

POLS 1500, Introduction to International Relations, 3 Credits

Fall 2023, 9:40-10:30, Lafayette 207

Prof. Peter Henne, peter.henne@uvm.edu

Office Hours: Old Mill 504, MF 2:10-3:00, W 2:10-4:00

Please read the whole syllabus.

In 1914, the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand set off World War I, a massive conflict that transformed European and world politics. In the 1990s, an international campaign by non-governmental organizations and some states helped to pass a global ban on landmines. And in 2011, after a series of protests spread throughout the Middle East, an international coalition launched a military intervention in Libya to enforce a United Nations Security Council mandate protecting the country's population from its ruler.

These events seem to be different in every imaginable way, but they all fall under the category of "international relations." But what exactly do we mean by "international relations?" What sorts of theories and tools does this sub-field of political science use to study the world? How can existing debates and insights about international relations help us understand current events?

Ultimately, the study of international relations is the quest to make sense of and find order in a seemingly chaotic international system. This course provides students the tools to do so by answering the above questions. Each session will deal with an important theory, concept or current event in the study of international relations. Some of these are "traditional" topics in international relations, like the balance of power or the role of the state. But many deal with new issues that are challenging the role of states in international relations, like religion and non-governmental organizations. Each session will also include a discussion of why this topic matters, through reference to real-world events and debates. The course is organized as a lecture, but there will be plenty of opportunities for questions and discussion during class.

The course is divided into four units. The first, "What is International Relations," discusses the definition, foundational theories, and key concepts of the sub-field. The second, "International Relations Concepts," covers important ideas in the study of international relations. The third unit is "Policy debates," dealing with some of the ways foreign policy makers attempt to make sense of the international system. The fourth unit, "Current Events," applies these concepts and theories to several current and historical events in international relations.

Course Objectives:

1. Understand important theories and topics in international relations.
2. Analyze the causes and consequences of current events in international relations.
3. Engage in ongoing debates among scholars and policymakers on a variety of international relations topics

Assignments:

Four in-class exams, one final, one writing assignment, one optional policy debate, and participation.

Written Assignments:

The written assignment assesses your ability to synthesize information and arguments concerning international relations and add your own original input. The assignments address various aspects of the field of international relations (and the sort of work you may do as a scholar/practitioner of international relations): debating academic research, formulating a policy for a government, and taking a clear stance on an international relations crisis. I will grade papers on formatting, coherence of writing, understanding of the material, and originality of the argument. There are two deadlines for these assignments: If you turn the paper in by the earlier deadline, you will have the option of rewriting it based on my comments and resubmitting it within one week of the time I return it to you.

All written assignment should be written in 12 point, Times New Roman Font, with double spacing and one inch margins. You must cite all sources referenced. All citations must be in text, author-date style, with a bibliography containing complete information. The specific style does not matter, as long as you are consistent; see this webpage for more information: https://library.uvm.edu/research/citations_style_guides_and_information_management. Spelling and grammar count towards the grade. All papers should include a clearly written introduction paragraph that sets up and summarizes your argument, as well as a conclusion paragraph that clarifies your argument and discusses why it is important. Papers that go beyond the length limit or deviate from the formatting requirements will be penalized. PAGE LENGTHS INCLUDE THE BIBLIOGRAPHY.

All written assignments are due electronically via BrightSpace (in Word or PDF format) by the beginning of the class in which they are assigned. If you turn in an assignment after the beginning of class but by 5PM the day it is due, you will be penalized one third letter grade. You will be penalized one letter grade for each day after that it is late. It is your responsibility to ensure the assignment is properly submitted; I will not allow any changes to the assignments without penalty after the due date.

Early turn in option: You have the option to turn a draft of the paper in early (due date below). I will provide feedback and return the draft to you; you will then have one week to complete the revisions and turn in a final paper. I will only provide feedback on completed drafts. If you choose this option, you *must* revise the paper at this time; you cannot choose to instead turn it in at the later due date.

