PSCI-150: Introduction to International Relations
Max Margulies
Summer 2017, Session 1
Monday and Wednesday, 9:00 AM–1:00 PM
Location: TBA

Please Note: While I have done my best to finalize this syllabus, my thoughts on how to organize certain aspects of the course—especially minor ones—may evolve. Thus, I reserve the right to make changes. Any changes after the semester starts will only affect the required readings.

Contact Information
Office Hours: TBA, or by appointment
Email: margm@sas.upenn.edu

I encourage all students to make use of my office hours or schedule an appointment to meet me at another time. This is an excellent way to clarify confusing concepts, ask questions about the reading, or receive feedback on your performance in class. It is also often easiest to reply to longer or more detailed questions in person. Please email me if you have any concerns about your ability to participate in and complete any aspects of the course.

Course Overview
This course serves as an introduction to the study of important issues in modern international relations. The goal of the course is to teach students basic concepts and theories that are useful for making sense of contemporary debates and challenges in international politics. We will study current events and the recent history that has shaped how states and other actors interact with each other across national borders. The class surveys majors topics in international relations to encourage further examination in more advanced classes. Major topics include international cooperation, security and conflict, trade, and international law and human rights. By the end of the class, students will be able to critique common academic and policy arguments about global affairs and will have acquired the tools to begin their own analyses.

Course Requirements and Grading
Your performance and final grade for the course will be evaluated as follows:
In-Class Participation: 25%
Two Short Papers (4 pages): 20% each
One Longer Paper (7–8 pages): 35%

Attendance in class is mandatory. The constraints of the shortened semester and long class periods mean you may be at a substantial disadvantage if you miss a class. While I know that emergencies happen, if you need to miss all or a significant portion of a class you must give me as much advance notice as possible. Unless you speak to me ahead of time, late work may be penalized up to 5 points each day past the deadline. You must complete all three writing assignments to pass the course.

I expect students to come to each class having read the required readings listed under that date in the syllabus, and prepared to discuss them. I will discuss some strategies to help you get the most
of the readings and our discussions on the first day, but you should email me if you have any questions before (or after) as well. In general, you should focus on key arguments or perspectives provided by each reading. Think about how readings relate to each other and other concepts we have discussed. What evidence does the author use, and do you find the argument convincing? If it is an historical or theoretical reading, how can you apply it to current events? Your participation grade will be based on both the quality and quantity of your contributions in class.

Finally, there are three written assignments over the course of the semester. The first two are short, four page responses to topics we have discussed in class, tentatively due June 7 and June 19, respectively. Instructions and questions for these papers will be distributed at least one week prior to their due dates. The final assignment will be a 7–8 page book review due on the last day of class. Instructions and the prompt for this assignment will be distributed on the first day of class, and we will spend additional time talking about the assignments before they are due.

Course Materials
The following book is required for the course:


While there is a more recent third edition, you may purchase the second edition instead. The third edition is available on Amazon for purchase for $101, or $29 rented. The second edition can be purchased on Amazon for $10 or less plus shipping, and should not differ substantially from the third for our purposes. However, I strongly suggest you acquire a copy by the start of the semester.

All other required readings, except for your book for the longer paper assignment, will be posted on the course Canvas page. Please note that the longer paper assignment requires reading a book that each student will choose in consultation with me. While you do not need to purchase this book, I encourage you to select it and begin reading it as early as possible.

Academic Integrity
All students must abide by the University of Pennsylvania’s Code of Academic Integrity. Please make sure to familiarize yourself with these rules, especially the definitions of cheating and plagiarism: http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai_codeofacademicintegrity.html. If you are unsure if something you are writing needs to be cited or attributed, please feel free to ask me before you submit the assignment.
Assigned Readings
Page length in parentheses. FLS indicates readings from the textbook.

Introduction

May 22: Actors and Interests in International Relations (85)

1. FLS Introduction and Chapter 1 (13, 36)
3. David Lake, “Introduction” in *Hierarchy in International Relations* (17)

Theoretical Approaches to International Relations

May 24: Cooperation in Realist and Institutionalist Approaches (67)

1. FLS Chapter 2 (41)

May 31: Critical Approaches to IR Theory (132)

2. Cynthia Enloe, “Gender Makes the World Go Round,” in *Bananas, Beaches, and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics* (36)
3. Helen Milner, “The Assumption of Anarchy in International Relations: A critique” (18)
4. Robert Jervis, “Realism, Game Theory, and Cooperation,” *World Politics* (33)
5. Margaret E. Keck and Kathryn Sikkink, "Transnational Advocacy Networks in International and Regional Politics" (11)

International Security

June 5: Causes of War (154)

1. FLS Chapter 3-4 (40, 44)
June 7: Coercion and the use of force (Paper 1 due) (88)

1. FLS Chapter 5 (42)
2. Kroenig, “Why a strike is the least bad option” Foreign Affairs (10)
4. Waltz, “Why Iran Should get the bomb” Foreign Affairs (4)
5. Drezner, “How the West should Respond to Putin,” Washington Post (4)
6. Carol Cohn, “Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals” Signs (32)

June 12: Civil Wars and Terrorism (77+)

1. FLS Chapter 6 (49)
3. Krasner “Talking Tough to Pakistan,” Foreign Affairs (10)
4. TBD

International Law and Human Rights

June 14: International Organizations and Global Governance (52+)

1. FLS Chapter 11 (32)
2. Ian Hurd, “Is Humanitarian Intervention Legal? The Rule of Law in an Incoherent World,” Ethics and International Affairs (20)
3. TBD

June 19: Humanitarian Intervention and Laws of War (Paper 2 due) (91)

1. FLS Chapter 12 (40)
4. Page Fortna, Does Peacekeeping Work? Chapter One (9)

International Political Economy

June 21: Trade and Development (105)

1. FLS Chapter 7, 10 (48, 32)
June 26: Globalization and the Environment (143)

1. FLS Chapter 8, 13 (37, 38)
3. Garrett Hardin, “Tragedy of the Commons” (11)

The Future of International Relations

June 28: (Longer Paper Due) (46)

2. Mira Rapp-Hooper, “A Tale of Two Allies” War on the Rocks (7)
3. John Gray, “Steven Pinker is Wrong about Violence and war” The Guardian (11)