

GOV 4533
International Relations

Spring 2020
TR 2:30-3:50pm
Room: ASB 103

Vivienne Born, Ph.D.
Office: CFO 613
Office Hours: R 9-11am (and by appointment)
Phone: (940) 898-2144
Email: vborn@twu.edu

Course Description:

This course explores the dynamics of international politics. The study of international relations is a crucial part of the political science field, shifting the level of study away from domestic actors and towards the interactions of states in the international system. To embrace this new way of thinking, students must (temporarily) leave behind what they know about hierarchy and politics within states and begin to think in terms of a system of interstate anarchy, where coercion comes before law. This course is divided into four parts. Part I introduces some of the historical puzzles and analytical tools of international relations—these will be revisited throughout the semester. Parts II through IV then proceed through three thematic areas of international relations, broadly defined—international violence, international economics, and transnational cooperation.

Objectives for Students:

1. To become familiar with the concepts, models, and theories used to explain interstate behavior.
2. To learn to apply this analytical framework to productively evaluate historical and current events.

Course Requirements:

1. Participation (Note: Attendance is a required part of participation. Students may miss up to two classes without penalty.) (15%)
2. Three 2-page discussion papers (See discussion paper guidelines for details.) (10% each, 30% total)
3. Five concept quizzes (7% each, 35% total)
4. Final exam (20%)

Text to Purchase:

1. Frieden, J. A., Lake, D. A., & Schultz, K. A. (2019). *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, 4th ed. New York, NY: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.

T, R: Readings marked with an “T” must be completed by the start of class on Tuesday, while readings marked with a “R” need only be completed by the start of class on Thursday.

★ Readings marked with a star are available on Canvas.

Note: Make sure to look at the page numbers!

Course Policies

Email:

I am happy to answer questions by email and will try to reply within 48 hours. However, if you have multiple or in-depth questions, I strongly encourage you to bring them to me during my office hours instead. If you cannot make my scheduled office hours, please request an appointment by email and we'll find an alternate time to meet.

Disability Support:

If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the office of Disability Support Services (CFO 106, 940-898-3835, dss@twu.edu) in order to obtain the required official notification of your accommodation needs. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss approved accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Title IX:

Students who may need academic accommodations due to pregnancy (including termination of pregnancy, childbirth, and lactation) are encouraged to contact Dr. Stephanie Brown, Associate Vice President for Student Enrichment, Health and Support (sbrown60@twu.edu) and me to discuss your academic needs.

Academic Integrity:

Honesty in completing assignments is essential to the mission of the University and to the development of the personal integrity of students. In submitting graded assignments, students affirm that they have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance, and that they have abided by all other provisions of the Code of Conduct in the TWU Student Handbook. Cheating, plagiarism, fabrication or other kinds of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in appropriate sanctions that may include failing an assignment, failing the class, or being suspended or expelled. Suspected cases in this course may be reported to Student Life. The specific disciplinary process for academic dishonesty is found in the TWU Student Handbook. The TWU library link, "Avoiding Plagiarism," will aid students in completing their assignments with integrity.

In an effort to ensure the integrity of the academic process, Texas Woman's University vigorously affirms the importance of academic honesty as defined by the Student Handbook. Therefore, in an effort to detect and prevent plagiarism, faculty members at Texas Woman's University may now use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student's work with multiple sources. It then reports a percentage of similarity and provides links to those specific sources. The tool itself does not determine whether or not a paper has been plagiarized. Instead, that judgment must be made by the individual faculty member.

Part I: Introduction to International Relations

Week 1 – Introduction (Tues, January 14 & Thurs, January 16)

- ★ **R:** *World Politics* – Chapter 1: What Shaped Our World? (pp. 2-41)

Week 2 – Modeling Outcomes (Tues, January 21 & Thurs, January 23)

- ★ **T:** *World Politics* – Chapter 2: Understanding Interests, Interactions and Institutions (pp. 42-87)
- ★ **R:** Olson, M. (1965). *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Introduction, pp. 1-3.
- ★ **R:** Schelling, T. C. “Game Theory: A Practitioner’s Guide,” in Art, R. J. & Jervis, R. (eds.) *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*.

Part II: Peace, Violence and War

Week 3 – The Puzzle of War (Tues, January 28 & Thurs, January 30)

- ★ **T:** *World Politics* – Chapter 3: Why Are There Wars? (pp. 88-137)
- ★ **R:** Thucydides. (416 B.C.) The Melian Dialogue.

