Introduction to International Relations

Teaching Assistant: Larry Markowitz
Office: 219 North Hall
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 4:00-5:30 (and by appointment)
E-mail: lmarkow@polisci.wisc.edu

Section times/locations:
Section 322—Friday, 9:55am, 115 Ingraham
Section 323—Friday, 11:00am, 123 Ingraham
Section 324—Friday, 12:05pm, 223 Ingraham

Welcome to the Communication-B (Comm-B) section for Introduction to International Relations! In addition to imparting a substantive understanding of international relations, this discussion section will provide you with important communication skills (oral and written). According to the University’s criteria, the basic requirements of Comm B courses are (1) 30-35 pages of written work (including essay exams); (2) at least two opportunities to revise a paper based on feedback on an earlier draft; (3) at least one individual conference with me, your TA; (4) an information-gathering component at a campus library; and (5) a speaking component. They are all incorporated into the course.

We will meet once a week this semester to discuss the readings assigned for the week as well as the lectures given by the professor. These discussions will hopefully serve as an opportunity for you to ask questions and articulate your opinion about the course material and contemporary international affairs generally. Ultimately, these discussion sections are designed to provide you with a basic knowledge of the main theories and issues of international relations while simultaneously enhancing your writing and speaking ability.

Grade Distribution:
Please note that your grade distribution is different from that of the rest of the class.

20% First mid-term exam
20% Second mid-term exam
25% Final exam
25% Written assignments:
• Annotated bibliography and paper proposal (5%)
• Short response paper (5%)
• Research paper (15%)
10% Section participation and weekly in-class presentations