In order to reflect the varying interests, majors, and career goals of international relations students, you have a choice of writing assignments. You must do one of the follow two assignments (and will receive no extra credit for doing extra assignments):

Policy Memo (3-5 pages): This assignment will expose you to debates about US foreign policy, as well as the manner in which international relations experts analyze and debate policy options. You must turn in an electronic copy via BrightSpace.

PROMPT: You are a low-level US government staffer, and your Undersecretary has tasked you with writing a memo on policy approaches to a specific area of international relations. You must pick a news article about a current international relations event from the past six months, and find two pieces of policy writing on the topic of the news article. Write a policy memo that provides an overview of the event and broader topic, the arguments in the two policy sources you chose, and your own suggestion for a specific policy with a justification. Your suggested policy can be drawn from one of the policy sources.

Follow the below format for your memo (adapted from CFR's Model Diplomacy):

- **Executive Summary:** Summarize your argument and policy recommendation
- **Subject and Background:** Briefly summarize the significance of the issue for U.S. foreign policy and national security and identify the central policy question(s) to be decided. Provide just enough information about the crisis so the reader can understand your memo's purpose and importance. Do not summarize the case in depth since your readers are already well-informed.
- **Objectives:** Succinctly state what you think US objectives should be on this issue. These can be general national security objectives (such as preventing war), or more specific goals tied to your department's mission (such as protecting U.S. citizens). They should be important to U.S. national security, directly tied to the case, and feasible. These objectives should guide the policy analysis and recommendation that make up the rest of your memo. This section requires exceptional clarity of thought.
- **Options and Analysis:** Present and analyze several options for U.S. policy. Discuss their costs, benefits, and resource needs where possible. Be sure to acknowledge the weaknesses or disadvantages of each proposed option in order to illuminate the trade-offs inherent in complex policy decisions. No option is likely to be perfect.
- **Recommendation and Justification:** Identify your preferred policy option(s) and provide more details about it or them. Explain your reasoning, keeping in mind that you aim to convince the president that he or she should follow your recommendation. Addressing the weaknesses or disadvantages you identified in the Options and Analysis section can help strengthen your argument.

Policy Sources: Policy writings are often medium-length reports that assess a situation and call for a specific policy. You can find them most often through think tanks. Examples of think tanks that deal with foreign policy are: the Brookings Institute, Council on Foreign Relations, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Center for American Progress, Cato Institute, and the American Enterprise Institute. You can also find policy writings as op-eds in major newspapers such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

OR

Scholarly Response Paper: Write a 3-5 page paper responding to academic articles. It is due via BrightSpace. You must pick one scholarly article on international relations written since 2021 from the below list of journals, and find another scholarly article (from the last twenty years) that is on a similar topic. *Briefly* summarize the argument of the articles and provide your reaction to the arguments, including how accurate or useful it is in understanding international relations, how you would improve it, and (if the two articles were part of a debate) which side you found more convincing. The bulk of the reaction paper should be your analysis and suggestions. Excessive summarization will detract from your grade.

Make sure you pick a full article, not a short response or book review. IF YOU PICK A READING FROM THE SYLLABUS, IT MUST BE A SCHOLARLY ARTICLE; THESE ARE INDICATED IN THE BELOW COURSE READINGS. IF YOU PICK AN ARTICLE THAT IS NOT A FULL ARTICLE, NOT FROM THE BELOW LIST OF JOURNALS, OR NOT DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS YOU WILL BE PENALIZED.

American Political Science Review
British Journal of Political Science
European Journal of International Relations
International Organization
International Relations
International Security
International Studies Perspectives
International Studies Quarterly
*International Studies Review**
Journal of Conflict Resolution
Journal of Peace Research
Millenium: Journal of International Studies
*Review of International Political Economy**
*Security Studies**

*most recent years only available through inter-library loan:

https://library.uvm.edu/services/interlibrary_loan.

