

Political Science 3810.001 – Fall 2023
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
TTh 11:00am-12:20pm, LIFE A204

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Office Hours: 2-3pm TTh (in person) and by appointment. E-mail anytime with questions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides an introduction to International Relations (IR) and the concepts and theories of this field of study. The emphasis is on acquiring the conceptual tools that help students to organize and analyze information about foreign policy and global politics. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Employ theoretical frameworks for analyzing contemporary global problems
- Explain the political and social implications of global cultural diversity for the conduct of international relations in both official and informal international interactions
- Reflect, analyze, and express judgments about the ways in which culture influences both perception and behavior.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EVALUATION

To facilitate successful completion of the course, students are expected to:

- Attend and participate in class
- Complete reading assignments by Tuesday of the week indicated in the syllabus
- Complete the *News Analysis Activities* and *Bargaining Model Activity/ies* by their due date/time
- Complete the two short paper assignments by their due date/time
- Complete the examinations as scheduled.

The course is taught in person. Students should plan to attend class regularly. Class sessions include the opportunity to ask questions to obtain clarification. Some class sessions will discuss material similar to the text, but at other times we will discuss information that is *not* in your text – or offer a perspective that is different from the text. You will be responsible for this material on the exams. In other words, it is in your interest to attend.

The instructor does not accept any doctor's notes or other notes explaining absences, except for verifications for absences provided by the Office of the Dean of Students. To report serious illness or other issues for which you seek accommodation, please contact the Dean of Students at <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/temporary-illness>.

If you cannot meet a deadline for an assignment or an exam, you should contact the instructor *prior* to the date/time the work is due or the exam is to start. E-mail the instructor at the address listed at the top of this syllabus. *E-mail is the preferred option for contacting me.* Do not leave a phone message. Unless you have reached *prior* agreement with the instructor, the following rules apply: *No* late assignments will be accepted. *No* make-up examinations will be given. Exceptions can only be made for serious illness and other issues that have been reported to the Dean of Students (see above).

Your responsibility to notify the instructor in a timely manner – and before the date/time the work is due or the exam is to start – applies also to absences for students participating in athletic or other activities that require off-campus travel, as well as students that require accommodations for religious holidays or other valid reasons. It really helps course planning when I know about the need for accommodations ahead of time!

The course grade will be determined on basis of the following, with the various assignments weighted as indicated:

News Analysis Activities (7 @ 25 points each)	175
Bargaining Model Activity	25
BONUS Bargaining Model Activity	25*
Short Paper 1	150
Short Paper 2	150
Exam 1	200
Exam 2	200
Class Attendance and Participation	100

*Students who complete the Bonus Bargaining Model Activity can drop the lowest grade of the New Analysis Activities or choose to skip News Analysis Activity 7.

Course grades are determined on the basis of your final cumulative point total, using the above weighting. The maximum cumulative point total is 1,000 and a standard scale is employed (i.e. A \geq 900, B \geq 800, C \geq 700, D \geq 600, F $<$ 600). The instructor may make small modifications from the standard scale when warranted by the performance of the class as a whole – although excellent classes are not penalized with a more stringent scale than the standard one!

This course does *not* provide extra credit opportunities.

Students who have questions about their performance in the course should contact the instructor and plan to meet during office hours or another mutually agreed upon time.

Information on dropping a course can be found at <https://registrar.unt.edu/regISTRATION/dropping-class>.

ASSIGNMENTS AND LEARNING

The assignments for the course will together add up to your grade for the course. However, they are also targeted to achieve specific learning outcomes. Here's what each type of assignment is designed to do:

- The *News Analysis Activities* and *Bargaining Model Activity/ies* are designed to help you develop analytical thinking skills. The *News Analysis Activities* ask you to apply concepts and theories to real-world scenarios. The *Bargaining Model Activity* (and the optional additional activity) are designed to facilitate deeper understanding of the logic of bargaining models.
- The take home *examinations* encourage you to attain command of the material presented in the course. The examinations will test your knowledge of course concepts, theories, and facts, but will also ask you to apply and/or critically evaluate theories and concepts in light of historical and contemporary facts. A study guide for each examination will be released approximately one week prior to each examination and will be posted on Canvas.
- The *short papers* represent an opportunity to reflect, analyze, and express judgments about a variety of topics. The paper topics will prompt you to connect current affairs and your knowledge of international politics. Each paper will ask you to go beyond the course material to develop insights into the chosen topic. These assignments enable you to sharpen skills in research, analysis, and writing.
- *Class attendance and participation* contributes to success. Class discussions provide practice in concise and clear verbal communication. Note also that some of the information presented in class cannot be found in the textbook.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

(The book prices are the publisher's list prices.)

Frieden, Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2021. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions, 5th edition*. New York: W.W. Norton. (FLS in the course outline.)

Your options: 1. Paperback: \$114.37, ISBN 978-0-393-87223-1

2. Loose leaf, three-hole punch: \$91.50, ISBN 978-0-393-87224-8

3. E-book (360 license term): \$44.95, ISBN: 9780393872118R180

4. See: <https://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294997746>

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 (T 8/22, Th 8/24):

I. Why Study International Relations?

Introduction to the course

II. How to Study International Relations: Framework

Read: FLS, Introduction

Week 2 (T 8/29*; Th 8/31*): [APSA conference – online lectures via Canvas]

II. Foundations 1: History

Read: FLS, Chapter 1, “What Shaped Our World? A Historical Introduction.”

