

— Read Chapter 1: “Power Transition Theory for the Twenty-First Century”

Allison, Graham. 2015. “The Thucydides Trap: Are the U.S. and China Headed For War?”  
(online).

#### CRISIS BARGAINING

Schelling, Thomas. 1966.

. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

—Read Chapter 1: “The Diplomacy of Violence”

Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War."  
(Summer): 379-414.

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### **STRATEGIC BARGAINING AND DETERRENCE**

Schelling, Thomas. 1966. . New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.  
—Read Chapter 2: "The Art of Commitment"

Danilovic, Vesna. 2002.

Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

—Read Chapter 1: "Introduction" and Chapter 3: "Deterrence and Conflict"

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXAM #1</b> <b>Tuesday, March 13</b></p>
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### **DOCUMENTARY TBA**

### **DOMESTIC POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT**

Doyle, Michael W. 1986. "Liberalism and World Politics." *American Political Science Review*  
80 (4): 1151-69.

Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001.

New York, NY: W.W. Norton.

—Read Chapters 1 and 2

### **NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK**

### **GRAND STRATEGY**

Posen, Barry R., and Andrew L. Ross. 1996/97. "Competing Visions for U.S. Grand Strategy."  
21 (3): 5-53.

Art, Robert J. 1998/99. "Geopolitics Updated: The Strategy of Selective Engagement."  
23 (3): 79-113.

Krauthammer, Charles. 2002/03. "The Unipolar Moment Revisited."  
(Winter): 5-17.

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### **TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM**

Rapoport, David C. 2004. "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism." In Cronin, A. K. & Ludes, J.  
M. (eds.) Washington, DC.:  
Georgetown University Press, Chapter 2 (pp. 46–73).

- Cronin, Audrey Kurth. 2002/03. "Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism."  
27 (3): 30-58.
- Mueller, John. 2006. "Is There Still a Terrorist Threat?" 85 (5): 2-8.

### **ETHICS AND FORCE**

- Skidelsky, Robert. 2004. "The Just War Tradition." December 2004.
- Myers, Robert J. 1996. "Notes on the Just War Theory: Whose Justice, Which Wars?"  
10 (1): 115-130.
- Crawford, Neta C. 2003. "Just War Theory and the U.S. Counterterror War."