Exams:

The exams test your ability to remember and integrate material on international relations we discuss in class. Each exam will cover one unit or sub-unit of the course. There are no comprehensive mid-terms or finals, but the final exam will connect Unit IV to the earlier units through an essay. All exams will be taken on BrightSpace in the classroom, and are open-book and open note. ***All in-class assignments must be taken in the course session in which they are assigned, unless you have officially approved accommodations for extra time. Then they must be taken by 5 PM the day of the assigned exam. You must schedule such exams through the Exam Proctoring Center.*** If you miss an exam and have already used your one “free” makeup (see below), you receive a 0.

In-class exam:

There will be four in-class exams, made up of multiple choice questions. They will be taken on BrightSpace, but must be taken in the classroom and during the class period.

Final-exam: There will be one final exam. It will include the Unit 4 multiple choice exam and a comprehensive essay. It will be taken on BrightSpace, and can be taken at any location, but it must be taken during the assigned period.

Participation and Attendance:

Participation and attendance are essential to succeed in this course. I suggest you attend all course sessions. However, I will not be taking attendance; that being said, you are still responsible for all material presented in class (including announcements about assignments and exams) whether or not you are present.

In order to get the full score for this part of your grade, you must participate consistently throughout the entire semester. Come to class having finished the readings and prepared to raise questions about the readings and answer questions or commentary from me and your fellow students. You can also post on the BrightSpace discussion board the same day as the class session, but it will count for one half of in-class participation. Disrupting class by not following the policies on classroom protocol will detract from your participation and attendance grade.

Extensions and Makeups:

Every student receives 1 “no-questions asked” extension *or* exam makeup. The extension is for two days; the new deadline is 48 hours after the beginning of the class in which it was due. The exam makeup occurs on a set day (see under assignment due dates). The makeup is for a missed test; you cannot use it to retake an exam. This is the only extension or makeup I will allow.

Policy debate:

There is an optional policy simulation that will count as extra credit. We will use CFR’s Model Diplomacy software to run a simulation of a crisis. Each student participating will have a role in the US National Security Council. They will receive background on the crisis and a preferred policy they want the President to adopt. Each student will write a memo making the case for their position (using information on the CFR site) and make their class in class. We will then vote on which policy to adopt at the end of the simulation. You receive 1 point for writing a memo and participating in the debate; 2 points for writing the memo and driving the conversation; and 3 points if you write the memo, drive the conversation and your policy is adopted. It will be on 11/10, and you must sign up by 10/13.

Assignment Due Dates:

Exam #1: 9/15

Exam #2: 9/29

Early due date for writing assignments: 10/13

Exam #3: 10/18

Exam #4: 11/13

Policy Memo/Scholarly Response Paper: 11/17

Exam makeup: 11/29

Final Exam: 12/11

Grading Breakdown:

Four in-class exams: 10% each, 40% total

Final exam: 25%

Participation and attendance: 15%

Writing Assignment: 20%

Policy simulation: 1 to 3% extra credit

Grading Scale

I use the following scale will be used in the calculation of grades:

	A	B	C	D	F
+	100-98	89-88	79-78	69-68	59 or below
	97-94	87-84	77-74	67-64	
-	93-90	83-80	73-70	63-60	
<i>Description</i>	Excellent work.	Good work. Complete and on time with no errors but no extra efforts to demonstrate understanding of material	Average work. Complete and on time with minimal errors but not a comprehensive response to assignment	Inadequate work or moderately incomplete work	Extensively incomplete or inadequate work

A note on technology: UVM just switched to a new course management tool. We are all still learning it. Please be patient.

Texts:

There are three assigned texts for this course, listed below. Additional readings are available via BrightSpace or via the URL I provide.

Required:

Stephen M. Walt, *Taming American Power*, New York: W.W. Norton

Rebecca Lissner and Mira Rapp-Hooper, *An Open World*, New Haven, CT: Yale University Press

Kofi Annan, *Interventions*, New York: Penguin Randomhouse

Class readings: There are a set of assigned readings for each class session. These must be done before the day of the session. The readings provide background on the lecture and material for discussion. Please come in with a few thoughts on each of them.

