

**PS20: World Politics  
Winter 2012**

**Course Syllabus  
Last updated on 1/10/12**

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Bunche 3381

Teaching Assistants:

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**LOCATION and TIME:**

TR 11:00AM – 12:15PM  
Dodd 147

Office hours for Professor Johns: W 9:00 – 10:00 AM and by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to the study of international relations. We will learn about the major paradigms and tools for studying interactions between nation-states. Then we will survey key topics in the study of conflict and cooperation. This is an introductory-level course and is designed for freshmen and sophomores.

**ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING**

Your grade in this course is based on the following:

Participation in section: 10%

Active participation in discussion sections, and demonstrated preparation and understanding of readings.

Written assignments: 30%

During the quarter, you will be asked to write eight short (2-3 page) policy briefs on contemporary international relations topics. These assignments are due at the

beginning of section meetings. Your two lowest grades on these policy briefs will be automatically dropped. Each of the remaining six scores will contribute 5% to your final grade. There will be no make-up writing assignments. If you do not hand in an assignment at the beginning of your section, you will receive a zero grade.

Midterm Exam (Feb 14): 25%

Final Exam: 35%

There will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a grade of zero. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

## **TEXTS**

### Required texts:

FLS: Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. (2010) *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company.

### Other required readings:

These will be made available on the course web-site:

<https://classes.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/12W-POLSCI20-1>

## **STUDY AIDS**

Before each class meeting, I will post an outline of that day's lecture on the class web-page. These outlines are intended to be study aids for note-taking and exam review. I will not be posting lecture slides.

- These outlines are not substitutes for attending lectures. If you miss lecture, you do so at your own risk.
- These outlines do not limit the scope or content of possible exam questions.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All UCLA students are bound by UCLA's Student Conduct Code, which is available at: <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu>. As required by UCLA procedures, any suspected or alleged misconduct---including plagiarism and cheating---will be automatically reported to the Dean of Students. If you have any questions or concerns about what constitutes plagiarism, you should consult with your TA, professor, or the Office of the Dean of Students.

## TOPICS AND READINGS

### Part I: How Can We Study International Relations?---Paradigms and Tools

#### Week 1

Jan 10 (T): Syllabus overview and class policies

Jan 12 (R): Traditional paradigms of IR  
Read: FLS, Introduction  
FLS, Chapter 1

Section: Get to know your TA and learn more about the written assignments.

#### Week 2

Jan 17 (T): Interests and bargaining  
Read: FLS, Chapter 2

Jan 19 (R): Cooperation and institutions  
Read: FLS, Chapter 2

Section: **Brief #1 due: Current Issue in World Politics.**

### Part II: What Do We Know About International Conflict?

#### Week 3

Jan 24 (T): Domestic politics and war  
Read: FLS, Chapter 4  
Gause, F. Gregory. (2005) "Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?"  
*Foreign Affairs*. September/October.

Jan 26 (R): No lecture

Section: **Brief #2 due: US Security and the Arab Spring.**

#### Week 4

Jan 31 (T): Causes of war I: incomplete information  
Read: FLS, Chapter 3

Feb 2 (R): Causes of war II: commitment and indivisibility  
Read: FLS, Chapter 3

Section: **Brief #3 due: US and Conflict in Small States.**

Week 5

Feb 7 (T): International institutions and war  
Read: FLS, Chapter 5

Feb 9 (R): Midterm exam review session

Section: **Brief #4 due: The Future of NATO.**

Week 6

Feb 14 (T): **Midterm exam.**

### **Part III: What Do We Know About International Cooperation?**

Feb 16 (R): Trade I: economic theories  
Read: FLS, Chapter 6

Section: No section meetings this week

Week 7

Feb 21 (T): Trade II: domestic politics of protectionism  
Read: FLS, Chapter 6

Feb 23 (R): Trade III: GATT/WTO and preferential trade agreements  
Read: FLS, Chapter 6  
Watkins, Kevin. (2002) "Is the WTO Legit?" *Foreign Policy*.  
September/October.  
Naim, Moises. (2007) "The Free-Trade Paradox." *Foreign Policy*.  
September/October.  
Mattoo, Aaditya and Arvind Subramanian. (2009) "From Doha to  
the Next Bretton Woods - A New Multilateral Trade Agenda."  
*Foreign Affairs*. January/February.

Section: **Brief #5 due: WTO and the Doha Negotiations.**

Week 8

Feb 28 (T): Money  
Read: FLS, Chapter 8

Mar 1 (R): Finance I: IMF  
Read: FLS, Chapter 7  
Stiglitz, Joseph E. (2002) *Globalization and Its Discontents*. W.W. Norton & Company. --- Chapter 2: "Broken Promises" (pages 23-52)  
Rogoff, Kenneth. (2003) "The IMF Strikes Back." *Foreign Policy*. January/February.

Section: **Brief #6 due: China and Currency Manipulation.**

Week 9

Mar 6 (T): Finance II: foreign direct investment  
Read: FLS, Chapter 7

Mar 8 (R): Development I: why are some countries poor?  
Read: FLS, Chapter 9

Section: **Brief #7 due: EU and the Financial Crisis.**

Week 10

Mar 13 (T): Development II: how can the poor grow rich?  
Read: FLS, Chapter 9  
Sachs, Jeffrey. (2005) *The End of Poverty*. Penguin Books. --- Chapter 13: "Making the Investments Needed to End Poverty." (pages 244-265)  
Easterly, William. (2006) *The White Man's Burden*. Penguin Books. --- Chapter 1: "Planners Versus Searchers." (pages 3-30)  
"Economics focus: The big push back," *The Economist*, December 3, 2011, page 92.

Mar 15 (R): Final exam review session

Section: **Brief #8 due: Millennium Development Goals.**

**Final Exam on Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 3:00pm-6:00pm**