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### PSCI 230X.01: Introduction to International Relations

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## Introduction to

# International Relations

**Instructor:** Eric H. Hines**Office:** LA 354**Office Hours:** T 3-4, Th 9-10 or by Appt.**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:** MWF 10:10-11:00 a.m.**Website:** Moodle (<http://umonline.umd.edu>)**CRN (Add/Drop):** 33340

You may schedule an appointment with the instructor online at <http://tungle.me/erichines>

**TA:** Samantha Seaman **Email:** [samantha.seaman@umontana.edu](mailto:samantha.seaman@umontana.edu) **Office:** Corbin 345 **OH:** M 9-10, W 11-12

## 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. 2011. *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 and Extra Credit)**

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

For some questions, answering correctly will earn you extra credit that will replace up to 50 points on the five celebrations of knowledge. You must bring a properly working clicker to class to earn credit for participation or to receive extra credit (No exceptions!).

#### **Analysis Paper (150 points)**

You will choose a major current event in international relations and produce a 5-6 page paper that analyzes different causal explanations for the event. You will submit via Moodle an event summary and annotated bibliography during the semester to ensure timely completion of this project.

#### **Celebrations of Knowledge and Final Exam (800 points total)**

The main mode of assessment in this course is five "celebrations of knowledge" and a final exam. The first two celebrations of knowledge will be worth 100 points each. The remaining celebrations and the final exam are worth 150 points each. Each celebration and the final exam may feature a mixture of questions types including multiple choice and short answer. Some portion of the celebrations may be given as a group exam.

### **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 a 1000-pt scale distributed between clicker participation (50), the analysis paper (150), celebrations of knowledge (550), and the final exam (150).

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
1/23	Introduction; Distribution of Syllabus	
1/25	Why we disagree about International Relations	Nau, Introduction
1/27	The Prisoner's Dilemma	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 21-29; Drezner Chs. 1-4
1/30	The Realist Perspective	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 29-36; Drezner, Chs. 5 & 6
2/1	The Liberal Perspective	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 36-45; Drezner, Ch. 4
2/3	The Identity Perspective	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 45-53; Drezner, Chs. 7 & 11
2/6	Critical Theories and Levels of Analysis	Nau, Ch. 1, pgs. 53-68; Drezner, Chs. 9 & 10
2/8	Review of Material	
2/10	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #1</b>	<b>Event Summary Due (Via Moodle)</b>
2/13	History: Is it Cyclical, Linear, or Messy?	Nau, Ch. 2
2/15	World War I: The Birth of Modern IR	Nau, Ch. 3
2/17	World War II: Oops, We Did It Again!	Nau, Ch. 4
2/20	<b>President's Day -- No Class</b>	
2/22	Explaining the Origins & End of the Cold War	Nau, Ch. 5; Aron, "Everything ..." (M)
2/24	Review of Material	

Date	Topic	Assignment
2/27	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #2</b>	
2/29	After the Cold War: Defining a New World Order	Nau, Ch. 6
3/2	Conflict after 9/11: Terrorism and Local Conflict	Nau, Ch. 7
3/5	The History of Globalization	Nau, Ch 8
3/7	How Globalization Works	Nau, Ch. 9
3/9	Review of Material	
3/12	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #3</b>	<b>Annotated Bibliography Due (Via Moodle)</b>
3/14	Trade, Investment, and Finance	Nau, Ch. 10
3/16	International Development: Asia & Latin America	Nau, Ch. 11
3/19	International Development: Africa & MENA	Nau, Ch. 12
3/21	Critical Focus on Global Inequality	Nau, Ch. 13
3/23	Review of Material	
3/26	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #4</b>	
3/28	Film: Ghosts of Rwanda	Powers. Bystanders to Genocide.
3/30	Film: Ghosts of Rwanda, Continued	<b>Analysis Paper Due (Via Moodle)</b>
<b>Spring Break</b>		
4/9	World Environment: Population and Resource	Nau, Ch. 14
4/11	World Environment: Pollution & Climate Change	Readings on Moodle (M)
4/13	Global Civil Society: NGOs	Nau, Ch. 15
4/16	Global Civil Society: Human Rights	Readings on Moodle (M)
4/18	Review of Material	
4/20	<b>Celebration of Knowledge #5</b>	
4/23	Global Governance: IGOs	Nau, Ch. 16
4/25	Global Governance: The United Nations System	Readings on Moodle (M)
4/27	Regional Governance: Regionalism & the EU	Readings on Moodle (M)
4/30	The Democratic Peace	Nau, Conclusion
5/2	Film: Why We Fight	Eisenhower's Farewell Address (M)
5/4	Film: Why We Fight	
5/9	<b>Final Exam, 10:10-12:10 p.m.</b>	