

# DOMESTIC POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLI 477, Spring 2003  
M 1:30-4:30 PM, 114 Baker Hall

## INSTRUCTOR:

Professor Ashley Leeds  
230 Baker Hall, (713) 348-3037  
leeds@rice.edu  
www.ruf.rice.edu/~leeds  
Office Hours: M 10:30-12:00, W 1:30-3:00 or by appointment

## COURSE CONTENT:

This is a research seminar in international relations that is intended to provide advanced undergraduate students with the opportunity to read and discuss a range of scholarly literature and to complete their own research projects on related topics. Throughout the semester, we will seek to understand how domestic politics and international politics interact. While accepting that power and the structure of the international system are important in determining international events, we will ask how the political, economic, and social structures of states and how the political, economic, and social conditions within states affect foreign policy and international relations. In the end, we will have a better understanding of when, why, and how the internal politics of states influence international political and economic relations. You should leave this course with a stronger appreciation for the multiple pressures that influence the decisions of state leaders in developing foreign policy, increased ability to design and conduct your own research, and improved skills in analytical thinking and writing.

## EVALUATION:

Grades will be determined in the manner described below. The Rice University Honor Code applies to all assignments for this course.

### ***25% -- Class Participation and Attendance***

The quality of a seminar depends to a great extent on the efforts of the students. You play a big role in creating your course. I expect that you will come to class each week prepared to discuss the assigned material and that you will share your ideas, questions, and views actively. Because class participation is vital to your performance in this course, please see me at once if you feel uncomfortable speaking in class.

Please leave ample time to read the work assigned for each week carefully. As you read, it will be helpful to think about answers to the following questions:

- What is the author's main argument?
- What evidence does the author use to support his or her claim?
- How is this argument similar or different from other work we have discussed in class?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the author's analysis?
- Do you agree or disagree with the author?

Can you think of an alternative explanation for the author's evidence?  
Is there additional evidence that lends support to or casts doubt upon the author's conclusions?  
What advice would you give to policy makers based on this reading?

I hope that we will engage in vigorous academic debate, but during these class discussions, classroom etiquette is vital. Please work to ensure that you make comments in ways that invite discussion. Our classroom contains members with various life experiences, divergent perspectives, varying levels of experience with political science research, and different strategies for defending their views. Please state your opinions constructively and respectfully, listen carefully when your colleagues are speaking, and speak to me if you are offended by something that is said in class.

Obviously it is impossible to participate in a seminar discussion if you are not in attendance. I expect no absences in the course, and I encourage you to discuss any circumstances with me that will preclude you from attending class. I also expect you to arrive on time. If you do need to miss class, please contact me ahead of time to let me know that you will not be able to attend and to make arrangements to complete an alternate assignment.

Grades for participation will be assigned at the end of the semester, but you may ask for feedback on your performance at any time. If you have concerns about the quality and quantity of your participation in the course, I hope you will speak to me.

### **15% – *Weekly Reading Summaries and Discussion Questions***

Each week, each student must submit a brief summary of the assigned reading. Your summary must be typed, double spaced, with one inch margins on all sides, and in a font size no smaller than 11 point. The summary **MUST NOT** exceed two pages; I will not accept longer summaries. In addition, each student must submit at least two questions that he or she thinks would be useful for the class to discuss. These summaries and questions are due by 9:00 am on the day of class. They may be submitted by email as attachments in .pdf, Microsoft Word, or WordPerfect format. Alternatively, you may leave a hard copy in my mailbox in the political science department. Your grade for this portion of the course will be based on (1) your willingness to complete and turn in summaries and questions each week; (2) your ability to provide a succinct summary that captures the most important elements of the assigned reading; (3) your ability to identify topics for class discussion.

If you turn in summaries and questions on time every week that earn at least a ✓, you will earn an A for this portion of your grade. I will not accept any summaries or questions after the class meets unless you have made special arrangements with me ahead of time. For every week that you do not turn in a summary or questions, you will lose half a letter grade (5%). If you turn in a summary and questions that I do not find acceptable (i.e., that does not earn at least a ✓), you will have the opportunity to rewrite the summary and/or questions before the next week to earn a ✓. If you do not do so, you will lose half a letter grade. Exceptions to this policy will be made only under extraordinary circumstances and with proper documentation.