Bargaining Model Activity*: Prisoner’s Dilemma, available 8/28; due 8/31 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

BONUS: Bargaining Model Activity*: Shifting Power, available 8/28; due 8/31 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 3 (T 9/5; Th 9/7):

III. Foundations 2: Actors, Interests, Interactions, and Institutions

Read: FLS, Chapter 2, Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions.”

News Analysis Activity 1: available 9/4; due 9/7 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 4 (T 9/12; Th 9/14):

IV. Conflict and War

Read: FLS, Chapter 3, “Why are there Wars?”

Week 5 (T 9/19; Th 9/21):

Read: FLS, Chapter 4, “Domestic Politics and War.”

News Analysis Activity 2: available 9/18; due 9/21 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 6 (T 9/26; Th 9/28):

Read: FLS, Chapter 5, “International Institutions and War.”

Short Paper 1: due Friday, 9/29 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 7 (T 10/3; Th 10/5):

Read: FLS, Chapter 6, “Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil War and Terrorism.”

News Analysis Activity 3: available 10/2; due 10/5 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 8 (T 10/10; Th 10/12):

Exam 1: Tuesday, October 10 @ 11:00am-12:20pm (in person, in class)

V. The Global Economy

Read: FLS, Chapter 7, “International Trade.”

Week 9 (T 10/17; Th 10/19):

Read: FLS, Chapter 8, “International Financial Relations.”

News Analysis Activity 4: available 10/16; due 10/19 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 10 (T 10/24; Th 10/26):

Read: FLS, Chapter 9, “International Monetary Relations.”

Week 11 (T 10/31; Th 11/2):

Read: FLS, Chapter 10, “Development: The Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations.”

News Analysis Activity 5: available 10/30; due 11/2 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 12 (T 11/7; Th 11/9):

VII. Transnational Politics

Read: FLS, Chapter 11, “International Law and Norms.”

Short Paper 2: due Friday, 11/10 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 13 (T 11/14; Th 11/16):

Read: FLS, Chapter 12, “Human Rights.”

News Analysis Activity 6: available 11/13; due 11/16 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Thanksgiving Break (11/20-11/26):

No class

Week 14 (T 11/28; Th 11/30):

Read: FLS, Chapter 13, “The Global Environment.”

News Analysis Activity 7: available 11/27; due 11/30 by 11:59pm (Canvas)

Week 15 (T 12/5; Th 12/7):

VIII. Global Trends: What Does Future Hold?

Read: FLS, Chapter 14, “The Future of International Politics.”

Finals week (12/9 – 12/15):

Exam 2: Tuesday, December 12 @ 10:30am-12:30pm (in person, in class)

Course Policy on Academic Integrity, Plagiarism, Cheating, and Generative AI/Chatbots

This policy pertains to *all* assignments in this course that require writing. That includes – but is not limited to – papers and examinations. All written work you submit in this course must be your own, original work.

What does that mean?

- You give appropriate credit to each and every source, and do so each and every time you use that source, irrespective of whether you paraphrase or quote that source. Failure to give appropriate credit means you present the work as your own.
- You do not use any material written by someone else or by generative AI – including, but not limited to chatbots such as ChatGPT – and present it as your own work.

Why?

- According to the UNT Academic Integrity Policy ([UNT Policy 6.003](#)), any form of “unauthorized assistance” constitutes cheating. As a result, use of any artificial intelligence is not authorized for completion of assignments or exams in this course, unless specifically authorized by the instructor.
- Academic integrity is defined in [UNT Policy 6.003](#) and indicates that the following constitute violations of academic honesty: a student has another person/entity do the work of any substantive portion of a graded assignment for them, which includes purchasing work from a company, hiring a person or company to complete an assignment or exam, and/or using generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT).
- For additional information, consult [UNT Policy 6.003](#).

What are the consequences?

- Violations will not be tolerated. Any suspected case of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with current University policy and procedures, as described at <https://vpaa.unt.edu/ss/integrity>.
 - If this is your first academic integrity violation, you can expect a failing grade on the assignment, and you will be reported to the university’s Academic Integrity office.
 - Repeat violations will lead to stronger sanctions up to and including expulsion from UNT.
- These penalties will apply even if you did not knowingly intend to plagiarize or cheat. You must familiarize yourself with the rules of academic integrity and do your own original work – whether at UNT or later in your career – and ignorance is no excuse.

University of North Texas -- Department of Political Science
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS AND CONSEQUENCES

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. For additional information see the next segment (Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism and <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>).

POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others' tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one's own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of "F" in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the field faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary coursework may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the case of undergraduate students, or the Graduate Studies Committee in the case of graduate students. These committees, acting as agents of the department Chair, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

ADA ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation.

Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for *every* semester and must meet with *each* faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access website at <https://disability.unt.edu/>.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail: <http://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>.

STUDENT EVALUATION ADMINISTRATION DATES

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via *IASystem* Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648.

CLASS RECORDINGS & STUDENT LIKENESSES

Synchronous (live) sessions in this course may be recorded for students enrolled in this class to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university

or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.