

Syllabus: Political Science 1400: International Relations

*University of Missouri
Spring 2021*

About this Course

Location: Missouri Theater Auditorium

Time: MWF 11:00 – 11:50

For the foreseeable future, this course will be a traditional in-person class, but with some Canvas content. As you are no doubt aware, at some point this and other classes may transition to an all-online format. If that were to happen, the mode of instruction and lecturing would change, but I will try to keep changes to assignments and deadlines to a minimum.

About the Instructor

Name: Michael Wales, PhD Candidate

Email address: mdwe12@mail.missouri.edu

Campus office: 206 Professional Building

Office Hours: Tu-Th 1:00-3:00

Course Materials

Required:

Textbook: Grieco, Joseph, G. John Ikenberry, and Michael Mastanduno. 2019. *Introduction to International Relations: Perspectives, Connections, and Enduring Questions*. 2nd ed. London: Red Globe Press.

Either the paperback (ISBN 9781352004229) or ebook (ISBN 9781352004236) version is fine, so long as it is the second edition. All other required readings will be posted on Canvas.

Course Description:

This course is intended to offer an overview of international relations as a field of study. It concerns competition and cooperation between states in legal, political, and economic arenas. While lectures will cover much of the important course content, students are expected to complete all assigned readings and will be responsible for knowing their content on assignments and quizzes.

Goals of the Course:

The class should allow students to be informed consumers of news and information about international affairs and prepare students for further study in political science, international business, and more. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Name and define the major theoretical traditions of international relations;
2. Summarize the foreign policy process in the United States, including core concepts and actors;
3. Identify causes of war and ways to resolve international conflicts;
4. Analyze the benefits and costs of international trade and finance and apply them to current events.

This course meets the Social Science requirement for Gen Ed.

Assessment/Grading

Grades in this class will be a function of performance in four kinds of assignments and assessments, with their relative weighting in the final grade described below.

1. Review questions for each chapter in the textbook (25% of final grade). These review questions are intended to help students determine what material they are comprehending well and where they might be struggling. These will be completed on Canvas.
2. Current event summaries (10% of final grade). Students will find and summarize a news article related to the class topics. Articles must be no more than six months old. The summary should describe the article and explain how it relates to course content. Students will sign up to provide a current event summary on a specific week and then post their summaries on Canvas. Additional information will be provided in a forthcoming document.
3. Section quizzes (10% of final grade each, 40% total). At the end of each section, there will be a quiz covering the content of that section. The quizzes will be taken through Canvas but will occur during class time.
4. Final essay (25% of final grade). This short paper will be similar to a take-home final exam. It may cover content from the entire course.

Late work for all of the above assignment types will be accepted with a 10 percent penalty for each day the assignment is late. If circumstances require you to miss an exam or quiz, alert the instructor as soon as possible to arrange alternative accommodations. Documentation may be required to avoid late penalties for make-up quizzes.

Grading Scale

The MU Grading System is based on a four-point scale. The grade value for each letter grade is as follows:

A	95–100%
A-	90–94%
B+	87–89%
B	84–86%
B-	80–83%
C+	77–79%
C	74–76%
C-	70–73%
D+	67–69%
D	64–66%
D-	60–63%
F	<60%

Use of Canvas

While this class is currently not an online course, it will utilize Canvas extensively. Most students no doubt have had both positive and negative experiences with Canvas, and we will aim to have mostly positive experiences in this class.

Technical Support

Problems with your computer or other technology issues are not an excuse for delays in meeting expectations and missed deadlines for the course. If you have a problem, get help in solving it immediately.

Mizzou Tech Support can provide step by step instructions on using Canvas tools, help you log in, or troubleshoot issues.

- Email techsupport@missouri.edu
- Call (573) 882-5000
- Visit <http://doit.missouri.edu>

Canvas also provides phone and chat support for students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can find contact information in the course site under the Help link in the Canvas global navigation (the menu on the far-left side of the course). For your convenience I have also listed it below:

- Call Canvas Support (Students)

Call (855) 981-6196. Available 24/7

- Link to chat with Canvas support
<https://cases.canvaslms.com/liveagentchat?chattype=student>

You will find additional information about Technical Support for all of MU's centrally supported educational technologies by clicking on the link, **Support & Policies** in our Canvas site. This link is located in the left-hand course navigation menu.

If you are having difficulty with a technology tool in Canvas, consider visiting the [Canvas Student Guides](#), which has overviews on each Canvas tool and tutorials on how to use them.

Even though this is not an online course, you may find it helpful to complete the [MU Canvas Online Student Orientation](#) available in your Canvas course list. The orientation course is always available for reference.

Course Policies

For University policies and support resources, please click the Support & Policies link in the course menu on Canvas.

Class Etiquette

Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual.

