

1-2013

# PSCI 230X.01: Introduction to International Relations

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## Introduction to

# International Relations

**Instructor:** Eric H. Hines**Office:** JRH 206**Office Hours:** MTW 2:10-3 p.m and by appointment**Email:** [eric.hines@umontana.edu](mailto:eric.hines@umontana.edu)**Phone:** 406.359.1660 (Cell/Voicemail)**Course Number:** PSCI 230X**Class Location:** Social Sciences 352**Meeting Time:** TR 12:40-2:00**Website:** Moodle (<http://umonline.umt.edu>)**CRN (Add/Drop):** 33340

You may schedule an appointment with me online at <http://meetme.so/erichines>

TAs	Email	Office	Office Hours
Kelsi Steele (Exams)	<a href="mailto:kelsi.steele@umontana.edu">kelsi.steele@umontana.edu</a>	COR 347	TR 8-9 a.m.
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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

International relations (IR) is the study of the conflict and cooperation in global politics. It asks both empirical (i.e., what happened and why?) and normative (i.e., what should have happened?) questions. To answer these questions, this course introduces three different empirical perspectives used to understand patterns of international conflict and cooperation — realism, liberalism, and constructivism. Each perspective offers different answers to the core questions of IR: *who gets what, when, and how in global politics*.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, students will be able to:	This will be assessed by:
Explain current events using different theoretical perspective at the individual, domestic, and systemic level of analysis.	Clicker Questions, Exams and Analysis Paper.
Place human behavior and cultural ideas into a global framework and explain complex interdependence.	Clicker Questions, Exams and Analysis Paper.
Demonstrate an awareness of the diverse ways humans structure their social, political, and cultural lives.	Clicker Questions, Exams and Analysis Paper.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

There are two *required* textbooks for this course:

Drezner, Daniel. 2011. *Theories of international politics and zombies*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Nau, Henry. 2012. *Perspectives on international relations: power, institutions, and ideas*. 3rd ed. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.

You must also purchase an **i-clicker student remote** (ISBN: 0716779390) and register it at <http://www.iclicker.com/registration> if it is not already registered for another class.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

The following paragraphs outline the basic requirements for this course. More detailed information on specific assignments can be found on Moodle.

#### **Clicker Questions (50 points)**

A variety of clicker questions will be used to assess learning and provide a fulcrum for discussion. A clicker participation score worth 50 points will be calculated at the end of the semester using the formula:  $\frac{\text{Total Responses}}{0.9 * \text{Total Questions Asked}} * 50$

#### **Analysis Paper (350 points)**

You will choose a major current event in international relations and produce a 5-page paper that analyzes different causal explanations for the event using international relations theory. You will submit via Moodle an event summary (25 pts.), a research process assignment (25 pts.), a table of explanations (50 pts), and an annotated bibliography (100 pts.) during the semester to ensure timely completion of this project.

#### **Quizzes (100 points)**

Most weeks on Friday there will be a short 5-10 question multiple choice exam over the readings and lectures. Scores on the quizzes will be averaged to determine the final grade and your lowest quiz will be dropped. There will be no make-up quizzes.

#### **Celebrations of Knowledge (500 points total)**

The main mode of assessment in this course are "celebrations of knowledge." The first celebration of knowledge will be worth 50 points and the remaining celebrations and the final exam are worth 100 points each. Each celebration, except the first, will feature an essay submitted electronically prior to the exam and mixture of questions types including multiple choice and short answer in class. A separate essay worth 50 points will also be submitted following viewing of a film on the Rwandan Genocide. Make-up celebrations will be allowed if appropriate documentation of illness, injury, family emergency, or participation in a University sponsored activity is provided. Make-up exams must be approved and scheduled with a TA before the missed celebration.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Students have the responsibility to:

1. Attend class regularly.
2. Complete assigned readings before class.
3. Complete assignments by their deadlines.



4. Inform the instructor beforehand of any reasons why they are unable to do this.
5. Complete all requirements within the time frame of the semester. University policy on incompletes will be strictly enforced.

### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code, which is available for review online at: <http://life.umd.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>.

### STATEMENT ON DISABILITIES:

I encourage students with documented disabilities to discuss appropriate accommodations with me. If you have a disability and feel you need accommodations in this course please present me with a letter from Disability Services for Students (DSS), Lommasson Center 154 (243-2243), indicating the existence of a disability and the suggested accommodations.

### GRADING

Final grades are based on the below scale with points distributed as listed above. Grades will be posted on Moodle. Your graded work will not be handed back, but students are welcome to review graded work with the TAs during their office hours.

Scale: A = 1000-930, A- = 929-900, B+ = 870-899, B = 830-869, B- = 800-829, C+ = 770-799, C = 730-769, C- = 700-729, D+ = 670-699, D = 630-669, D- = 600-639, F = < 600.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

I reserve the right to make changes to this course schedule. Any changes will be posted to Moodle and distributed to students via email. All assigned readings are from the textbooks or available for download on Moodle (M).

Date	Topic	Assignment
1/29	Syllabus; State of Nature Sim; Why We Disagree	Nau, Introduction; Skim Drezner, Chs. 1-4
1/31	The Prisoner's Dilemma; Realism; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 21-36; Drezner, Chs. 5
2/5	The Liberal and Identity Perspectives	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 36-53; Drezner, Chs. 6 & 8
2/7	Alternative Theories; Levels of Analysis; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 53-68; Drezner, Chs. 7, 9-11
2/12	<i>Simulation: Zombie Apocalypse</i>	Review Drezner; Bring Handout for class (M)
2/14	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #1 (No Essay)</b>	<b>Current Event Description Due (M)</b>
2/19	History: Is it Cyclical, Linear, or Messy?	Nau, Ch. 2

Date	Topic	Assignment
2/21	World War I: The Birth of Modern IR; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 3
2/26	World War II: Oops, We Did It Again!	Nau, Ch. 4
2/28	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #2 (Essay)</b>	<b>Library Research Assignment Due (M)</b>
3/5	Explaining the Origins & End of the Cold War	Nau, Ch. 5; Aron, "Everything ..." (M)
3/7	After the Cold War; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 6
3/12	Conflict after 9/11: Terrorism and Local Conflict	Nau, Ch. 7;
3/14	Film: Ghosts of Rwanda; <b>Online Quiz</b>	Power, "Bystanders" (M) <b>Annotated Bibliography Due (M)</b>
3/19	Globalization and How it Works	Nau, Chs. 8-9 <b>Rwanda Essay Due (M)</b>
3/21	Trade, Investment, and Finance; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 10
3/26	International Finance Simulation	Bring Handout for class (M)
3/28	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #3 (Essay)</b>	<b>Table of Explanations Due (M)</b>
<b>Spring Break</b>		
4/9	International Development	Nau, Ch. 11-12
4/11	Critical Focus on Global Inequality; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 13
4/16	World Environment: Population and Resources	Nau, Ch. 14
4/18	World Environment: Climate Change; <b>Quiz</b>	Readings on Moodle (M)
4/23	Climate Change Simulation	Bring Handout for class (M)
4/25	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #4 (Essay)</b>	<b>Analysis Papers Due</b>
4/30	Global Civil Society: NGOs & Human Rights	Nau, Ch. 15
5/2	Global Governance: IGOs and the U.N.; <b>Quiz</b>	Nau, Ch. 16
5/7	The Democratic Peace; Review	Nau, Conclusion.; Eisenhower (M)
5/9	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #5 (Essay)</b>	