POLS 103: Introduction to International Relations  
*Spring 2017*  
Monday & Wednesday 2:30-3:45  
B-10 Ingraham Hall

**Professor**  
Jon Pevehouse  
313 North Hall  
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Phone: 262-4839  
Office Hours: Monday 11:00AM-Noon; Wednesday Noon-1:30PM; and by appointment.

**Teaching Assistants**  
There are no discussion sections for this course. There are four teaching assistants, however, to assist you with course material, answer questions, host office hours, and assist with course logistics. Their names and email contacts are:

Nick Barnes (head TA): njbarnes@wisc.edu  
Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-2:00 and Thursday 2:00-4:00

Noga Ardon: ardon@wisc.edu  
Office Hours: Monday 12-1:30 and Tuesday 1:30-2:30

Degi Uvsh: uvsh@wisc.edu  
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:15-2:15

Tim Williams: tvwilliams3@wisc.edu  
Office Hours: Monday: 1:15-2:15 and Wednesday: 12:00-2:00

Unless otherwise noted, all TA office hours will be held in 122 North Hall. If your TAs office hours do not work for you, please contact your TA about an appointment to meet.

*Who is your TA?*

- If your last name begins with A-F, Noga Ardon will be your TA.  
- If your last name begins with G-Mc, Degi Uvsh will be your TA.  
- If your last name begins with Me-S, Tim Williams will be your TA.  
- If your last name begins with T-Z, Nick Barnes will be your TA.

Please contact the appropriate TA when you have questions. If they cannot resolve the issue, they will forward the issue to me.
Class Description
This class will cover the major issues in international relations since the end of World War II. We will discuss a variety of topics from both a theoretical and an empirical perspective. Some of the topics we will cover include: the causes of interstate war; ethnic conflict; foreign policy decision-making; economic development; the North-South gap; international trade, globalization; economic interdependence; the environment; population; the UN and other international organizations; and international law.

More than centering on US foreign policy or US history, the class will discuss these topics from a broad international perspective. Although this is by no means a history class, I will go over a fair bit of history to provide context for our current debates in international relations. Also, we will spend relatively little time discussing particular countries and their internal politics and problems, rather focusing on their relations with each other.

The goal for this course is to further your understanding of facts about international relations, but also to help you develop analytical tools for thinking about important questions in world politics regardless of the countries or issues involved. The political science approach to international politics is a mix of ideas and data, that is, conceptual tools that help us understand particular sets of facts about a wide range of topics. It is hoped that students will leave the course with a better understanding of world politics and how to think about world politics.

Book/Web Site Required
You may choose to by a physical copy of the book (you'll need the page numbers below). If you bought your copy at the bookstore, it came with an access code to the REVEL system, which contains an online version of the book which has section numbers, not page numbers (you’ll need the section numbers below). Some of you may have chosen to only get online access, which is also acceptable (again, you'll need the section numbers below).

- Jon C.W. Pevehouse and Joshua S. Goldstein, International Relations, 11th ed, (Indicated by "GP" below.)
- REVEL course link: https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/hrzral (Indicated by “R” below.)
- E-Reserve readings – (Indicated by "LearnUW" below.)

I also urge you to read an international news source - my personal favorite is the BBC (http://www.bbc.co.uk/news). Another option is the New York Times—a good source of material on international relations. I will announce information on how to obtain a student subscription during the course. You may also choose to read the NYT online, although it is now behind a pay wall. Other sources of good international news are the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, and the Economist.

Course Requirements and Evaluation
This class will be primarily lecture with some recitation sections. I expect you to have done the readings by the date on the syllabus. There is a moderate amount of reading, but none of it is particularly dense.
There will be three exams: two midterms and a final. Each midterm will be composed of a number of multiple-choice questions and 4-5 short answer (identification) questions. The final will have the same format, covering the material since the second midterm. In addition, the final will contain one comprehensive essay question covering all the material. Five days before the final exam, I will distribute a review sheet that will contain the possible essay questions that will appear on the exam. On the exam, you will have no choice of which essay question to answer.

