

# **POL 1080 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IR)<sup>1</sup>**

*Spring Semester 2018 (3 credit hrs)*

*Department of Political Science*

*University of Cincinnati*

## Class meets:

Mon, Wed and Fridays  
12:20–1:15 pm  
Location: 127 McMicken  
Hall

## Course instructor:

Dr. Ivan Dinev Ivanov\*  
Phone: 513-556-3318  
Email:  
[ivanovid@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:ivanovid@ucmail.uc.edu)

## Instructor's Office Hours:

Mon & Wed 2:00pm-5:00pm  
Location: 1121 Crosley Tower

## Teaching Assistant:

Mr. Huseyin Cakal  
Email:  
[cakalhn@mail.uc.edu](mailto:cakalhn@mail.uc.edu)

## Office Hours:

Fridays  
Time: 1:30-4:30 pm  
Location: 1206 Crosley

## Teaching Assistant:

Ms. Sayam Moktan  
Email:  
[moktansm@mail.uc.edu](mailto:moktansm@mail.uc.edu)

## Office Hours:

Thursdays  
Time: 11:30-2:30 pm  
Location: 1100 Crosley

## SI Leader:

Isabella Branco  
Email: [brancoic@mail.uc.edu](mailto:brancoic@mail.uc.edu)  
SI Sessions: Mon & Wed 1:30 to 3:00  
Session Location: Swift Hall 616  
Office Hours (tentative):  
Wednesdays 11 am -noon  
Location: 2502 French Hall

\* If you contact me via email, I should be able to respond within next 12-24 hrs.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to the exciting sub-field of contemporary international relations (IR). It is designed to familiarize students with the ways in which individuals, states (especially their leaders and bureaucracies), international organizations, and non-state actors interact in the international system. It surveys central topics in international relations (e.g., international security, terrorism, migration globalization, human rights and the environment) while also equipping students with analytical tools to help them navigate the complexity of modern IR and offer viable solutions to current world problems.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

POL 1080 introduces the students to fundamental theoretical concepts used by scholars to explore the causes of policy problems, the range of solutions, and the difficulties implementing these solutions. For students majoring in International Affairs and Political Science, the course lays the foundation for further advanced IR courses (such as POL 2082, POL 3081, POL 3082, POL 3080, POL 3090, POL 6080, etc.). For all other students it should provide foundation and basic tools to comprehend and analyze international events. The course integrates theoretical and historical approach in an attempt to develop a holistic understanding of contemporary international relations. Students successful in the class should be able to:

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<sup>1</sup> This syllabus is subject to change. I reserve the right to add supplementary readings if necessary.

1. demonstrate knowledge of actors and elements of the international system such as nation states, international organizations, transnational corporations, social movements, and non-governmental organizations;
2. identify and apply theoretical frameworks for interaction between and among the actors and elements of the international system such as idealism, realism, nationalism, integration;
3. display a basic understanding of basic international relations concepts such as: foreign policy, security, terrorism, migration, interventionism, political economy, international trade, etc.;
4. apply political science concepts to the study of conflict and cooperation between actors and elements of the international system and demonstrate an understanding of how these conflictual and cooperative dynamics can be managed. The course stresses critical thinking over simple descriptive fact memorization and;
5. evaluate critically the core notion of power politics, assess it relative to moral reasoning associated with a focus on justice, and apply those two frames of reference to war and peace and institutional versus national interests.

**REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:**

<i>Course Requirements:</i>	<u>% of final grade</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Two in-class midterm exams	40% (20% each)	2/23 and 3/30
Online current events quiz	10%	4/13
Comprehensive in-class final exam	30%	4/24 @ noon – 2:00 pm
In-class group interaction via Echo 360	10%	throughout the semester
In-class attendance (measured via Echo 360)	5%	throughout the semester
In-class participation via Echo 360	5%	throughout the semester

A more detailed explanation how these assignments will be graded and the specific criteria are available at: [http://homepages.uc.edu/~ivanovid/syllabi/IR\\_criteria.pdf](http://homepages.uc.edu/~ivanovid/syllabi/IR_criteria.pdf)

**GRADING SCALE:**

<b>93% - 100%</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>73% - 76%</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>90% - 92%</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>70% - 72%</b>	<b>C-</b>
<b>87% - 89%</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>67% - 69%</b>	<b>D+</b>
<b>83% - 86%</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>63% - 66%</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>80% - 82%</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>60% - 62%</b>	<b>D-</b>
<b>77% - 79%</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>59% - 0%</b>	<b>F</b>

Please note that grades represent **NON-NEGOTIABLE** assessments of a student's comprehension of course material.

