

POLI 260-AW1 International Relations
Summer 2023
Dr. Inkyoung Kim
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Class	Office Hours
Online	by appointment

Course Description

This course introduces students to theories and issues of international relations. It aims to provide students the historical and analytical knowledge needed to understand the contemporary world. We will learn about various theories and issues to explain international conflict and cooperation regarding security, world economy, environmental concerns, a few international organizations, terrorism, etc.

Learning Outcomes

Students will learn: (a) the main theories of international relations; (b) basic knowledge about the world by exploring the historical and analytical approaches; (c) how to engage in constructive criticism and the refinement of their own opinions through discussion; (d) how to conceptualize and analyze contemporary political issues; and (e) how to gain skills in analytical writing and critical thinking.

Class Participation/Attendance

This class meets online. Thus, we need a strong netiquette. Please read the following article, "Netiquette: Ground Rules for Online Discussions." (Source: <http://teaching.colostate.edu/tips/tip.cfm?tipid=128>)

Our online class will run like this:

- We will have a session every day (Monday through Thursday except Friday) for five weeks.
- Dr. Kim will post lecture slides for the not all but most of assigned reading.
- Discussion leaders who sign up for the specific sessions/topics will post their response essay to the readings and lead our discussion for the whole day.
- The rest of the class will respond to the discussion leaders' essays and discussion questions.
- Dr. Kim will respond to your posts periodically.

You are required to participate in our discussion **at least ONCE a DAY by making at least one posting with at least 100 words per posting** (more often for discussion leaders) to respond to your fellow students. Your posting should demonstrate your specific understanding of the readings and the essay of the discussion leaders.

Like in-class course, I expect you to pay attention, be courteous, and engage the assigned materials and your classmates. For your participation in our discussion, simply showing up with simple statements such as "I agree," "I like your points," etc. does not constitute your participation. If you have questions, ask. If you disagree with something that has been said in the

discussion board or would like to add to the conversation, speak up with details. Online class discussion can be very beneficial because you can spend more time in thinking and writing before responding to other participants. In this course, participation counts toward 16% of your final grade. Your grade for participation will be posted on the blackboard every session.

Policy on Email Communication

When communicating via email, include a greeting and salutation as well as your name and the time our class meets. You should also strive to write in a grammatically correct format with complete sentences. Proof-reading is inevitable. This is an important life skill to learn.

Disability Services

BSU is committed to ensuring all individuals equal access to its programs and services. The university offers a number of services to students who have a documented medical condition, are physically challenged, or have psychological or learning disabilities. If you think you may have a learning disability or wish to request support services, please contact the Office of Disability Resources in the Academic Achievement Center, Maxwell Library, (508) 531-2194. You can still receive services even after the semester has begun.

Other Services

- Writing studio will be very helpful to improve your writing. Please see here https://services.bridgew.edu/Directory/search_dept.cfm?dept=212.
- Counseling center will be helpful as well. Please see here https://services.bridgew.edu/Directory/search_dept.cfm?dept=57.
- Academic Achievement Center will be an all-round helper for your academic life. <https://www.bridgew.edu/academics/academic-achievement>

Course Requirements

There are five requirements for this course: 1) class participation/postings along with completion of the readings as assigned in the syllabus throughout the semester; 2) **two** discussion leadership along with **two** response essays; 3) **two** exams; 4) pop-up quizzes; 5) **one** current event presentation:

- *PARTICIPATION (17%):* Our class meetings will include lecture, multi-media materials, discussion, and student presentations. Students are expected to complete all reading assignments PRIOR TO class meetings and come to class prepared for an active discussion. It is important that you contribute to class discussions actively. Each class (we have 17 sessions for participation in total for this course except the first session and two exam sessions) is worth 1 point for your participation. 1 point for proactive participation with at least one posting per day and 0 point for no participation.
- *DISCUSSION LEADERSHIP (20%; each discussion leadership (10 points each) will be evaluated based on both essay writing and leadership throughout the discussion for a week)*
 - o Discussion Leadership: Students are required to sign up **two** classes to lead our discussion. If you sign up, you have to 1) write and post a solid response essay