### **20% -- *Analytical Paper***

Approximately halfway through the semester, you will be asked to write an analytical paper. I will distribute a question, and you will have approximately ten days to write a response to that question

based on the literature we have covered in the first half of the course and our class discussions. Your goal will be to make an argument that demonstrates sophisticated analytical and critical thinking about the topic in question. The tentative due date is **March 7**. Late papers will be penalized one half letter grade (5%) per day, including weekends and holidays, unless an extension has been granted by the instructor prior to the due date. Extensions will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances and with proper documentation.

#### **40% – Research Paper**

*Research Question – due February 17*

*Draft of Literature Review & Argument – due March 28 – 10%*

*Final Draft – due April 25 – 30%*

One of the main purposes of this research seminar is to provide advanced students with the opportunity to conduct their own political science research. You may choose any topic that fits the theme of the course– the links between domestic and international politics. You must identify a research question, explain why it is important, review the existing state of scholarly knowledge on the topic, develop an argument from which you derive testable hypotheses, and provide some empirical evaluation of those hypotheses.

The paper will be due in several stages. You must turn in a paragraph long description of the topic/research question you plan to study on **February 17**. While I will not grade this description, you will lose credit on your final project if you fail to hand it in. On **March 28**, I will collect a draft of a portion of your paper for grading. This section must explain the question you are addressing, provide a critical review of the literature that will provide a basis for your argument, and develop your hypotheses. This draft should be accompanied by a bibliography and should include appropriate citations. Your completed paper is due on **April 25**. Late papers will be penalized one half letter grade (5%) per day, including weekends and holidays, unless an extension has been granted by the instructor prior to the due date. Extensions will be granted only under extraordinary circumstances and with proper documentation.

I encourage you to work closely with me on your individual papers throughout the semester. You need not wait for due dates to get feedback on your work. I am happy to help you at every stage of the process from identifying a topic, to locating background literature, to developing your argument, to setting up the research design and locating relevant data sources. It will be easier for me to help you, however, if you begin early and plan ahead. I am unlikely (for instance) to be in my office and available to help at 10:00 pm the night before the paper is due!

#### **SPECIAL PROVISIONS:**

Students with documented disabilities who require special accommodations should meet with me and express their needs during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities must also contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Center. The Department of Political Science is happy to do whatever we can to assure each student full and rewarding participation in classes.

## **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT:**

Many students attend office hours only immediately before papers are due or after grades are returned. These are the times when long lines form. I am very happy to answer questions about your papers up until the due dates, but I strongly encourage you to use my office time throughout the semester to discuss the course material. It is important to me that this course enriches your educational experience and that you receive frequent evaluation of your performance. I hope that you will feel free to visit during my office hours whenever you think discussion on an individual basis would be helpful. My scheduled office hours are 10:30-12:00 Monday and 1:30-3:00 Wednesday. If you cannot attend office hours, I will make an appointment to meet with you at another time.

## **REQUIRED READING:**

There are nine books required for this course, listed below. They are all available for purchase at the campus book store. I was also able to find paperback copies of all nine books available on amazon.com. In addition, I have placed library copies of all nine books on reserve at Fondren library.

The remaining readings are articles drawn primarily from scholarly journals; they are designated by \*\* on the reading schedule. Copies of the articles are on reserve at Fondren library and are also available in the Faculty Lounge at 277 Baker Hall. When you borrow articles from the reserve desk or the faculty lounge, please return them promptly so that your classmates may have access to the articles as well. Many of the articles are also available electronically through databases available to Rice students.

Frieden, Jeffrey A. 1991. *Debt, Development, and Democracy: Modern Political Economy and Latin America, 1965-1985*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Gaubatz, Kurt Taylor. 1999. *Elections and War: The Electoral Incentive in the Democratic Politics of War and Peace*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Haggard, Stephan. 1990. *Pathways from the Periphery: The Politics of Growth in the Newly Industrializing Countries*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Martin, Lisa L. 2000. *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Rogowski, Ronald. 1989. *Commerce and Coalitions: How Trade Affects Domestic Political Alignments*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

Schultz, Kenneth A. 2001. *Democracy and Coercive Diplomacy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Simmons, Beth A. 1994. *Who Adjusts? Domestic Sources of Foreign Economic Policy During the Interwar Years*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Waltz, Kenneth. 1959. *Man, the State and War*. New York: Columbia University Press.

## **DISCUSSION AND READING SCHEDULE:**

### **Week 1: January 13: Introduction**

No reading assignment, but please review syllabus carefully.