### **POLICIES AND CAVEATS:**

If a student has a disability or impediment that affects their performance in class, please notify me **at the beginning of the semester** in order to accommodate any and all needs and interests. Also, note that students with documented disability are required to register with the University's Disability Services Office, located in 210 University Pavilion which will decide on their accommodation. Please, contact them for advice and assistance. The office's phone is (513) 556-6823, their email is: [disabisv@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:disabisv@ucmail.uc.edu).

Students are expected to attend class. One's attendance will be recorded at each class meeting and as stated above can affect a student's grade. In the case of extraordinary circumstances (medical or family), please email Sayam Moktan at [moktansm@mail.uc.edu](mailto:moktansm@mail.uc.edu) **PRIOR** to quizzes, exams, test, debates, etc. about to inform us about your impending absence. Feel free to email me, too. Proper documentation **may be** requested when the student returns to class. Absences due to illness or injury will not be excused retroactively, unless students follow the aforementioned procedures. If you have questions—PLEASE ASK. Even though I do not necessarily require a medical note, I expect you to contact the instructor or one of the teaching assistants in advance (preferably by email) and inform me if you are not feeling well.

If the class cannot meet due to weather conditions, please be aware that students are expected to keep up with the course material. Check UC alerts page about the most up-to-date information regarding the status of UC campuses in cases of emergency closing(s) at: <http://www.uc.edu/alert.html> In these cases, the instructor will provide updates by email or via Blackboard. The general rule is that if an exam is scheduled or an assignment is due on date when classes are cancelled, students are expected to complete this exam or assignment on the first day when classes resume unless otherwise specified. For details about the instructor's weather policy visit: <http://homepages.uc.edu/~ivanovid/pdfs/weather.pdf>.

Student who misses a total of **FIVE** or more weeks of classes (1/3 of all class meetings) will receive a class participation grade of zero (0), and may also have their overall course grade reduced. A student who has missed a total of **SEVEN** or more weeks of classes (half of all class meetings) without legitimate excuse will receive a course grade of F. I do NOT plan to schedule makeup quizzes, or examinations; missing any quiz or exam without prior permission, may result in a zero on this particular course requirements. So be cautious and talk to me. Make-up quizzes or examinations can only be arranged in specific cases; please be sure to let me know as soon as possible if you will not be able to attend the scheduled time(s).

### **USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM:**

**Please, understand the proper use of technology in the classroom. Laptop computers, tablets, cell phone and other electronic devices can be used for solely for academic purposes and with discretion. Their volume should be muted during class time.** If students use online resources for anything, the than the course content (e.g. watching sport events, shopping online, or doing other non-academic activities), TAs will approach them and ask to

close this activity/ window. Multiple offenses will be penalized. Penalties may include dismissal from class, 0 points on course participation, or failing the course altogether. The instructor and the TAs (on behalf of the instructor) will monitor the implementation of these policies.

#### **USE OF ECHO 360 IN THE CLASSROOM:**

Note that course lectures are recorded via Echo 360 lecture capture (see weekly videos posted on Echo 360). Please, let me know in the beginning of the semester if you have any objections. You should feel free to review the recordings to refresh knowledge or catch up with course material. Note that recorded lectures do not substitute the requirement to attend classes. Also, be aware that we will be using Echo 360 software to record student attendance, group discussions, in-class participation and other forms of student engagement available via Blackboard under Echo360 and weekly learning modules. In order to receive credit via Echo 360 for your in-class attendance and participation, you need to bring an electronic device (preferably laptop or tablet but a smart phone will do the job, too). Note that you are not required to purchase any additional devices or licenses. You will be polled during class time and will need to select one or several correct answers listed on the Echo 360 interaction slide or select a specific area on an image where the correct answer is. Similarly, you will be asked to provide short answers and/ or type responses for group activities via Echo 360. Your answers will be recorded and used to determine your participation and interaction grade in class. For details on how the participation grade will be determined see the Grading Criteria for POL 1080 listed online.