(400-500 words) which agrees or disagrees with the authors rather than summarizes to the class. Essays should start with introduction which introduces a clear thesis statement, body paragraphs that support your thesis statement demonstrating your understanding of the readings, and concluding paragraph, and on the bottom of the essay you should include at least two or three discussion questions (Questions will not be included in your word count of the essay); 2) lead our discussion for the day by responding to your fellow students who are responding to your discussion questions.

- *Grading rubrics for the essay and discussion leadership are as follows:*

	Exemplary	Acceptable	Needs Work
Assignment Criteria*	<p>Student addressed almost all of the assignment criteria identified in the syllabus.</p> <p>Student response contains explicit connections back to course material.</p> <p>Student response is thorough, organized, and relevant to the objective of the assignment.</p> <p>Student wrote using appropriate grammar and spelling (less than 2 errors).</p> <p>Student exerted proactive leadership for discussion through responding to all of the colleagues.</p>	<p>Student addressed most of the assignment criteria identified in the syllabus.</p> <p>Student response contains connections back to course material.</p> <p>Student response is mostly thorough, mostly organized, and mostly relevant to the objective of the assignment.</p> <p>Student wrote using mostly appropriate grammar and spelling, but several errors were made (between 2 and 4).</p> <p>Student exerted active leadership for discussion through responding to most of the colleagues.</p>	<p>Student addressed little of the assignment criteria identified in the syllabus.</p> <p>Connections to course material are vague or missing.</p> <p>Student response is not thorough or is irrelevant to the objective of the assignment.</p> <p>More than 4 errors in spelling and grammar were made.</p> <p>Student exerted less active leadership for discussion through responding to only some of the colleagues.</p>

- *Take-home MID-TERM EXAM (20%) and Take-home FINAL EXAM (28%):* Students will have midterm and final exams. *Grading rubrics will be provided at the exam sheet.*
- **QUIZZES (10%):** We will have pop quizzes throughout the semester fully based on the assigned readings. The questions will be basic, but will be useful enough to display your preparedness for our class. You will be good at the quizzes if you have completed readings before coming to our class. The quizzes will be open certain time periods. You will have two hours to complete each quiz which means that you can use your textbook and other assigned readings to answer questions.
- **CURRENT EVENT PRESENTATION (5%):** Students are required to choose one of current news and make a comprehensive presentation on its significance to our class, POLI 260. Grades for the presentation will be out of 5 points: *2 points for proactive discussion leadership and engagement in discussion; 3 points for the substance of what*

you deliver. You can develop your content as much as you would like but the following slides are required to be included! All the images and video as well as quotes should be clearly referred.

- *Slide #1: Your name and title of the presentation*
- *Slide #2 Your Thesis Statement (one single sentence!)*
- *Slide #3: Specifics of the current event news*
- *Slide #4-# any: Further research on your current event*
- *One before last slide: Conclusion & at least 2 discussion questions*
- *Last Slide: References*

Readings for the Course. The reading assignments are designed to assure a common basis for conversation. This means that the assigned readings are to be completed prior to the class on the specific day. There is one book required for this course that is available for purchase in the bookstore.

[**Textbook**] John Baylis, Steve Smith, & Patricia Owens. 2011 or 2014 or 2017. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. (5th ed. or 6th or 7th ed. whichever edition would work for this class) The Oxford University Press.

[**All other READINGS beyond the required textbook**] *will be available on the syllabus or “Readings” in your left-hand on the Blackboard.*

Academic Honesty

All of your work should be submitted on the blackboard. The Blackboard will check plagiarism through SafeAssign system.