There will be no make-up exams. If you have a conflict over the exam, see the professor in advance. I understand that emergencies happen. In a genuine emergency, I am very willing to work with you. I will, however, require documentation of emergencies (notes from doctors, emergency room personnel, etc.) in all instances.

Your class performance will be based on the following:
MIDTERM 1 30%
MIDTERM 2 30%
FINAL 40%

Accommodation for Disabilities and Emergencies
For anyone who needs accommodations for a documented disability, please let the professor know immediately. I am happy to work through the McBurney Disability Resource Center, 905 University Avenue, 263-2741. Please contact them regarding this class and we can work out the nature of the accommodations that will be needed.

Course Outline

Module 1: The actors and history of international relations

1/18: Introduction + Levels of Analysis

GP: Chapter 1, pp. 1-19 or R: Sections 1.1-1.3

1/23: Actors, Principals, and World War I

GP: pp. 19-28 or R: Section 1.4 (first half)


1/30: History: The Cold War & Introduction to Realism

GP: pp. 28-33, 35 or R: Section 1.4 (second half)

**Module 2: Theories of international relations**

2/1: *IR Theories: Realism*

GP: pp. 37-60 or R: Sections 2.1-2.4

2/6: *IR Theories: Liberal Theories*

GP: pp. 72-81; 60-66 or R: Sections 3.1-3.2 + 2.5

2/8: *IR Theories: Liberal Theories*

GP: pp. 87-92 or R: Sections 3.4-3.5

2/13: *IR Theories: Social Theories*

GP: pp. 81-87 or R: Section 3.3

2/15: *IR Theories: Social Theories*

GP: pp. 92-101 or R: Section 3.6

2/20: **FIRST MIDTERM (in class)**

**Module 3: The study of international conflict**

2/22: *Introduction to Security/International Conflict*

GP: pp. 129-134; 164-173; 188-192 or R: Sections 5.1 + 6.1 + 6.4


2/27: *Causes of War I (General Theories & Material Conflicts)*

GP: pp. 150-158, 161 or R: Section 5.3

3/1: *Causes of War II (Ideological Conflicts)*

GP: pp. 134-149 or R: Section 5.2

3/6: *Terrorism & WMD*

GP: pp. 173-188 or R: Sections 6.2-6.3
3/8: Domestic Politics & International Relations
   GP: pp. 107-124 or R: Sections 4.1-4.2.

Module 4: The study of international institutions
3/13: International Organizations I (Theories & the UN)
   GP: pp. 198-216 or R: Sections 7.1-7.2
3/15: NO CLASS!
3/27: International Organizations II (the European Union)
   GP: pp. 303-318 or R: Sections 10.1-10.3
3/29: International Law & Human Rights
   GP: pp. 216-235 or R: Sections 7.3-7.5
4/3: Global Governance: Information & Cyber-security
   GP: pp. 318-325 or R: Section 10.4
4/5: Global Governance: Global Health
   GP: pp. 349-357 or R: Section 11.4
4/10: SECOND MIDTERM (in class)

Module 5: International Political Economy
4/12: International Trade
   GP: pp. 241-250; 262-267 or R: Sections 8.1 + 8.3
4/17: International Trade Institutions
   GP: pp. 250-262 or R: Section 8.2
4/19: International Finance
   GP: pp. 273-283 or R: Sections 9.1-9.2
4/24: The Environment
GP: pp. 331-349 (skim 344-349) or R: Sections 11.1-11.3 (skim 11.3)

4/26: *North-South Gap (State of the South)*

GP: pp. 363-374; 377-388; 290-296 or R: Sections 12.1 + 12.3 + 9.4

5/1: *Development (North-South Business)*


5/3: *Development (Debt & Foreign Assistance)*

GP: pp. 407-423 or R: Sections 13.3-13.4

5/7: **FINAL EXAM!! 7:45 AM - 9:45 AM. ROOMS: TBA**