First concept quiz on Thursday, January 30

Week 4 – Domestic Explanations for War (Tues, February 4 & Thurs, February 6)

- T:** *World Politics* – Chapter 4: Domestic Politics and War (pp. 138-185)
- ★ **R:** Rosato, S. (2003). The Flawed Logic of Democratic Peace Theory. *American Political Science Review*, 97(4).

Week 5 – International Explanations for War (Tues, February 11 & Thurs, February 13)

- T:** *World Politics* – Chapter 5: International Institutions and War (pp. 186-235)
- ★ **R:** Walt, S. M. (1985). Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power. *International Security*, 9(4), pp. 3-18.

First discussion paper due Tuesday, February 11

Week 6 – Waging War Against the State (Tues, February 18 & Thurs, February 20)

- T:** *World Politics* – Chapter 6: Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil Wars and Terrorism (pp. 236-293)
- ★ **R:** Neumann, P. R. (2007). Negotiating with Terrorists. *Foreign Affairs*, 86(1).

Second concept quiz on Thursday, February 20

Part III: International Political Economy

Week 7 – Why Trade? (Tues, February 25 & Thurs, February 27)

- T:** *World Politics* – Chapter 7: International Trade (pp. 294-345)

- ★ **R:** Rodrik, D. (2019). Globalization's Wrong Turn: And How It Hurt America. *Foreign Affairs*, 98(4).

Week 8 – International Investment (Tues, March 3 & Thurs, March 5)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 8: International Financial Relations (pp. 346-385)

- ★ **R:** The Good, the bad, and the ugly: Foreign direct investment is mostly welcome, but large short-term flows spell trouble. (September 2016). *The Economist*.

Spring Break!

Week 9 – Exchange Rates (Tues, March 17 & Thurs, March 19)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 9: International Monetary Relations (pp. 386-423)

- ★ **R:** Eichengreen, B. (2012). When Currencies Collapse: Will We Replay the 1930s or the 1970s? *Foreign Affairs*, 91(1).

Third concept quiz on Thursday, March 19

Week 10 – Economic Development (Tues, March 24 & Thurs, March 26)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 10: Development: Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations (pp. 424-461)

- ★ **R:** Documentary (TBA)

Second discussion paper due Tuesday, March 24

Part IV: International Cooperation

Week 11 – International Law (Tues, March 31 & Thurs, April 2)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 11: International Law and Norms (pp. 462-497)

- ★ **R:** Kyl, J., Feith, D. J., & Fonte, J. (2013). The War of Law: How New International Law Undermines Democratic Sovereignty. *Foreign Affairs*, 92(4).
- ★ **R:** Koh, H. H. & Doyle, M. (2013). The Case for International Law: A Response to “The War of Law.” *Foreign Affairs*.

Week 12 – Human Rights (Tues, April 7 & Thurs, April 9)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 12: Human Rights (pp. 498-539)

- ★ **R:** Kahraman, F. (2018). Why Turkey's human rights violations won't end up in court. *The Washington Post*.
- ★ **R:** Ba, O. (2019). The International Criminal Court just acquitted the former Ivory Coast president. What happens now? *The Washington Post*.

Fourth concept quiz on Thursday, April 9

Week 13 – Environmental Issues (Tues, April 14 & Thurs, April 16)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 13: The Global Environment (pp. 540-583)

- ★ **R:** Ostrom, E. (2009). Beyond Markets and States: Polycentric Governance of Complex Economic Systems. *Nobel Prize Lecture*.

Third discussion paper due Tuesday, April 14

Week 14 – Current and Future Challenges (Tues, April 21 & Thurs, April 23)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 14: Challenges to the Global Order (first half, pp. 584-618)

★ **R:** Fukuyama, F. (2013). The “End of History” 20 Years Later. *NPQ: New Perspectives Quarterly*, 30(4).

★ **R:** Allison, G. (2017). China vs. America: Managing the Next Clash of Civilizations. *Foreign Affairs*, 96(5).

Week 15 – Current and Future Challenges (Tues, April 28 & Thurs, April 30)

T: *World Politics* – Chapter 14: Challenges to the Global Order (second half, pp. 619-637)

★ **T:** Betts, A. (2019). Nowhere to Go: How Governments in the Americas Are Bungling the Migration Crisis. *Foreign Affairs*, 98(6).

R: Prepare questions for final exam review!

Fifth concept quiz on Thursday, April 30

Final Exam

(Tuesday May 5, 1:30-3pm)