

*POLI 7947: International Conflict*

Classroom: 210 Stubbs Hall  
Class hours: Tuesday 1:30-4:20  
Office hours: T/TH 9:00-10:00 am

Professor: Dr. Joe Clare  
Department of Political  
Science  
Louisiana State University  
Office: 206 Stubbs Hall  
Phone: (225) 578-2551  
E-mail: jclare@lsu.edu

This seminar provides a survey of different approaches to the study of international conflict. We will discuss major theories that link conflict to power distributions, alliances, deterrence and bargaining, domestic regime type (the democratic peace), domestic instability, and economic interdependence. Some recent issues, such as ending wars (mediation and peacekeeping) and ethno-political conflicts,



student is responsible for providing satisfactory documented evidence to the instructor within one week of his or her absence to substantiate the reason for the absence. Deadline extensions and make-ups will be given ONLY in documented cases of serious illness or family emergency. Otherwise, short review papers and the seminar paper will be graded F if not turned in to me by the specified deadlines. The same applies for the failure to present a short paper in class as scheduled.

"Academic Misconduct" includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give an unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without permission of the instructors, providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or attempts to commit such an act. Students should be familiar with the definition of academic misconduct and the Code of Student Conduct, available at <http://www.lsu.edu/judicialaffairs/code.htm> If a student is found to have committed an act of academic misconduct, s/he will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs and penalized appropriately.

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.

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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-

## **SCHOLARLY JOURNALS**

Students should be familiar with a few leading journals in the field:

*International Studies Quarterly*  
*Journal of Conflict Resolution*  
*International Organization*

in the conflict area, additionally:

*International Interactions*  
*Journal of Peace Research*  
*International Security*  
*Conflict Management and Peace Science*

and articles on international politics in more general journals in the discipline:

*American Political Science Review*  
*American Journal of Political Science*  
*Journal of Politics*

[Militarized Interstate Disputes \(MID\) & Militarized Dispute Locations \(MIDLOC\)](#)  
[International Crisis Behavior \(ICB\)](#)  
[UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset](#)  
[Huth and Allee Territorial Claims Data: Status Quo Challenges and Outcomes](#)  
[Militarized Compellent Threats Dataset](#)  
[International Military Interventions](#)

[Correlates of War \(COW\) Intra-State Wars](#)  
[UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset](#)  
[UCDP Non-State Conflict Dataset](#)  
[UCDP Georeferenced Event Dataset](#)  
[Political Instability Task Force](#)

[Minorities at Risk \(MAR\)](#)  
[CIRI Human Rights data set](#)  
[Ethnic Power Relations \(EPR\) & Georeferenced Ethnic Power Relations \(GeoEPR\)](#)  
[UCDP One-sided Violence Dataset](#)



\_\_\_\_\_ Rasler, Karen and William R. Thompson. 2010. "Systemic Theories of Conflict." In *The International Studies Encyclopedia*, ed. Robert A. Denemark, London: Wiley Blackwell.

Waltz, Kenneth. 1988. "The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18 (4): 615-28.

Wayman, Frank W. 1984. "Bipolarity and War: The Role of Capability Concentration and Alliance Patterns among Major Powers, 1816-1965." *Journal of Peace Research* 21 (1): 61-78

\_\_\_\_\_ Morrow, James D. 1999. "The Strategic Setting of Choices: Signaling, Commitment, and Negotiation in International Politics." In *Strategic Choice and International Relations*, ed. David A. Lake and Robert Powell. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, pp. 77-114.

Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49 (3): 379-414.

Sechser, Todd S. 2010. "Goliath's Curse: Coercive Threats and Asymmetric Power." *International Organization* 64 (4): 627-660.

*Journal of Conflict Resolution* 46 (2): 175-200.

Weisiger, Alex, and Keren Yarhi-

*International Organization* 69 (2): 473-495.

Fearon, James D. 1998. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation." *International Organization* 52 (2): 269-305.

Schultz, Kenneth A. 2005. "The Politics of Risking Peace: Do Hawks or Doves Deliver the Olive Branch." *International Organization* 59 (1): 1-38.

Clare, Joe. 2014. "Hawks, Doves, and International Cooperation." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 58 (7): 1311-1337.

McGillivray, Fiona and Alastair Smith. 2000. "Trust and Cooperation Through Agent-Specific Punishments." *International Organization* 54 (4): 809-824.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chan, Steve. 2010. "Progress in the Democratic Peace Research Agenda." In *The International Studies Encyclopedia*, ed. Robert A. Denemark, London: Wiley Blackwell.

Maoz, Zeev, and Bruce Russett

*American Political Science Review* 87 (3): 624-38.

Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce

Fearon, James D. 1994. "Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes." *American Political Science Review* 88 (3): 577-92.

Schultz, Kenneth A. 1999. "Do Domestic Institutions Constrain or Inform?: Contrasting Two Institutional Perspectives on Democracy and War." *International Organization* 53 (2): 233-66.

Kertzer, Joshua D., and Ryan Brutger

*American Journal of Political Science* 60 (1): 234-249.

Beasley, Ryan K. and Juliet Kaarbo. 2014. "Explaining Extremity in the Foreign Policies of Parliamentary Democracies." *International Studies Quarterly* 58 (4): 729