Class Sessions: Each class session will include a lecture and a discussion on the assigned readings. Please come to class prepared to ask questions about the material and provide your opinion on the in-class discussion readings. There are a few group exercises; I will provide instructions on these closer to the session. I also set aside time for a general international relations current events discussion, to discuss issues in the news. Feel free to bring in issues of

interest to discuss with the class. I will make the powerpoint slides available on BrightSpace after each session. These are intended as an outline of the lecture and *will not* replace your notes.

Sessions and Readings

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics/Activities</i>	<i>Readings/Preparation</i>
M, 8-28	Introduction to International Relations	Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Introduction Niebuhr, "The Ironic Element"
Unit 1: Grand theories of international relations		
W, 8-30	What is international relations?	Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Chapter 1: "What is international order" and "Power and order throughout history" Annan, Chapter 3: "Sovereignty and intervention" *Milner, "The assumption of anarchy" Bhambra et al, "Why is international relations blind to racism?"
F, 9-1	The paradigm wars and Realism	*Mearsheimer, "Introduction," <i>Tragedy of Great Power Politics</i> Anderson, "Does Henry Kissinger have a conscience?" *Guzzini, "The enduring dilemma of realism in international relations" 1-4, 34-45 Henne, "Do we need to teach the IR paradigms at all?" https://duckofminerva.com/2018/10/do-we-need-to-teach-the-ir-paradigms-at-all.htm
M, 9-4 Holiday		
W, 9-6	Liberalism	Keohane, "Realism, institutionalism and cooperation," <i>After hegemony</i> Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Chapter 1: "The post World War II international order" to the end of the chapter Wright, "Biden's foreign policy team is full of idealists who keep getting people killed" *Mearsheimer, "The false promise of international institutions," 1-8, 19-26, 30-37, 47-49
F, 9-8	Constructivism and alternatives	*Tickner, "Man, the State and War," *Hopf, "The Promise of Constructivism," in <i>Mingst, Snyder and McKibben</i> *Buzan, "English School Theory and its problems," from <i>From International to World Society?</i> Annan, Chapter 3: "The responsibility to protect" to end of chapter
M, 9-11	Systemic & State-level theories	*Waltz, "Reductionist and systemic theories," from <i>Neorealism and its critics</i> *Milner, <i>Interests, Institutions and Information</i> Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Chapter 2: "Political Polarization" to end of chapter

