

National and International Security - (PWAD 350)

Fall 2010

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Time and Location: T R Gardner 0008

Office Hours: T 1-3 and by appt.

Introduction: Welcome to the study of national and international security. In this course, we will examine global security challenges such as international wars, internal wars, non-state violence, economic disputes, financial crises, and problems of coordination and cooperation. We will adopt a multi-disciplinary approach, drawing on lessons from political science, economics, history, sociology, and anthropology. We will begin by examining problems of international security, such as interstate crises and war. In the second section of the course, we will first examine conflict associated with non-state actors, and will then discuss non-traditional security issues, such as financial crises and problems of common pooled resources. Throughout, we will use scientific research, historical accounts, and film to gain a better grasp on the dynamics of security problems in the international system.

I am assuming that you are familiar with basic American diplomatic history in the twentieth century, and that you are keeping up with current events. Though some of the theories presented are very general and abstract, the purpose of the course is to use these theories to explain real world security problems facing both the U.S. and the international system. For us to do so, you must be familiar with the contemporary security problems facing the world and the role of the U.S. in such situations. **I therefore expect you to be keeping up with current events. This is required as part of the course.** Quick news sources can be found on the web, such as:

<http://www.nytimes.com>
<http://www.cnn.com>
<http://www.foxnews.com>
<http://www.pbs.org>
<http://english.aljazeera.net/HomePage>

Finally, I would like to stress that this is a challenging course and the material presented will be difficult. We are going to be using several academic fields, so you will be expected to consume information from a wide variety of approaches. Many of the arguments presented will stem from economics and political science, and will therefore use formal mathematical modeling and/or advanced statistics. However, I do not expect any of you to have any background in either formal modeling or statistics. My main concern is not in the technical details, but that you develop an intuitive understanding of the central arguments and can explain them verbally. I therefore expect you to struggle with the material, but in the end, you should be able to use the arguments to understand real world cases and concepts.

Grading: Your final course grade will be determined as follows:

Exams	2 @ 30% each
Position Papers	2 @ 20% each

1. **Exams.** You will be given two exams during the semester. There will be ten multiple choice questions on the exam, of which you will pick eight to answer (40 pts, 5 pts. each). There will also be two essay questions, of which you will pick one to answer (60 pts.). The essay questions will typically ask about a current problem related to terrorism (which is why you should be keeping up with current events). You will then be asked to apply course concepts to the problem to explain what is occurring. You will next be asked if you believe the explanation, and to justify your answer. You will be required to bring a bluebook for both exams. **The first exam will be given in class on October 7. The second exam will be given on the day of the final, December 16 @ 12 pm.**

2. **Position Papers.** You will also be asked to write two position papers based on what has been covered in class. These papers should be about 6 pages in length, double-spaced. In these papers, you will pick from one issue from a list of several security problems. The list of possible choices is located on the course website. Since the problems of the world are often fluid, more additions will be added throughout the semester. Once you pick your issue, you should make an argument as to what the best course of action is in order to solve it. Again, you should draw from the materials covered in class. Given what you know, both theoretically and empirically, how best would you recommend that the international community respond? These essays are designed to draw from what we know in order to inform policy. As an example, I've posted Fearon's testimony on Iraq on the course website. Your essay need not be as long or as detailed, but you should follow the general idea: introduce the problem, describe what we know, and then discuss what should we do, given what we know. A hard copy of your paper must be handed in during class on the date that the paper is due. The first paper is due on **October 5**. The second paper is due on **November 30**. Failure to turn in your essay on time will result in a one letter grade penalty for each day that it is late, including weekends and holidays. The only exception to this is in the case of documented emergencies, in which case, I must see written documentation from you.

Required Reading: The required text for this course is: G. John Ikenberry. 2010. *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*. It is available both online and in the bookstore. There will also be several articles drawn from scholarly journals. I have posted the articles on the course website. The powerpoint presentation will also be posted here for the day's lecture. I encourage you to check the website often for updates.

Course Schedule and Reading List

August 24: Introduction. No reading assignment.

August 26: Foundations of Violence. Ikenberry 1.

August 31: Violence, Identity, and the Security Dilemma. James Fearon & David Laitin. 2000. Violence and the Social Construction of Ethnic Identity. *International Organization* 54(4): 845-877.

September 2: Anarchy in the International State System. Ikenberry 3.

September 7: Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy. Ikenberry 24, 19.

September 9: Rationalist Explanations of Foreign Policy. Ikenberry 12, Bruce Bueno de Mesquita. 2002. Domestic Politics and Foreign Policy. *International Studies Quarterly* 46(1): 1-9.

September 14: Bargaining and Strategic Interaction. James D. Fearon. 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization* 49(3): 379-414.

September 16: Immediate Deterrence and Crisis Bargaining. James D. Fearon. 1994. Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review* 88(3): 577-592.

September 21: No Class.

September 23: Extended Deterrence and Alliances. Ikenberry 4, 5.

September 28: Dynamic Commitment Problems. Ikenberry 13, James Lindsay & Ray Takeyh. 2010. After Iran Gets the Bomb. *Foreign Affairs* 89(2): 33-49.

September 30: Film. *The Fog of War*.

October 5: Review. First paper due!!! Jack S. Levy. 1998. The Causes of War and the Conditions of Peace. *Annual Review of Political Science* 1: 139-165.

October 7: First Exam.

October 12: No Class. University Day.

October 14: The System's Challenger - Non-State Actors and Conflict. James Fearon. 2006. Iraq's Civil War. *Foreign Affairs* 86(2): 2-15.

October 19: Terrorism and Insurgency. David Lake. 2002. Rational Extremism: Understanding Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century. *International Organization* 56(1): 15-29.

October 21: No Class. Fall Break!

October 26: Civil Wars and Problems with Peace Processes. James Fearon. 1995. Ethnic War as a Commitment Problem. *Manuscript*; Barbara Walter. 1997. The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement. *International Organization* 51(3): 335-364.

October 28: Intervention. Barbara F. Walter. 1999. Designing Institutions from Civil War: Demobilization, Democratization, and Commitments to Peace. *International Security* 24(1): 127-155; Navin Bapat. 2010. A Game Theoretic Analysis of the Afghan Surge. *Foreign Policy Analysis* 6(3): 217-236.

Nov 2: Spread and Escalation. Daniel C. Kurtzer. A Third Lebanon War. *Contingency Planning Memo* 8. Council on Foreign Relations.

November 4: Film. *Obama's War*.

November 9: Development. Ikenberry 9.

November 11. Economic Interdependence and Trade Wars. Ikenberry 10.

November 16. Global Financial Crises I. Jeffrey E. Garten. 1999. Lessons for the Next Financial Crisis. *Foreign Affairs* 78(2): 76-92.

November 18. Global Financial Crises II. Carmen M. Reinhart & Kenneth S. Rogoff. 2009. *This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapter 13.

November 23. Film. *Inside the Meltdown*.

November 25. No Class. Thanksgiving Holiday!!!

November 30. The Problem of Common Pooled Resources. Elinor Ostrom, Joanna Burger, Christopher B. Field, Richard B. Norgaard, and David Policansky. 1999. Revisiting the Commons: Local Lessons, Global Challenges. *Science*. 284: 278-282.

December 2: Hegemony and World Order. Second paper due!!! Ikenberry 26, 28, 29.

December 7: Review.

Second Exam on December 16 @ 12 pm.