If you use an idea or a fact without attribution, you are plagiarizing someone else’s work. Cheating of any kind, including copying the work of another student or claiming another person’s work as your own (plagiarism) is unacceptable in this class. This includes copying papers off the internet. Anyone who violates the University’s Academic integrity Policy (<http://catalog.bridgew.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=970>) will be punished according to policy. For examples of plagiarism and how to avoid it, see <<http://www.csub.edu/ssric-trd/howto/plagiarism.htm>>. Plagiarism often comes as the result of a student being up against a deadline without being able to meet it. Give yourself enough time to complete your assignments.

Email/Blackboard 9

You are required to have an active Bridgewater email account and use the resources made available to you on the course’s Blackboard 9 page. If you have not yet activated your campus email account, I suggest that you do so as soon as possible. Class announcements including cancellations and/or changes to the syllabus will be posted on Blackboard 9. For those of you new to Blackboard, the following information may be helpful:

- http://blackboard.bridgew.edu/student_help/
- Email: itsupport@bridgew.edu Phone: x2555

Course and Reading Schedule

PART ONE INTRODUCTION

Week 01

Session 1

Tuesday: Introducing ourselves & Syllabus Reading & Organization

Session 2

Wednesday: COVID-19 & International Relations

- Rodrik, Dani. 2020. "Making the Best of a Post-Pandemic World." Project Syndicate. <https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/three-trends-shaping-post-pandemic-global-economy-by-dani-rodrik-2020-05>

Session 3

Thursday Introduction to International Relations & History

- Chapters 2

Session 4

Monday International History

- Chapter 4

PART TWO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORIES

Session 5

Realism

- Chapter 5 (5th edition) / or Chapter 6 (7th edition)

Week 02

Session 6

Liberalism

- Chapter 6 (5th edition) / or Chapter 7 (7th edition)

Session 7 *(Take-home Midterm Exam Questions to be distributed!)*

Liberalism 2

- Kant, Immanuel. 1795. *Toward Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch*. Translated by Jonathan Bennett 2017.

Session 8

Social Constructivism 1

- Chapter 9

Session 9

Social Constructivism 2

- Wendt, Alexander. 1992. "Anarchy is what States Make of it: The Social Construction of Power Politics." *International Organization* 46(2): 391-425.
<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/5402/cd6e1f821ee61c786374512fe9f6400ed6a0.pdf>

Session 10

Post-colonialism

- Chapter 11

PART THREE STURCTURES AND PROCESSES

Week 03

Session 11

War & Security

- Chapters 13 & 14 (5th edition) / or Chapters 14 & 15 (7th edition)

Session 12

Midterm exam submission due by **11:59 pm** on the Blackboard

Session 13

International Political Economy

- Chapter 15 (5th edition) / or Chapter 16 (7th edition)
- Chatzky, Andrew. May 16, 2019. "The Truth About Tariffs." Council on Foreign Relations. https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/truth-about-tariffs?gclid=Cj0KCQjwxMjnBRCTARIsAGwWnBO9iz-tCHOmQQR84Irlg9OTJT6gwvmnNNnlS0KJeBDvRAMimLmUbv0aAtbYEALw_wcB

Session 14

International Law

- Chapter 17 (5th edition) / or Chapter 19 (7th edition)

Session 15

Film Screening

Hotel Rwanda, directed by Terry George (2004) <https://tinyurl.com/y9w6t49u>

Week 04

Session 16

International Organizations and Transnational Actors

- Chapters 19 & 20 (5th edition) / or Chapters 21 & 22 (7th edition)

PART FOUR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Session 17

Environment & Nuclear Proliferation

- Chapter 21 & 23 / or Chapters 24 & 26
- Arms Control Association. “2018 Estimated Global Nuclear Warhead Inventories.”
<https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/Nuclearweaponswhohaswhat>

Session 18

Poverty and Development & Human Security

- Chapter 28 & 29 (5th edition) / or Chapters 29 & 30 (7th edition)

Session 19

International Relations and YOU

Session 20

Final exam submission due **11:59 pm**