#### **UC STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:**

The University of Cincinnati rules stipulate that all work submitted is expected to be original. Students should review the UC Student Code of Conduct and be aware of all activities defined as academic dishonesty. Although I do encourage students to exchange ideas and/or work together on certain assignments, *each student is responsible for completing and submitting his or her own homework*. Please be advised that according to the UC Student Code of Conduct plagiarism is defined as:

Submitting another's published or unpublished work in whole, in part or in paraphrase, as one's own without fully and properly crediting the author with footnotes, quotation marks, citations, or bibliographical reference.

Submitting as one's own original work, material obtained from an individual or agency without reference to the person or agency as the source of the material.

Submitting as one's own original work material that has been produced through unacknowledged collaboration with others without release in writing from collaborators.<sup>2</sup>

For further information on appropriate citation, check the University of Cincinnati libraries' webpage: <http://guides.libraries.uc.edu/c.php?g=222556>

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<sup>2</sup> The University of Cincinnati Student Code of Conduct, also available at: [http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Code\\_of\\_Conduct.html](http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Code_of_Conduct.html), 06/21/2016.

#### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND OTHER SOURCES:

- 1) Henry R. Nau, *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (2016). You have two options to access the book:
  - (a) Purchase a hardcopy of the textbook; ISBN: 9781506332239.
  - (b) E-book rental for 180 days (\$47.50; 50% cheaper). Available at <https://www.vitalsource.com/products/perspectives-on-international-relations-power-henry-r-nau-v97815063322532>
- (2) To prep for exams and quizzes, please visit publisher's website and use the free online resources (summaries, study questions, quizzes, flashcards, etc):  
<https://edge.sagepub.com/nau5e>
- 3) Leading international weekly newspapers to stay abreast with current events: The New York Times. You need sign up for \$1 a week subscription for as long as you are a student (\$14 for the duration of the class, optional thereafter).  
<https://myaccount.nytimes.com/verification/education>  
NY Times hardcopies and electronic copies are available in the Library free of charge.
- 4) Additional readings related to the course topics or assignments are posted on Blackboard within each week's module.

#### COURSE OUTLINE

##### WEEK # / SCHEDULE:

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##### **WEEK #1 (1/8-1/12). Introduction to Course. International Relations as a Discipline**

Why thinking theoretically about IR? Introduction to Levels of Analysis  
Nau, Introduction, pp. 1-28

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##### **WEEK #2 (1/15-1/19). Levels of Analysis (Part I)**

The Individual and the State  
Nau, Chapter 1, 75-82

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##### **WEEK #3 (1/22-1/26). Levels of Analysis (Part II)**

Nau, Chapter 1, 75-82

**Friday Activities:** levels of analysis in IR

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##### **WEEK #4 (1/29-2/2). Explanations about IR: Realism and Liberalism**

The International System  
Nau, Chapter 1, 29-60

Also check, Conversation with Kenneth Waltz, Ford Professor Emeritus of Political Science, UC Berkeley, February 10, 2003:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9eV5gPIPZg>

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**WEEK #5 (2/5-2/9). Explanations about IR: Constructivism and Critical Approaches/ Ideas**

Nau, Chapter 1, 60-83

**Friday Activities:** three perspectives to IR

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**WEEK #6 (2/12-2/16). Power, Institutions and Ideas: World War I**

Nau, Chapter 2, 85-117

Read the Munich Agreement of 1938 which is found at:

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/imt/munich1.asp>

**Friday Activities:** explaining World War I

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**WEEK #7 (2/19-2/23). Power, Institutions and Ideas: World War II**

Nau, Chapter 3, 118-154

**Midterm Exam I**

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**WEEK #8 (2/26-3/2). Power, Institutions and Ideas: World War II and the Cold War**

Nau, Chapter 4, 155-203

**Friday Activities:** explaining World War II

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**WEEK #9 (3/5-3/9). Explaining post-Cold War & modern world: power, terrorism, conflict, domestic politics**

Global and Regional Hegemony, terrorism, ethnic conflicts, domestic factors

“The Clash of Civilizations,” Terrorism, Asymmetric Warfare, Preemptive Action

Nau, Chapter 5, 205-246

**Friday Activities:** explaining the Cold War

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**WEEK #10 (3/19-3/23). Explaining Modern IR: cooperation and international negotiations**

International Cooperation, Collective Security, Bargaining

Nau, Chapter 6, 247-265

**Friday Activities:** power and security in the post-Cold War world.

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**WEEK #11 (3/26-3/30). Explaining Modern IR: international law and institutions**

Terrorism, weapons of mass destruction (WMD), international courts, economic and trade institutions, regional integration and institutions

