

**Political Science 145**  
**The Politics of Global Problems**  
**Introduction to International Relations**  
**Autumn 2007**  
**Tuesday and Thursday 930-1118**  
**Smith Laboratory 3082**

**Instructor: Ms. Amanda Rosen**

**Office: Derby Hall 2036**

**Hours: Tuesdays 1130-1230; Thursdays 130-230 and by appointment**

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**Goals and Objectives:**

This course is an examination of the various challenges facing every nation and state in the world as they try to survive in a world of limited resources and questionable security. Throughout history, we have examples of these peoples trying to co-exist, sometimes cooperating, other times fighting out their differences. In this course we will examine why the world is full of both cooperation and conflict, and how these two competing forces interact in the contemporary world in issues such as weapons of mass destruction, the environment, globalization, war mongering and peace-making.

In the first part of the course we will examine the characteristics of the international system and explore how and why the system developed as it did. We will focus on the various theories of international relations—Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism and others—and how these aid us in explaining current global problems. The second half of the course focuses on some of the major problems that confront all states and nations in the world. We focus first on pure issues of security—the causes of war and peace and weapons of mass destruction—and then look at economic issues—international trade, finance, globalization, and north-south relations. The last part of the course will focus on the problems that cross state boundaries—such as the environment--and those that destroy traditional state boundaries from above and below.

The course meets two GEC requirements:

#5. Diversity: International Issues

Goals/ Rationale:

Diversity: International Issues courses help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture.

#7. Social Science

Goals/Rationale:

Courses in social science help students understand human behavior and cognition, and the structures of human societies, cultures and institutions.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students understand the theories and methods of scientific inquiry as they are applied to the studies of individuals, groups, organizations, and societies.
2. Students comprehend human differences and similarities in various psychological, social, cultural, economic, geographic, and political contexts.
3. Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and social values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

**Materials:**

There is one book for this course, and it is available for purchase at SBX and the B&N at the Gateway.

**Required:**

- Goldstein, Joshua S and Jon C. Pevehouse. *International Relations Brief (2006-2007 edition)*. New York, NY: Pearson & Longman Publishers, 2006. ISBN 0321434315 (new, \$63; used ~\$28)
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The previous 3<sup>rd</sup> edition is acceptable, and you will have better luck finding that one used (and therefore cheap). But if you are buying new, go with the newest edition, listed above.

This book has a companion website at [www.IRtext.com](http://www.IRtext.com). This site includes web links, simulations, and videos that relate to the material in your text, and are directly referred to by the icons in the book. I highly recommend that you use these materials, particularly the Changing World Order features and the Case in Point Videos.

The required text is also on closed reserve at the Sullivant library.

**Requirements and Grading:**

Your final grade will be based on two exams, participation in class and online discussion, a map quiz, and one short paper.

Map Quiz	October 4 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Midterm Exam	October 25 <sup>th</sup>	25%
Short Paper	November 29 <sup>th</sup>	30%
Final Exam	December 4 <sup>th</sup>	25%
Participation	Throughout	10%

**Final Grade Scale:**

A	93-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	60-66%
B-	80-82%	E	Below 60%
C+	77-79%		

**Map Quiz**

Any course in international relations requires a basic knowledge of the location of the countries and regions that play a major role in world politics. The map quiz will test your knowledge of these states and conflict-prone regions. It is worth 10% of your final grade and will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Current Events/Participation**

Every class session we will spend some time discussing current events. To that end, you should get into the habit of reading the international/world section of a major respected media source (including The Washington Post, London Times, International Herald Tribune, The Economist, Newsweek, Christian Science Monitor, LA Times, etc). All of these are available online for free, though occasionally registration is required. Televised news focuses a great deal on local stories and is therefore not as useful for this class; please do not rely on CNN, Fox News or broadcast news as the main source of your information. I do encourage you to watch the Daily Show with Jon Stewart and the Colbert Report as an additional (though not your main) source of news, however (Comedy Central, M-Th at 11 and 1130pm, respectively.). Your participation grade (10%) will be based on both your attendance and the quality of your contributions to discussions both inside the class and on the discussion boards at the Carmen web site.

## **Exams**

These exams will be closed-book, in-class exams. These exams will test your knowledge and understanding of the readings, lectures, and current events as discussed in class. These exams will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, matching, fill-ins and short answer questions. They will each be worth 25% of your overall grade. You must be on-time for exams; if you are late, you will only be allowed to take the exam if no one else has finished yet.

## **Clash of Civilizations Analytical Paper**

30% of your final grade will be based on a short paper that analyzes and critiques a classic article in international relations: Samuel Huntington's Clash of Civilizations. You will read that article as well as several other articles debating the piece and then write a paper arguing for your own point of view on the debate. More information about the paper will be available on Carmen.

## **Other Policies:**

### **Carmen:**

The course has a website via Carmen.osu.edu. There you will find announcements about the course, all handouts and links to readings available online, lecture outlines, and discussion boards for the class. Please get into a habit of checking the Carmen site regularly.

