

****All readings are listed according to the date they are DUE****

IS 100-02: Introduction to International Relations
Spring 2011
MWF 10:00am-10:50am
Buckman 116 – CRN 21332

Professor: Dr. Jennifer Sciubba

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Office hours: MW 11:00-12:00; Tu 10:45-12:00, and by appointment

Course description:

In this course we will inquire together into what forces shaped the world you were born into, and what changes over the last couple of decades shaped the world we live in today. I have designed the course around two books: one that will ask us to consider international relations from an historical perspective, and one focusing on contemporary issues. The assignments, class discussions, and world politics textbook will help you analyze these works and apply basic knowledge of international relations to the events, issues, and scenarios described in them.

This course is designed to serve as a foundation for all other IS courses. What you learn will also enhance your studies of many other fields, including anthropology, history, global health, environmental studies, and economics. By the end of the course you will be familiar with the various approaches to thinking about international politics, basic concepts like power and globalization, and areas such as international trade and institutions, among other things.

If you have a documented disability or other issue that requires assistance, please let me know by the end of the second week of classes and I will be happy to help or refer you to Student Disability Services (SDS).

Texts:

Collier, Paul. *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.

Gaddis, John Lewis. *The Cold War: A New History*. New York: Penguin, 2005.

Mingst, Karen A. and Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft. *Essentials of International Relations*, 5th ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2010.

While these are the primary texts for the course, each week's readings will be supplemented with articles, blog posts, or radio programs that highlight themes in international relations. These will be posted on Moodle and are an essential and required part of the course.

Additionally, because this is an international relations course, you will benefit greatly if you read on a regular basis from the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com), *Washington Post* (www.washingtonpost.com), *BBC World News* (www.bbc.co.uk), the *Economist* (access through the library), or another reputable print news source. I highly recommend the blog from *Foreign Policy*

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Magazine, found at <http://blog.foreignpolicy.com>, for a quick way to catch up on the day's events.

Class policies:

This syllabus is subject to change.

Papers and other assignments:

- I strongly encourage you to consult the Writing Center for help with your writing assignments.
- Papers should be double-spaced and include page numbers. Please do not use a separate title page. Ensure that you have at least 1-inch margins and use Times New Roman 12-point font. Please submit all papers electronically **via Moodle** and ensure that it is posted. Papers posted late or incorrectly will be considered late. NO HARD COPIES.
- We will take the Honor Code very seriously. You can read the policy at www.rhodes.edu/campuslife/1478.asp.

Attendance:

- I expect you to attend class and arrive on time. If you miss more than 3 classes your Assignments and Quizzes grade will drop by 1/3 of a letter grade for each absence thereafter. Any illnesses should be documented by a medical professional. Only if you provide documentation will you be allowed to make up missed work.
- We will all benefit if you are an active and respectful participant in the class, do the readings before class, and keep up with the news daily.

Make-up policy:

- If you miss an exam or deadline because of a college-sponsored event you may take the exam *before* the scheduled exam date or submit your assignment *before* the due date.
- I will drop the lowest two grades for in-class quizzes. No makeups. Assignments missed because of a documented illness or school-sponsored event must be turned in by the following class.

Contact:

- If you need to schedule an appointment with me, no need to email. Just request a meeting using <http://tungle.me/jennifersciubba>.
- For other matters, the best way to get in touch with me is via email. However, so that I may spend time with my family I often do not check or answer email after 5pm each day or on the weekends. If you have an emergency you may call me on my cell phone: -----.

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Requirements:

Two exams

The exams will be held in class and will cover terms and concepts with sections for definition, short answer and essay. All exams are cumulative.

- **15% Midterm**, Friday, 3/11, in class.
- **20% Final Exam**, Friday, 5/6 at 5:30pm (same classroom).

Map Test, Friday, 2/25 in class **(10%)**

- The International Studies Department requires a grade of 90% or above on this test. You may retake the test until you achieve 90% but you must earn a 90% by the last day of classes or you will not be allowed to take the final exam and therefore will receive a zero on the exam. The first score you receive on the Map Test given in class will stand as 10 percent of your grade for the course. Correct spelling is required and study resources are available in my Public Folder from the Shortcut to Acad_Dept_Pgm on the desktop of most campus computers.

Two short analytic papers (30% total)

- You will have the opportunity to submit 2 short (4-6 page) papers over the course of the semester. The first will ask you to relate *The Cold War* to theories and concepts of international relations and to contemporary issues. The second will ask the same of *The Bottom Billion*.
- Paper 1: due Wednesday, 3/30
- Paper 2: due Monday, 4/25

Assignments and quizzes (25%)

You will have the opportunity numerous times throughout the semester to complete short analytic assignments as reflection on a day's class or readings, or in preparation for a class discussion. We will also have several unannounced and announced quizzes in class.

Grade scale:

93-100	= A	73-76	= C
90-92	= A-	70-72	= C-
87-89	= B+	67-69	= D+
83-86	= B	63-66	= D
80-82	= B-	60-62	= D-
77-79	= C+	59 & below	= F

Guidelines for determining grades on papers will be discussed in class in advance of assignment deadlines.