Nau, Chapter 6, 265-303

**Friday Activities:** int’l law and institutions

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**WEEK #12 (4/2-4/6). Explaining Modern IR: the role of human rights, identity and religion**

Democracy, religion, clash of civilizations, human rights regimes

Nau, Chapter 7, 304-345

Review "Background on the United Nations:"

<http://novaonline.nvcc.edu/eli/evans/his135/Events/Un45/un45.htm>

Review "Court at a Glance:"

<https://www.icc-cpi.int/about>

UN Charter Read "Preamble and Ch. VII at:

<http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/preamble/index.html>

UN Peacekeeping Operations; read "Overview:"

<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/>

**Midterm Exam II**

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**WEEK #13 (4/9-4/13). IR and International Economy**

The role of globalization, trade, investment and development

Nau, Chapter 8, 347-406

Nau, Chapter 9, 407-455

**Friday Activities:** trade, economic interaction and integration

**Current Events Quiz**

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**WEEK #14 (4/16-4/20). Critical Perspective to Globalization & contemporary issues in IR.****Concluding Remarks**

Global inequalities and injustice. Issues of global environmental politics

Nau, Chapter 9, 10 & Conclusion, 475-512

**Friday Activities:** critical perspectives to IPE

**Q&A for the final exam**

**Final exam: Tuesday, April 24 from 12:00-2:00 p.m.**

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Hans Morgenthau (1948), *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*, Alfred Knopf, New York

Kenneth Waltz (1997), "Evaluating Theories," *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 91, no. 4, pp. 913-917

\_\_\_\_\_ (1979), *Theory of International Politics*, New York: McGraw-Hill

\_\_\_\_\_ (1999), "Globalization and Governance," *PS: Political Science and Politics*, Vol. 32, no. 4, pp. 693-700

John Mearsheimer (2001), *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics*, WW Norton and Co

- Robert Keohane (1977), *Power and Interdependence: World Politics in Transition*, Little Brown and Company
- Michael Doyle, "Liberalism and World Politics," *APSR*, Vol. 80, no. 4 (December 1986), pp. 1151-1169
- \_\_\_\_\_, Bruce Russett, Christopher Layne, David Spiro, "The Democratic Peace" (in correspondence), *International Security* Vol. 19, no. 4, (December 1986), pp. 164-84
- Christopher Layne, "Kant or Cant: The Myth of the Democratic Peace," *International Security*, Vol. 19, no. 2 (Autumn 1994), pp. 5-49
- Lisa Martin and Robert Keohane, "The Promise of Institutional Theory," *International Security*, Vol. 20, no. 1 (Summer 1995), pp. 39-51
- Christopher Layne, *The Peace of Illusions*, Cornell University Press, Chapter 7, pp. 234-258
- Robert Jervis, "Hypotheses on Misperception," *World Politics* Vol. 20, no. 3 (April 1968), pp. 454-479
- Graham Allison, "Bureaucratic Politics: A Paradigm and Some Policy Implications," *World Politics* Vol. 24 (Supplement: Theory and Policy of International Relations), (Spring 1972), pp. 40-79
- \_\_\_\_\_, *The Essence of Decision*, Little Brown and Co, Boston, MA
- Alexander Wendt, "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization*, Vol. 46, (Spring 1992), pp. 391-426
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Social Theory of International Politics*, New York: New York University Press (1995)
- Fireke and Joergensen (2001), *Constructing International Relations: The Next Generation*; Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, c2001
- David Lake, "Fair Fights: Valuating Theories of Democracy and Victory," *International Security*, Vol. 28, no. 1 (Summer 2003), pp. 154-167
- Michael Desch, "Democracy and Victory: Why Regime Type Hardly Matters," *International Security*, Vol. 27, no. 2 (Fall 2002), pp. 5-47
- J. John Ikenberry, "Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Persistence of American Postwar Order," *International Security*, Vol. 23, no. 3 (Winter, 1998-1999), pp. 43-78
- James D. Fearon, "Rationalist Explanations for War," *International Organization*, Vol. 49, no. 3 (Summer 1995), 379-414
- Jack L Snyder, "Rationality at the Brink: the Role of Cognitive Processes in Failures of Deterrence," *World Politics*, Vol. 30, no. 3 (April 1978), 345-365
- Lisa Martin and Beth Simmons, "Theories and Empirical Studies of International Institutions," *International Organization*, Vol. 52, no. 4 (Autumn 1998): 729-757