### **Make-ups:**

Attendance in class is expected, but occasionally students need to be absent from class for legitimate reasons (e.g. personal or family illness). If you will be absent on the day of a quiz or exam due to these types of exceptional circumstances, you must inform me **before** the class session and provide some kind of documentation. If you meet these criteria, we can discuss what arrangements can be made for a make-up exam. No make-ups will be given to students that do not follow this policy.

### **Assignments:**

Papers are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date. Late papers will be docked 5% for every 24 hour period past the due date. Unless agreed in advance, I will not accept papers that are more than 3 days late. Late papers should be turned in to my mailbox in 2140 Derby Hall M-F 8am-5pm and should be time-stamped by someone in the office. If you need to turn your paper in during the weekend, you may email it to me, but that is the **ONLY** time emailed papers will be accepted without prior approval or extraordinary circumstances.

### **Technical Glitches:**

Technical glitches—a misbehaving computer, uncooperative email program, or printer that decided to punish you by running out of toner—do happen. However, it is your responsibility to account for these in your planning and not use them as an excuse for why you cannot turn in your work. Couldn't print out your paper before class? Do what you can--email it to me or bring me a disk, and then print it out asap after class to get me the hard copy. It is also your responsibility to maintain communication with me by checking the Carmen web site daily to see if any announcements have been made or emailing me if a problem arises. Please do not play the "my email must have gotten lost somehow" game—you will find that honesty will go a lot further to gaining my sympathy.

### **Respect:**

This is a course about politics, and I anticipate that there will be many differing views brought out in class discussions. All viewpoints are welcome, as long as everyone treats each other with respect. I encourage all students to openly discuss their views, as long as you also listen to the views of others respectfully and with an open mind. As the instructor, I promise to do the same. Fairness is more important than objectivity when it comes to politics. Anyone who shows disrespect to either the instructor or a fellow student will be asked to leave the class, along with any other action as I find appropriate.

**Disabilities:**

I rely on the Office for Disability Services (614-292-3307, room 150 Pomerene Hall) to document and coordinate the appropriate action for students requiring special accommodations as a result of a disability.

**Academic Misconduct:**

Don't cheat. No, seriously. There is no reason why you cannot pass this class and even do extremely well based purely on your own ability. For that matter, don't plagiarize. If you are not doing your own work, you are not getting the education that you are paying for and are therefore wasting your time as well as mine. If anyone is caught violating the University's rules on academic misconduct and cheating, I will forward the case as per University policy to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.

**Right to Revise Syllabus:**

This syllabus outlines my goals for the course and my expectations for the students. Minor changes may need to be made along the way, particularly to the following schedule, and I reserve the right to revise the syllabus accordingly.

**Schedule:**

All readings are to be completed by the day they are listed under. Some short readings may be added throughout the quarter. "Goldstein & Pevehouse" refers to the main text.

**Part I: Conceptual and Theoretical Foundations of International Relations**

**Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>-- Introduction to the Course**

**Tuesday September 25<sup>th</sup> – Conceptual Foundations of International Relations**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 1-21

**Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup> –The Historical Context**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 21-43

**Tuesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Power Politics, Systemic Approaches, and Realism**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse Chapter 2 (45-76)

**Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup> - Power Politics, continued**  
**Map Quiz**

**Tuesday October 9<sup>th</sup> – Alternatives to Power Politics**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 77-84 and 102-119

**Thursday October 11<sup>th</sup> – State and Individual Level Approaches**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 84-102

**Tuesday October 16<sup>th</sup> – Catch Up/Review**

**Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup> -- Midterm Exam**  
This exam covers: all materials through State and Individual Level Approaches

**Part II: Armed Conflict**

**Tuesday October 23<sup>rd</sup> -- Armed Conflict I: The Causes of War**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 121-147

**Thursday October 25<sup>th</sup> -- Armed Conflict II: Why We Fight**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 148-160

**Tuesday October 30<sup>th</sup> --Armed Conflict III: Nuclear Deterrence and WMD**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 160-171

**Part III: International Political Economy**

**Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup> -- International Trade**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 174-202

**Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup> --International Finance**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 202-227 (skim 203-208)

**Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup> --North-South Relations**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 284-315 (skim "population" 296-306)

**Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup> -- More North-South Relations**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 318-346 (skim "Foreign Assistance" 338-346)

**Part IV: Transnational Issues**

**Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> - The Environment**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 350-371

**Tuesday November 20<sup>th</sup> -- International Law**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 231-250 and 263-280

**Thursday November 22<sup>nd</sup> -- Thanksgiving, No Class**

**Tuesday November 27<sup>th</sup> --Breakdown of the Nation-State: Attacks from Above and Below**  
Goldstein & Pevehouse 250-263; 315-318; 133-142 (review)

**Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup> --The Clash of Civilizations?**

**Paper Due!**

Huntington, Samuel. "The Clash of Civilizations". *Foreign Affairs* Summer 1993. Vol. 72 (3):22-49.  
Other articles TBA

**Final Exam:**

Tuesday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 930am in Smith Laboratory 3082.