### **January 20: No class, University Holiday**

### **Week 2: January 27: System vs. National Level Approaches**

Waltz, Kenneth. 1959. *Man, the State and War*. New York: Columbia University Press.

\*\*Brawley, Mark R. 1998. *Turning Points: Decisions Shaping the Evolution of the International Political Economy*. Orchard Park, New York: Broadview Press, chapters 2-3.

### **Week 3: February 3: Democratic Peace 1**

Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.

### **Week 4: February 10: Democratic Peace 2**

Schultz, Kenneth A. 2001. *Democracy and Coercive Diplomacy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

### **Week 5: February 17: Domestic Political Conditions and International Aggression**

Gaubatz, Kurt Taylor. 1999. *Elections and War: The Electoral Incentive in the Democratic Politics of War and Peace*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

\*\* Russett, Bruce. 1990. Economic Decline, Electoral Pressure, and the Initiation of Interstate Conflict. In *Prisoners of War? Nation States in the Modern Era*, Charles S. Gochman and Alan Ned Sabrosky, eds. Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath and Co., 123-140.

\*\*Ostrom, Charles W. and Brian L. Job. 1986. The President and the Political Use of Force. *American Political Science Review* 80: 541-566.

### **Research Question due**

### **Week 6: February 24: Domestic Upheaval and International Relations**

\*\*Blainey, Geoffrey. 1973. *The Causes of War*. London: MacMillan Press, chapter 5.

\*\*Walt, Stephen M. 1992. Revolution and War. *World Politics* 44: 321-368.

\*\*Maoz, Zeev. 1989. Joining the Club of Nations: Political Development and International Conflict, 1816-1976. *International Studies Quarterly* 33: 199-231.

\*\*Mansfield, Edward D. and Jack Snyder. 1995. Democratization and the Danger of War. *International Security* 20: 5-38.

\*\*Enterline, Andrew J. 1998. Regime Changes, Neighborhoods, and Interstate Conflict, 1816-1992. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42: 804-829.

### **Analytical Paper Question Distributed**

### **Week 7: March 3: Domestic Politics and International Bargaining**

\*\*Mastanduno, Michael. 1994. The United States Political System and International Leadership: A 'Decidedly Inferior' Form of Government? Reprinted in *American Foreign Policy: Theoretical Essays*, G. John Ikenberry, ed. 2002. New York: Longman, 238-258.

\*\*Putnam, Robert. 1988. Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games. *International Organization* 42: 427-460.

- \*\*Odell, John S. 1993. International Threats and Internal Politics: Brazil, the European Community, and the United States, 1985-1987. In *Double-Edged Diplomacy: International Bargaining and Domestic Politics*, Peter B. Evans, Harold K. Jacobson, and Robert D. Putnam, eds. Berkeley: University of California Press, 233-264.
- \*\*Mansfield, Edward D., Helen V. Milner, and B. Peter Rosendorff. 2000. Free to Trade: Democracies, Autocracies, and International Trade. *American Political Science Review* 94: 305-321.

*Analytical Paper due by 4:00 pm, Friday, March 7.*

**March 10: No class, Spring Break**

**Week 8: March 17: Democracy and International Cooperation**

Martin, Lisa L. 2000. *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

\*\*Leeds, Brett Ashley. 1999. Domestic Political Institutions, Credible Commitments, and International Cooperation. *American Journal of Political Science* 43: 979-1002.

**Week 9: March 24: International Trade and Domestic Politics**

Rogowski, Ronald. 1989. *Commerce and Coalitions: How Trade Affects Domestic Political Alignments*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

\*\*Milner, Helen. 1988. Trading Places: Industries for Free Trade. *World Politics* 40: 350-376.

*Draft of Literature Review and Argument due by 4:00 pm Friday, March 28.*

**Week 10: March 31: Domestic Politics and Foreign Economic Policy 1**

Frieden, Jeffrey A. 1991. *Debt, Development, and Democracy: Modern Political Economy and Latin America, 1965-1985*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

**Week 11: April 7: Domestic Politics and Foreign Economic Policy 2**

Simmons, Beth A. 1994. *Who Adjusts? Domestic Sources of Foreign Economic Policy During the Interwar Years*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

**Week 12: April 14: Domestic Politics and Development**

Haggard, Stephan. 1990. *Pathways from the Periphery: The Politics of Growth in the Newly Industrializing Countries*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

**Week 13: April 21: Discussion of Student Research Projects**

*Research paper due Friday, April 25, 4:00 pm.*