

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana Course Syllabi

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Fall 9-1-2003

PSC 130E.01: International Relations

Paul Haber

University of Montana - Missoula, paul.haber@umontana.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Haber, Paul, "PSC 130E.01: International Relations" (2003). *University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 6776.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/6776>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Open Educational Resources (OER) at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Professor Paul Haber
Political Science Department, course #130e
Fall 2003

243-4862
haber@selway.umt.edu

Meets: Tuesday and Thursday 9:40 – 11:00
Office Hours in LA 355. Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 – 2:00

Teaching Assistants:

Maya Russell office hours: MW 10:30 – 12:00 maya.russell@umontana.edu
Marian Palaia office hours: MW 2:00 - 3:30 marian_palaia@hotmail.com

Required texts available for purchase in UC Bookstore:

Joseph Nye. *Understanding International Conflicts: An Introduction to Theory and History*. Longman Publishers, 2003 (Fourth 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. These 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 takes serious the realities of power and the power that ethical considerations have played in decision-making and the role that they could or should play in the future. 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.

Important dates: September 22 is the last day to drop class by Cyberbear and the last day to select audit grade option. October 13 is the last day to drop courses with instructor and advisor signatures on a drop/add form. A WP or WF will appear on your transcript for courses dropped after October 13. October 13 is also the last day to change from P/NP to traditional letter grade or vice versa.

Students are required to read all assigned readings **carefully and before the class period for which they are assigned**. 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. The teaching assistants 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.

There are two grading options. Option number one is a grade based on three exams. Each exam will count for 1/3 of the grade. Exams will be based on assigned readings, lectures, class discussions, films, and guest speakers. 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. Students taking the course for pass/fail must receive at least a grade of C- to pass the class and receive credit.

The second grading option includes a research project known as a quotebook. In this grading option, your grade will be based on your two best test scores and your quotebook. Quotebooks must be handed in no later than December 4th.

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 a 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 4 Nye, chapter 1
September 9 Nye, chapter 2
September 11 Nye, chapter 3
September 16 Nye, chapter 4
September 18 Nye, chapter 5
September 23 Nye, chapter 6
September 25 Nye, chapter 7
September 30 Nye, chapter 8
October 2 Nye, chapter 9
October 7 Exam 1

October 9 Drachman, chapter 1
October 14 Drachman, chapter 2
October 16 Drachman, chapter 3
October 21 Drachman, chapter 4
October 23 Drachman, chapter 5
October 28 Drachman, chapter 6
October 30 Drachman, chapter 7
November 4 Drachman, chapter 8
November 6 Exam 2

November 11 is a holiday
November 13 Drachman, chapter 9
November 18 Drachman, chapter 10
November 20 Drachman, chapter 11
November 25 Drachman, chapter 12
November 27 is a holiday
December 2 To be announced
December 4 To be announced
December 9 To be announced
December 12 Exam 3

THE QUOTEBOOK

The quotebook is your optional term project. The quotebook ***IS DUE IN CLASS ON DECEMBER 4th.*** Late papers will not be accepted. This assignment provides an opportunity to conduct research on a topic of your choosing. The only requirement for topic selection is that it is an international issue that concerns many people. Examples include the international environment, the Brazilian Amazon, international human rights, human rights violations in Latin America, the war on terrorism, relations between the United States and Israel and/or other countries in the Middle East, foreign aid, international trade, and the international criminal court. As you can see from the examples, the individual student can decide how broad or narrow to make the topic. You may begin broad, and find you want to narrow when you become overwhelmed by the amount of information. You may start narrow, say arms transfers to Mauritania, and decide to change the topic to arms transfers between the United States and Africa. A major responsibility of the Teaching Assistants is to assist students with their quotebooks. Students are advised to take advantage of this assistance.

The quotebook that you will turn in will be a collection of sixteen quotes on the global problem of your choosing. Four of the quotes should be taken from the textbooks. Eight quotes should be taken from no fewer than three different journals that cover international affairs. You have the option of using quotes from newspapers or recent books but these may not exceed one-quarter of the total. At least one of your "quotes" must be graphic and quantitative, i.e. a table or chart providing data about the problem. One or two of your quotes may be cartoons pictures or maps. Students that would like to modify these requirements may discuss alternatives with one a TA, but this must be done well in advance of when the quotebook is turned in. You can locate these sources either on the internet or in print.

Each quote must be accompanied with a citation that would enable a reader to easily find its source. While there are many ways to make citations, and you can choose the one you like, you must be consistent in the form. Here is one example:

Olivia Laboo, "Infant Mortality in South Africa" in The Journal of International Development Vol. 2, No. 1, January 1989, p. 67.

Either before or after each quote, you must provide a statement that puts the quote in context and a brief paragraph indicating why you found the quote significant. Do you agree? Disagree? Are you inspired? Infuriated? How does the quote illuminate some important aspect of the problem? How is this quote related to others in the quotebook? While I am interested in your personal opinion and feelings about the situation, it is important that these responses are accompanied by analysis, at least most of the time.

The quotebook must begin with a two to three page statement that provides a framework for understanding the quotes. This statement can include a combination of assertions, hypotheses and points of view. This theme should be referred to in the paragraphs that accompany the quotes. This introduction should also include a description of the problem, an explanation of the problem, and some prescription for what might be done about it.

A PARTIAL LIST OF LIBRARY JOURNALS

Alternatives	New York Review of Books	Commentary	Orbis	Partisan Review
New Republic	Comparative Politics	Political Affairs	Current History	Politics and Society
Daedalus	Washington Spectator	Dissent	Economist	The Progressive
Race and Class	Problems of Communism	Social Policy	Socialist Review	Foreign Affairs
Foreign Policy	Far Eastern Economic Review	Der Spiegel	Harpers	Humanist
State of the World	Les Temps Modernes	Inquiry	Third World Quarterly	
International Financial News Survey		Monthly Review		Washington Monthly
International Financial Statistics Yearbook		Mother Jones		The American Prospect
International Monetary Fund		World Monitor		The Nation
International Organization		World Politics		World Marxist Review
International Studies Quarterly		New Leader		National Review
Journal of Conflict Resolution		Manchester Guardian Weekly		World Press Review
Middle East Review		World Policy Journal		Atlantic Monthly
FAO Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics				