GVPT 200:
Introduction to International Relations
Summer 2017

Instructor: Caitlin McCulloch
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Office/Office Hours: Tydings 5109/Skype [Office hours by appointment.]

Course Description
A study of the major factors underlying international relations, the causes of conflict and cooperation among international actors, the role of international institutions, the interactions of domestic and foreign policies, and major issues in security, economy and the environment.

This course is divided into 3 units/3 weeks. We begin with the historical paradigms of international relations, shift to the currently active research subfields, then move on to discuss some of the more topical issue areas international relations deals with.

Course Requirements
There are no required textbooks, all texts will be offered either through ELMS or course reserves. Reading should be done before class lecture.

Class participation: 25% of final grade. (20% class attendance and discussion, 5% simulation participation and homework)
Short Paper: 25% of final grade.
Reading Quizzes: 25% of final grade.
Final Exam: 25% of final grade.

Class participation, will be compromised of your attendance record, your activity and participation in class/class discussion, and your activity in the ICONS simulation, including your prep and debrief notes, which will be explained closer to the simulation.

For the short paper, a question and further instructions on the short paper (5-6 pages) will be released on Friday (7/14). It will be due on Friday (7/21). You will be required to bring a printed paper to class on Friday. Papers must be in Times New Roman, 12 point font, with regular 1 inch margins, double-spaced. You should use at least 5 different citations. Citations should academic or a reputable newspaper, and be APA or MLA. Possible resubmission on Wednesday (7/26).

Reading quizzes will be 10 question short quizzes of your reading and comprehension of the reading. There will be 5 quizzes, and your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Quizzes are Wednesday (7/12), Friday (7/14), Wednesday (7/19), Friday (7/21), Tuesday (7/25).

The final exam will be multiple choice/short answer, cumulative, in class, Friday (7/28).

Course Policies
Changes to course assignments, class cancellation and other announcements will be done through both ELMS and email. School closings are announced at https://www.umd.edu/ for inclement weather or other events.

Students will adhere to standards set forth in V-1.00(B): The University of Maryland Code of Student Conduct. All suspected cases of student conduct violations will be reported. Students are encouraged to read and become familiar with the Code. It can be found at the following site: http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/2014-V-100b.html Respect your instructor and your fellow
Students are required to adhere to the University’s Academic Code of Academic Integrity. All cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Please familiarize yourself with the Code, which can be found here: http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii100a.html

Disability Support Service (DSS) requests must be submitted within the first week of the class to the professor.

Late work will be graded down by a half grade for every day it is late. Extensions are only granted with an excuse cleared with the instructor.

Please silence your cellphone and computer while in class.

PPT slides will not be posted unless there are unusual circumstances or DSS students require accommodation in this way.

Grade Ranges:

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**Week 1:**

1 – Introduction. (7/10)

Syllabus.

Reading:

Optional: Why Should We Study IR? (p1-26) [Even more historical perspective.]

2 – Realism (Classical and structural/neorealism). (7/11)

Reading:
- Carr, E.H. “The Impact of Realism” (pp. 9-10) in The Twenty Years Crisis, 1939

3 – Liberalism (Classical, Kant and institutionalism). (7/12)

First reading quiz.

Reading:

4 – Constructivism. (7/13)
Reading:

5 – Other Paradigms [Marxism/Dependency, Feminism, Behavioral] (7/14)
Second reading quiz.
Written assignments given out.
Reading:
- Marx, K., & Engels, F. (2002). *The communist manifesto*. Penguin. (Posted Excerpts – thanks to Paul Rittman for his editing into this format.)

Week 2:

1 – Current Day (Subfields Introduction) (7/17)
Reading:

2- Conflict (Focus on the Bargaining Theory of War) (7/18)
Reading:

3 – International Organizations (Focus on the United Nations) (7/19)
Third reading quiz.
Reading:

4 – International Political Economy (Focus on Trade) (7/20)
Reading:
5 – Political Science and our Department/Data/Methods (7/21) / 1 - Civil War
Written assignment due.
Fourth reading quiz.
Watch video.
Reading:

Week 3:
2 – Non-State Actors (7/24)
Resubmission of written assignment possible.
Reading:

3 – Environmental Issues. (7/25)
Fifth reading quiz.
Reading:
• Roston, E., & Migliozzi, B (2017, April 19). How a Melting Arctic Changes Everything. Retrieved May 01, 2017, from https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2017-arctic/ [I recommend you read this online, the graphics are interesting and may not save properly.]

4 – Major Powers; America. (7/26)
Simulation.
Reading:

5- Major Powers; China/Russia (7/27)
Guest speaker.
Reading:
• John Mearsheimer, “The Gathering Storm: China’s Challenge to US Power in Asia” Chinese Journal of International Politics (2010);
• John Ikenberry, “The Rise of China and the Future of the West” Foreign Affairs (Jan/Feb 2008)

5 – Conclusion/Final Exam. (7/28)
Final exam.
No reading.