

PSC 231
World Politics
Summer 2008

Professor John Tuman
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Office Hours: M-W 1:30-2:30, and by appointment

This course is an introduction to the study of international relations and world politics. Lectures and readings in the first part of the course will define important terms and compare different theories of international politics. The second part of the course will discuss international organizations, international law and security. The final part of the course will cover the politics of international economic relations, with a focus on trade, monetary relations, capital flows, and global health governance.

Requirements, Grading, and Other Policies

Lecture and Discussion: The class will meet Monday through Fridays from 2:40-4:10 PM for lectures and discussion. Students are expected to finish all of the assigned readings and to be prepared for discussion.

Exams and Grades: There will be two exams: a mid-term examination (June 23) and a final exam (July 11). The exams will consist of short answer and essay questions. The mid-term exam counts for 45 percent of your final grade, while the final exam counts for 50 percent. Five percent of your grade is based on class participation in discussion groups.

Make-up exams will be given only if the student can demonstrate she/he was absent due to illness or participation in an official university function. Students must provide an excuse in writing from a licensed health care provider or from a university administrator.

University Policy for Students with Disabilities: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Students should present appropriate verification from the Disability Resource Center (Room 137, Reynolds Student Services Center; 895-0866 [TDD 895-0652]).

Observance of Religious Holidays: Students who miss class due to observance of a religious holiday shall be given the opportunity to make up missed work. Please notify the instructor no later than July 9 if you will miss class because of observance of a religious holiday.

Contact via E-mail: A new UNLV policy requires students to use Rebelmail accounts when they contact faculty via e-mail. As the official e-mail system for students, Rebelmail is available to all students who have been admitted to the university. Non-matriculated students should contact the Office of Information Technology at UNLV students for assistance .

Course Text

Goldstein, Joshua S, and Jon C. Pevehouse, International Relations (New York: Pearson Longman, 2008), 8th edition.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

6/9	Introduction	Goldstein, Ch. 1
6/10	Defining Terms and Concepts	Goldstein, Ch. 1 & 134-144
6/11	Theories of IR: Realism	Goldstein, Ch. 2
6/12	Realism	Goldstein, Ch. 2
6/13	Theories of IR: Liberalism & Neoliberalism	Goldstein, Ch. 3
6/16	Theories of IR: Feminism & Constructivism	Goldstein, Ch. 3
6/17	Theories of IR: World Systems & Structural	Goldstein, 447-455
6/18	International Organizations & Law	Goldstein, Ch. 7
6/19	International Organizations & Law	Goldstein, Ch. 7
6/20	International Organizations & Law / Review	Goldstein, Ch. 7
6/23	Mid-Term Exam	
6/24	International Conflict & War	Goldstein, Ch. 5
6/25	International Conflict & War	Goldstein, Ch. 5
6/26	International Conflict & War	Goldstein, Ch. 5; skim Ch. 6
6/27	International Trade Policy	Goldstein, Ch. 8
6/30	International Trade	Goldstein, Ch. 8
7/1	International Monetary Relations	Goldstein, Ch. 9
7/2	International Lending and Foreign Debt	Goldstein, Ch. 9
7/3	International Capital Flows and MNCs	Goldstein, Ch. 9
7/4	Holiday	
7/7	Development & Underdevelopment	Goldstein, Ch. 13
7/8	Development & Underdevelopment; Global Health Issues	Goldstein, Ch. 13, Ch. 11
7/9	Global Health Governance & the Environment	Goldstein, Ch. 11
7/10	Review & Conclusion	No reading
7/11	Final Exam	