Our differences, some of which are outlined in the University's nondiscrimination statement, will add richness to this learning experience. Please consider that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions and generate unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambience.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

University standards prohibit cheating, plagiarism, and sabotage. Those caught engaging in such academic misconduct will receive a zero on the assignment and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

Recording Prohibition

University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under section 240.040 of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Those students who are permitted to record are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Intellectual Pluralism

Below is the University's statement on intellectual pluralism:

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the departmental chair or divisional director, the director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities, or the MU Equity Office.

Intellectual Property

All course materials, including, but not limited to, the syllabus, course assignments, study guides, learning guides, online lecture videos and content, and lab book (i.e. course pack) are property of the instructor and University and may not be shared online or distributed in any manner to others. Students are prohibited from posting course materials or notes online and from selling notes to or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the professor teaching this course. Doing so will constitute both an academic integrity violation and a copyright violation. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to civil penalties and criminal liability. Violations of academic integrity may subject you to disciplinary action under University policies.

ADA Compliance and Accommodation

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please establish an accommodation plan with the MU Disability Center, S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for persons with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Decreasing the Risk of COVID-19 in Classrooms and Labs

MU cares about the health and safety of its students, faculty, and staff. To provide safe, high-quality education amid COVID-19, we will follow several specific campus policies in accordance with the advice of the Center for Disease Control and Boone County health authorities. This statement may be updated as information changes. Students who do not follow protocols may be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students. Further information is available at <https://renewal.missouri.edu/students>.

Course Schedule

The Course Schedule is subject to modification. Please check Announcements and emails regularly to ensure you do not miss any changes. All assignments are due by 11:59 pm of the specified day.

MODULE	DATES	TOPICS AND READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS	
INTRODUCTION	1/20	Introduction	Read the syllabus	
	1/22	Ch. 1 – Understanding IR		
FOUNDATIONS	1/25	Ch. 2 – Historical foundations		
	1/27	Ch. 2 – Historical foundations		
	1/29	Ch. 2 – Historical foundations	Ch. 2 Review Questions due 1/31	
	2/1	Ch. 3 – Theories of IR		
	2/3	Ch. 3 – Theories of IR		
	2/5	Ch. 3 – Theories of IR	Ch. 3 Review Questions due 2/7	
	2/8	Ch. 4 – Foreign Policy Analysis		
	2/10	Ch. 4 – Foreign Policy Analysis	FPA Current Events due 2/10	
	2/12	Ch. 4 – Foreign Policy Analysis	Ch. 4 Review Questions due 2/14	
	2/15	Ch. 5 – International Organizations		
	2/17	Ch. 5 – International Organizations	IO Current Events due 2/17	
	2/19	Ch. 5 – International Organizations	Ch. 5 Review Questions due 2/21	
	2/22	Foundations Quiz		
	CONFLICT	2/24	Ch. 6 – Causes of War	
		2/26	Ch. 6 – Causes of War	Causes of War Current Events due 2/28
3/1		Ch. 6 – Causes of War	Ch. 6 Review Questions due 3/3	
3/3		Ch. 7 – Interstate Peace		
3/5		Ch. 7 – Interstate Peace	Interstate Peace Current Events due 3/7	
3/8		Ch. 7 – Interstate Peace	Ch. 7 Review Questions due 3/10	
3/10		Ch. 8 – WMD and Other Factors		
3/12		Ch. 8 – WMD and Other Factors	WMD Current Events due 3/14	
3/15		Ch. 8 – WMD and Other Factors	Ch. 8 Review Questions due 3/17	
3/17	Conflict Quiz			

MODULE	Dates	Topics and readings	Assignments	
IPE	3/19	Ch. 9 – Introduction to IPE		
	3/22	Ch. 9 – Introduction to IPE	IPE Current Event due 3/21	
	3/24	Ch. 9 – Introduction to IPE	Ch. 9 Review Questions due 3/26	
	3/26	Ch. 10 – World Economy		
	3/29-4/2	Spring Break		
	4/5	Ch. 10 – World Economy	World Economy Current Events due 4/4	
	4/7	Ch. 10 – World Economy	Ch. 10 Review Questions due 4/9	
	4/9	Ch. 11 – Development		
	4/12	Ch. 11 – Development	Development Current Events due 4/11	
	4/14	Ch. 11 – Development	Ch. 11 Review Questions due 4/16	
	4/16	IPE Quiz		
	CHALLENGES	4/19	Ch. 12 – Nonstate Actors	
		4/21	Ch. 12 – Nonstate Actors	Nonstate Actor Current Events dues 4/21
4/23		Ch. 12 – Nonstate Actors	Ch. 12 Review Questions due 4/25	
4/26		Ch. 13 – Environment and IR		
4/28		Ch. 13 – Environment and IR	Environment Current Events due 4/28	
4/30		Ch. 13 – Environment and IR	Ch. 13 Review Questions due 5/2	
5/3		Ch. 14 – Emerging Visions	Ch. 14 Review Questions due 5/6	
5/5		Ch. 14 – Emerging Visions	Final Essay due 5/7	
5/10	Challenges Quiz			