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PSC 230E.02: Introduction to International Relations

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University of Montana—Political Science Department
Political Science 230 : International Relations
Spring Semester, 1995

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Political Science 230, International Relations, is an introductory course on international politics. It is intended to acquaint students with the principal intellectual and practical issues, as well as the historical background of modern international politics.

Students are expected to thoroughly and carefully complete the reading assignments for each class meeting, and to be prepared to discuss the contents of these assignments. Reading assignments will be in the following books:

- 1) Hans J. Morgenthau, **Politics Among Nations**
- 2) Paul Kennedy, **The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers**

Grades will be based on three (3) tests on the Morgenthau text, as well as a six (6) page precis on Kennedy's **Rise and Fall of the Great Powers**. The precis will include a concise, accurate statement of the thesis of the book, followed by a description of the principal arguments and evidence used by the author, and will conclude with an evaluation of the validity and value of the book. Precis must be typed, double spaced, and written in correctly spelled, grammatical English. Precis that are turned in late or have excessive errors will be penalized.

The schedule of reading assignments in Morgenthau and Kennedy, the schedule of tests, and the deadline for the precis of the Kennedy book will be distributed in class on separate announcements. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the course grade will be based on the tests and twenty-five percent (25%) on the precis.