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PSC 130E.02: International Relations

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Professor Paul Haber
Political Science Department, course #130e
Fall 2005
Meets: Tuesday and Thursday 9:40 – 11:00
Office Hours in LA 355. Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 - 2:00

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Teaching Assistants

Jennifer Hathaway Office hours: by appointment
John Spaulding Office hours: M: 9:00 – 10:00
W: 11:00 – 12:00
F: 12:00 – 1:00

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Required texts (available at the UC Bookstore)

Joseph Nye. *Understanding International Conflicts: An Introduction to Theory and History*. Longman Publishers, 2005 (fifth edition).

Edward Drachman and Alan Shank with Karla Cunningham and Jeremy Grace. *You Decide! Controversial Global Issues*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2003.

A number of articles will be put on reserve at the Mansfield Library and/or placed on Blackboard (for Blackboard instructions, refer to the end of this syllabus). Details will be announced in class.

This is an introductory course. The goal of the class is to introduce students to the serious study of international relations. By serious study I mean an approach to international relations that explores a creative and rigorous interplay between theory and history. It means an approach that focuses on the realities of power: power derived from military might, population, technology, land mass, and population to be sure, but also an approach that considers the influence of ideas and values on public policy decisions. Particularly relevant here would be considerations of science on global environmental decisions and ethical considerations across the public policy map. What role has ethical and rational logics played in decision-making in the past and what role could or they should play in the future?

This class is designed to prepare citizens to be able to intelligently follow and participate in the making of foreign policy. Equipped with theory and history, citizens are in a much better position to understand and advocate for particular decisions. The first part of the class is designed to provide some of this theoretical and historical equipment. The second half challenges us to think about particular case studies.

Students are required to read all assigned readings **carefully and before the class period for which they are assigned.** **Students are also required to follow international news coverage in the New York Times throughout the semester.** We will discuss and debate issues raised by the readings in class. It will be near to impossible to follow – let alone participate – in these discussions if you have not already read the material. John Spaulding will be regularly available to discuss the reading and lectures with individuals and groups. Students are strongly encouraged to make use of this opportunity, especially if you are having difficulty understanding the material. Start early and go often. Do not wait until you are in a crisis situation because it is often too late at that point to improve as much as would have been possible if you had addressed your confusions earlier. Students are also strongly encouraged to follow current international events since these will be regularly discussed in class.

Your grade will be based on three exams (each exam is worth 1/5 of total grade), one short paper (1/5), and about half a dozen quizzes (together worth 1/5 of total grade). Exams and quizzes will be based on assigned readings, lectures, class discussions, films, and guest speakers. There will be no make-ups for quizzes. Sometimes the dates for quizzes will be announced in class, other times they will not. Your lowest two grades on these quizzes will not count toward your grade. Make-up exams will be allowed, but only with a doctor's note, or for non-medical emergencies, with a typed statement addressed to the professor. Students should not make a habit of missing class: your grade will likely suffer.

If you miss a film showing, you are responsible for locating a copy of the film and watching it on your own. If you miss a guest speaker, you are responsible for finding out what was discussed. If you are going to miss an exam due to illness or emergency, you must contact the professor **before the exam** date and arrange a makeup. If you do not, you will not be able to make up the exam and will receive an F grade for that exam.

It may become necessary, over the course of the class, to rearrange assignments or alter the schedule. Any changes in scheduling will be announced in class. If you miss class, you are responsible for checking with another student or the TA for lecture notes and any announcements that may have been made regarding scheduling or assignments. I do not post nor do I lend out copies of my lecture notes.

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAM SCHEDULE

September 1 Nye, chapter 1
September 6 Nye, chapter 2
September 8 Nye, chapter 3
September 13 Nye, chapter 4
September 15 Nye, chapter 5
September 20 Nye, chapter 6
September 22 Nye, chapter 7
September 27 Nye, chapter 8
September 29 Nye, chapter 9
October 4 Exam 1

October 6 Drachman, case 1
October 11 Drachman, case 2
October 13 Drachman, case 3
October 18 Drachman, case 4
October 20 Drachman, case 5 Papers are due
October 25 Drachman, case 6
October 27 Drachman, case 7
November 3 Exam 2

November 8 Drachman, case 8
November 10 Drachman, case 9
November 15 Drachman, case 12
November 17 To be announced
November 22 To be announced
November 24 Holiday
November 29 To be announced
December 1 To be announced
December 6 To be announced
December 8 Exam 3