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Spring 2-1-2009

### PSC 130E.02: International Relations

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Office Hours: Hayes: LA 349 - MWF 10:00-11:00 and by appointment

TA: Jeff David: Informal review sessions:

Monday - 3:10 - 4:00 - LA 308  
Tuesday - 3:40 - 4:30 - LA 306  
Wednesday - 8:00 - 9:00 - LA 304  
Thursday - 1:10 - 2:00 - LA 338

Textbooks: 1. Goldstein, *International Relations: 2008-2009 edition*  
2. Amstutz, *International Ethics 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*  
3. Weekly news magazine and/or daily newspaper to keep up with world events.

This course is a comprehensive review of contemporary human relations from a global perspective. Its central concern is an exploration of the ways people from different backgrounds and traditions approach common problems. While the nation-state is the focus of any discussion of international relations, this institution is examined from both the historical-traditional point of view as well as the evolving, future-oriented point of view. This examination is based upon empirical assessment as well as normative-ethical perspectives. Of special concern are distributive issues like economic development and disparities in global welfare. Also, human rights issues and problems associated with the global commons are examined.

Course Objectives:

Develop understanding of the role of political organizations in global relations

Promote the ability to analyze the components of commercial and economic relations at the transnational level

Encourage appreciation for the socio-cultural differences that describe world populations

Increase recognition of the importance of moral and ethical perspectives in international affairs

Encourage an appreciation for the historical changes that have occurred in the value systems embraced by people in different parts of the world

Generate informed discussions of the philosophical controversies and dilemmas in the contemporary world

#### Course Requirements:

The course is divided into four sections of approximately four weeks each. At the conclusion of each section, there will be a one-hour exam covering the material of that part only. There will be no comprehensive final at the end. The exams will consist of objective type questions and will be designed to draw equally from the textbooks and lecture material. In addition, there will be questions on geography and current world events. Each exam will count for 25% of the final grade. The exams will be electronically graded so purchase at the Bookstore answer form F-289.

In addition, there will be four essays worth five points each based on the Amstutz book. These will be assigned in approximately three week intervals in the review sessions. The length should be two pages or about 500 words. The essays will be graded on the basis of analytical quality. Essay topics will be available at <http://www.cas.unt.edu/polsci/faculty/hayes.htm>

MISSED EXAMS WILL BE MADE UP ONE WEEK AFTER THE EXAM DATE IN **LA 205 AT 8:00 AM**. THERE WILL BE NO OTHER OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP EXAMS!

Legitimate reasons for missing an exam are limited to the following:

1. Sickness
2. Family emergency
3. Personal exigency

**To be eligible to make up an exam, written documentation is required.**

GRADES: The course grade will be based on the total of the four exams and the essays (420 possible points). Grade distribution will be as follows: top 10% = A; next 20% = B; next 40% = C; next 20% = D; next 10% = F.

In order to make the experience of this course as pleasant and rewarding as possible for all concerned, you are asked to observe the following rules. Do not come to class late or depart early. Do not use class time to read the Kaimin, write letters, chat with your neighbors or engage in other activities not related to the course.

***The Academic Officers of the University of Montana have determined that the following statement must be present in every course syllabus:***

*All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.*

*All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://life.umt.edu/SA/documents/fromWeb/StudentConductCode1.pdf>*

#### TOPIC OUTLINE

#### READING ASSIGNMENTS

#### **The Traditional State System**

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Understanding International Relations | Goldstein, Ch. 1<br>Amstutz, Ch. 1   |
| 2. The Power Model                       | Goldstein, Ch. 2<br>Amstutz, Ch. 2,3 |

EXAM #1 - February 19, 2009 (makeup February 26)

#### **Approaches to Resolving Conflicts**

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 3. Peaceful Approaches | Goldstein, Ch. 3<br>Amstutz, Ch. 4, 5    |
| 4. Armed Conflict      | Goldstein, Ch. 4<br>Amstutz, Ch. 6, 7, 8 |

EXAM #2 - March 19, 2009 (makeup March 26)

## **Globalization**

- |                                |                                     |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 5. International Economy       | Goldstein, Ch. 5<br>Amstutz, Ch. 9  |
| 6. International Organizations | Goldstein, Ch. 6<br>Amstutz, Ch. 10 |

EXAM #3 - April 16, 2009 (makeup April 23)

## **Humanitarian Issues**

- |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7. North-South Relations      | Goldstein, Ch. 7                   |
| 8. Environment and Technology | Goldstein, Ch. 8<br>Amstutz, Ch. 8 |

EXAM #4 - MAY 7, 2009 (May 12, 8-10: Makeup in GBB 106)

Note: May 8 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.