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics/Activities</i>	<i>Readings/Preparation</i>
		Toosi, "How the world fell out of love with Obama"
W, 9-13	Bureaucratic & Individual-level theories	*Allison and Zelikow, "Introduction," from <i>Essence of Decision</i> *Yarhi-Milo, "In the eye of the beholder," 1-17, 20-28, 46-51 Dobbins, "For Joe Biden, an experienced foreign policy team" Beinart, "Is Joe Biden's foreign policy team the best of the blob?"
F, 9-15	Exam #1	NO READINGS
Unit 2: International Relations Concepts		
<i>Unit 2.1: International Security</i>		
M, 9-18	Two Dilemmas: Security and Prisoner's	*Jervis, "Cooperation under the security dilemma," 168-176, 186-206, 211-214 *Mitzen, "Ontological security in world politics" Curran, "Could the AUKUS deal strengthen deterrence against China?" https://www.cfr.org/blog/could-aukus-deal-strengthen-deterrence-against-china-and "China's foreign minister says Aukus deal a threat to regional security," https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-09-29/china-aukus-deal-australia-uk
W, 9-20	War	*Renshon, "Status Deficits and War," 513-526, 544-545 *Fearon, "Rationalist explanations for war," 379-401 Kirby, "Has Putin's war failed?" https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-56720589
F, 9-22	The Balance of Power	Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Chapter 3: "Balancing," Chapter 4: "Bandwagoning," "Regional balancing" and "Bonding" Bizaer, "How UAE-Israel deal could upset regional power balance," https://www.mei.edu/publications/how-uae-israel-deal-could-change-regional-powe Hui, "Toward a dynamic theory of international politics," 175-183, 185-194, 200-202
M, 9-25	Hegemonic Stability	Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Chapter 2 Allison, "The Thucydides Trap" *Snidal, "The limits of hegemonic stability theory," 579-590, 612-614 skim the rest *Goddard, <i>When right makes might</i> , selection
W, 9-27	Civil Wars	Annan, Chapter 2: "Somalia" to "Complicity with evil" *Kaufman, "Symbolic politics or rational choice" *Fearon and Laitin, "Ethnicity, Insurgency and civil wars" Yacoubian, "Assad is here to stay"
<i>Unit 2.2: International Cooperation</i>		
F, 9-29	Exam #2	NO READINGS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics/Activities</i>	<i>Readings/Preparation</i>
M, 10-2	International Organizations and International Law	Annan, Chapter 4 Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Chapter 3: "Binding" *Voeten, "The political origin of the UN Security Council's ability to legitimize the use of force," 528-544, 551-553 *Koh, "How is international law enforced" Nossel, "The World still needs the UN"
W, 10-4	Globalization	Annan, Chapter 6 *Susan Strange, "The retreat of the state" Posen, "The end of globalization?" Farrell and Newman, "Chained to globalization"
F, 10-6	Norms	Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Chapter 3: "Delegitimation" to end of chapter *Tannenwald, "The nuclear taboo" Fazal and Gunitzky, "How norms die," http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2017/03/13/how-norms-die/ Choi, "Biden says China must play by international norms," https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/528721-biden-says-china-must-play-by
M, 10-9	Alliances	"US Senator Bernie Sanders slams Biden over Saudi visit," https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/us-senator-bernie-sanders-slams-biden-over *Risse-Kappen, "Collective identity in a democratic security community" "NATO is critically important for US interests," https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20210614-biden-seeks-to-restore *Walt, "Introduction: Exploring Alliance Formation," from <i>The Origins of Alliances</i> Newman and Nexon, "Trump says American allies should spend more," https://www.vox.com/platform/amp/the-big-idea/2017/2/16/14635204/burden-sharing-allies-nato-trump
W, 10-11	Just war theory & human rights	*Donnelly "Human rights and cultural relativism," *Walzer, <i>Just and Unjust Wars</i> (selection) Brunstetter, "Can we wage a just drone war?" http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2012/07/can-we-wage-a-just-drone-war/ Piccone, "Tillerson says goodbye to human rights diplomacy"
F, 10-13	NO CLASS (Fall recess)	
M, 10-16	Democratic Peace	*Hayes, "The democratic peace and the new evolution of an old idea" *Farber and Gowa, "Politics and Peace" Parello-Plesner, "Biden's alliance of democracies can rally allies against authoritarians" https://www.politico.eu/article/joe-biden-summit-of-democracies-can-rally-allies-against-authoritarians/ Faiola, McCoy, and Morris, "Biden win a blow to Trump's populist allies"
W, 10-18	Exam #3	NO READINGS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics/Activities</i>	<i>Readings/Preparation</i>
F, 10-20	NO CLASS (Professor at conference)	
M, 10-23	Grand Strategy (pre-recorded lecture because Professor at conference. Will be available early for questions)	Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Chapter 1: "How has America used its power" to end of chapter, Chapter 5 (focus on general foreign policy approach not specific issues) Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Chapter 5 until "Openness by region" Lieber, "Thinking about American Grand Strategy," from <i>The American Era</i> Feaver, "What is grand strategy and why do we need it?" Biden, "America must lead again"
<i>Unit 3: Policy debates</i>		
W, 10-25	International Political Economy	Annan, Chapter 6 McBride and Chatzky, "What's next for the WTO?" https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/whats-next-wto?utm_medium=soc Drezner, "The persistent stupidity of 'Buy American,'" *Simmons and Elkins, "The globalization of liberalization," 171-172, 181-187
F, 10-27	The Use of force	Annan, Chapter 3: "Kosovo" *Art, "Four Uses of Force" Ashford, "Trump's Syria strikes show what's wrong with US foreign policy"
M, 10-30	<i>Diplomacy</i>	*Mitzen, "From representation to governing" Economist, "Facing the world blindfolded" Nye, "Get Smart"
W, 11-1	<i>Nuclear weapons</i>	Economist, "Could the war in Ukraine go nuclear?" Kaplan, "Rethinking Nuclear Policy" *Gartzke and Kroenig, "Nukes with numbers" Economist, "A new nuclear arms race looms"
F, 11-3	Counterterrorism	*Lehrke and Shomaker, "Kill, capture or defend?" Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Chapter 3: "Terrorism" (in the balancing section) Geltzer and Tankel, "Whatever happened to Trump's counterterrorism strategy," https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2018/03/trump-terrorism-iraq-syria/ Blazakis, "Counterterrorism-at home and abroad—will be renewed under Biden," https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/529179-counterterrorism-at-home-and-abroad/
M, 11-6	Humanitarianism	Annan, Chapter 2: beginning to "Somalia," "Complicity with evil" to end of chapter Kuperman, "Obama's Libya Debacle," *Fortna, "Does peacekeeping work" Marineau, "under what conditions are international sanctions effective?" https://theconversation.com/under-what-conditions-are-international-sanctions-effective-12111 Radelet, "Once more into the breach"

