PSC 130E.01: International Relations

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Political Science 130
Introduction to International Relations

Spring 2006
SS 356

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

Spalding: Informal review sessions:

Monday - 8:10-9:00 - SS 344
Monday - 5:10-6:00 - SS 356
Wednesday - 5:10-6:00 SS 356

Textbooks: 1. Goldstein, *International Relations: Brief Third
Edition*
2. Amstutz, *International Ethics*
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 www.umt.edu/polsci/faculty/hayes/hayeshome

 MISSED EXAMS WILL BE MADE UP ONE WEEK AFTER THE EXAM DATE IN ROOM SS340 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://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321.

TOPIC OUTLINE

The Traditional State System

1. Understanding International Relations
   Goldstein, Ch. 1
   Amstutz, Ch. 1

2. The Power Model
   Goldstein, Ch. 2
   Amstutz, Ch. 2

EXAM #1 - February 9, 2006 (makeup February 16)

Approaches to Resolving Conflicts

3. Peaceful Approaches
   Goldstein, Ch. 3
   Amstutz, Ch. 4

4. Armed Conflict
   Goldstein, Ch. 4
   Amstutz, Ch. 5

EXAM #2 - March 9, 2006 (makeup March 16)

Globalization

5. International Economy
   Goldstein, Ch. 5
   Amstutz, Ch. 7
6. International Organizations
   Goldstein, Ch. 6
   Amstutz, Ch. 6

EXAM #3 - April 6, 2006 (makeup April 13)

Humanitarian Issues

7. North-South Relations
   Goldstein, Ch. 7

8. Environment and Technology
   Goldstein, Ch. 8
   Amstutz, Ch. 8

EXAM #4 - MAY 4, 2006 (May 12 8-10 Makeup in SS 356)

Note: March 7 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.