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IS100-02 (Spring 2011) Course calendar:

Wednesday, 1/12– Course introduction

Friday, 1/14 – Historical context

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 15-43 (stop at Cold War)
- (2) Recommended: Mingst, Ch. 1, pgs. 1-14

First assignment due

Monday, 1/17 – NO CLASS, MLK DAY HOLIDAY

Wednesday, 1/19 – Historical context

Drop/add period ends

- (1) Gaddis, Prologue and pgs. 1-10
- (2) Mingst, pgs. 43-64
- (3) Kennan’s “Sources of Soviet Conduct” (on Moodle)

Friday, 1/21 – Role of theory in IR - Realism

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 65-76 (stop at Liberalism); 93-101
- (2) Gaddis, pgs. 83-106

Monday, 1/24 – Basic concepts in IR

- (1) Gaddis, pgs. 10-47

Wednesday, 1/26 – Role of theory in IR - Liberalism

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 76-81 (stop at radicalism); 102-104 (stop at radicalism)
- (2) Gaddis, pgs. 119-155

Friday, 1/28 – Concepts and theories of IR

- (1) Doyle, “Liberalism and World Politics,” pgs. 80-89 (on Moodle)

Monday, 1/31 – Role of Theory in IR – Globalism (radicalism)

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 81-84; 104-107 (stop at Constructivism for both)
- (2) Globalism and Dependency theory reading, pgs. 341-355 (on Moodle)

Wednesday, 2/2 – Role of theory in IR – Ecological paradigm

- (1) Renner, Michael. “Security Redefined” pgs. 1-19 (on Moodle)

Friday, 2/4 – Role of Theory in IR - Constructivism

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 84-91; 107-113
- (2) Tickner, “Man, the State, and War: Gendered Perspectives on National Security,” 89-95 (on Moodle)

Monday, 2/7 – The Role of the State

- (1) Gaddis, pgs. 158-188
- (2) “A New Marshall Plan?” by Bell and Renner (see Moodle)
(<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/1706>)

Wednesday, 2/9 – The Role of the State

- (1) Mingst, 115-129
- (2) Freidman on “petrodictatorships” (on Moodle)

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Friday, 2/11 – The Role of the State

- (1) Nye on Soft Power, pgs. ix-32, on Moodle

Monday, 2/14 – The Role of the State

- (1) Read *Foreign Policy's Failed States Index, 2010*, (see Moodle link). Remember to click "Read On" at the bottom of the page. There is a lot of information on the site—make sure you view the rankings as well.
- (2) Mingst 144-154

Wednesday, 2/16 – The Role of the State

- (1) Naim, Moises. "The Five Wars of Globalization," pgs. 151-159 (on Moodle)

Friday, 2/18 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society (UN)

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 183-201
- (2) Samantha Power, "Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States Let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen," pgs. 233-253 (on Moodle)

Monday, 2/21 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society (UN and EU)

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 201-210 (stop at Nongovernmental Organizations)
- (2) John Mearsheimer, "The False Promise of International Institutions," pgs. 308-315 (on Moodle)

Wednesday, 2/23 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society

- (1) Article on Transnational Civil Society, see Moodle

Friday, 2/25 – Map Test

Monday, 2/28 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society

- (1) Gaddis, pgs. 189-197 and 237-266

Wednesday, 3/2 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society

- (1) Mingst pgs. 210-219 (stop at international law)

Friday, 3/4 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society

- (1) View film, *Battle in Seattle*, before class

Monday, 3/7 – IGOs, NGOs, and Civil Society (NGOs)

TBA

Wednesday, 3/9 – Exam review

Exam review – bring questions and topics

Friday, 3/11 – Midterm exam

Monday, 3/14 – Friday, 3/28 – SPRING BREAK

Monday, 3/21 – War and Peace

- (1) View film *Charlie Wilson's War* on Moodle or through Barrett before class

Wednesday, 3/23 – War and Peace

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 231-250
- (2) Gaddis, pgs. 50-68 & 79-92

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Friday, 3/25 – War and Peace

- (1) Mingst, 250-261
- (2) Gaddis, pgs. 195-236

Monday, 3/28 – War and Peace

- (1) Huntington's "Clash of Civilizations" on Moodle
- (2) Ajami's "The Summoning" (response to Huntington) on Moodle

Wednesday, 3/30 - War and Peace

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 261-282

First paper due

Friday, 4/1 – International Political Economy

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 283-305

Monday, 4/4 – International Political Economy

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 305-324
- (2) Collier, pgs. ix-xii & 3-13

Wednesday, 4/6 – International Political Economy

- (1) Collier, pgs. 17-37

Friday, 4/8 – The Bottom Billion

- (1) Collier, pgs. 53-75

Monday, 4/11 – Transnational issues

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 287-309

Wednesday, 4/13 – Transnational issues

- (1) Mingst, pgs. 325-349

Friday, 4/15 – Environmental issues

- (1) Collier, pgs. 38-52

Monday, 4/18 – The Bottom Billion

- (1) Collier, pgs. 79-96

Wednesday, 4/20 – The Bottom Billion

- (1) Collier Chs. 7 & 8
- (2) Recommended: Collier Chs. 9 & 10

Friday 4/22 – No class EASTER BREAK

Monday, 4/25 – The future

Gaddis, pgs. 48-50

Second paper due

Wednesday, 4/27 – LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Friday, 5/6 – FINAL EXAM, 5:30PM, BUCKMAN 216