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PSC 230E.02: Introduction to International Relations

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Professor Paul Haber
University of Montana
Political Science Department, course #230e
Summer 1997
Meets: MTWRF 7:30am - 9:00
Office Hours: MTWR 12:30-1:00

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Required texts available for purchase in UC Bookstore:

1. James Rosenau and Mary Durfee, *Thinking Theory Thoroughly: Coherent Approaches to an Incoherent World*. Westview Press, 1995.
2. John Rourke, ed., *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics*. Seventh Edition. Dushkin Publishing Group, 1996.
3. John Isbister, *The Immigration Debate: Remaking America*. Kumarian Press, 1996.

This is an introductory course to international relations. No assumptions are made regarding prior knowledge of the topic. Students will be required to study a variety of conceptual issues vital to the study of international relations, and apply these to current international issues. Ethical, as well as political and conceptual considerations, will be important to our evaluation of historical and contemporary international issues.

Students are required to read all assigned readings carefully and before the class period for which they are assigned. In addition, students are required to keep up with major international events. This can be done in a number of ways, including reading one of the major daily newspapers available in the Mansfield Library (for example, try alternating between the New York Times and the Christian Science Monitor). Students may also keep up by watching news programs on TV (C-Span, public television, weekend talk shows), listen to public radio. The ambitious may also want to read relevant journals as a means for becoming and/or keeping informed about current affairs (See, for example, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Commentary, New York Review of Books, Current History, Harpers, International Organization, World Policy Journal, World Politics, The Nation). Current events will be discussed often in class, and students who do not make an effort to keep up outside of class will be at a serious disadvantage.

Your grade will be based on two exams (combined for 1/2 of total grade), class attendance, in-class assignments, and participation (1/4), and a debate (1/4). Details on the debate format and requirements will be discussed in class. Students are required to read all assigned readings on time, and to come to class prepared to discuss them. All assigned readings must be read carefully and analytically *before* the class listed below for discussion. Students may miss three classes without explanation. After that, students must bring a typed statement explaining their absence. Make a serious effort to get to class on time. If you have a good reason for being late, convey it to me after class.

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 for lecture notes and any announcements that may have been made regarding scheduling or assignments.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

July 1, Rosenau, chapters 1 and 2
July 2, Rosenau, chapter 3 (discussion of student presentations)
July 3, Rosenau, chapter 4 (decisions on student presentations)
July 7, Rosenau, chapter 5
July 8, Rosenau, chapter 6
July 9, Rosenau, chapters 7 and 8

July 10, student presentations, Rourke

July 11, student presentations, Rourke

July 14, student presentations, Rourke

July 15, student presentations, Rourke

July 16, student presentations, Rourke

July 17, student presentations, Rourke

July 18, Exam Workshop

July 21, Exam #1

July 22, Isbister introduction and chapter 1

July 23, Isbister chapter 2

July 24, Isbister chapter 3

July 25, Isbister chapter 4

July 28, Isbister chapter 5 and 6

July 29, Isbister chapter 7 and 8

July 30, Isbister chapter 9

July 31, Exam workshop and course evaluation

August 1 Exam #2