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics/Activities</i>	<i>Readings/Preparation</i>
W, 11-8	Transnational NGOs	*Keck and Sikkink "Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics," in <i>Mingst, Snyder and McKibben</i> *Roth, "Defending Economic, Social and Cultural Rights" Sniderman, "A brief history of Save Darfur," http://www.cjr.org/critical_eye/a_brief_history_of_save_darfur.php
F, 11-10	POLICY SIMULATION	
		Unit 4: Current events/debates
M, 11-13	Exam #4	NO READINGS
W, 11-15	US Status (recorded lecture as Professor will be away giving a talk)	Walt, <i>Taming American Power</i> , Introduction, Chapter 1 through "the blessings of geography" Lind and Press, "Reality Check" McMaster, "The retrenchment syndrome" *Brooks and Wohlforth, "Introduction," from <i>World out of Balance</i>
F, 11-17	Proliferation: North Korea& Iran	Walt, Chapter 3, "Blackmail" *Solingen, <i>Nuclear Logics</i> <i>Brewer, Iran's evolving nuclear program</i> Pak, "What Kim Wants" Economist_Unsplendid isolation
M, 11-20	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)	
W, 11-22	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)	
F, 11-24	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)	
M, 11-27	Rising Powers; China & Russia	Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Chapter Four: "China" and "Russia" Graham, "Let Russia be Russia" Gat, "The Return of Authoritarian Great Powers"
W, 11-29	Cyber warfare & cyber politics	Lissner and Rapp-Hooper, Chapter 3: introduction, "The Future of Technology Governance" and "From trends to constraints," Chapter 6, "Internet Governance, AI and Cyber Security"

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics/Activities</i>	<i>Readings/Preparation</i>
		<p>Shirky, "Political Power of Social Media" Wolff, "The National Intelligence Director issued a warning," <i>Slate</i>, https://slate.com/technology/2018/07/u-s-intel-chief-warns-of-a-crippling-cyber-offense/ Sulmeyer, "How the US can play cyber offense" Bastos and Marcea, "Online activists support uprisings," https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/03/03/online-activists-know-about-them/</p>
F, 12-1	Religion and IR/Expanding IR	<p>*Sandal and Fox, <i>Religion and international relations theory</i> *Hassner, <i>Religion on the Battlefield</i> Farr, <i>World of Faith and Freedom</i> Hurd, "What's wrong with promoting religious freedom"</p>
M, 12-4	Climate change/Applying IR	<p>*Barrett, "Why have climate negotiations proved so disappointing," Busby, "A warming world" *Jinnah, "Makers, takers, shapers, shakers" Rappeport, Friedman and Bradsher, "Yellen urges China to step up climate finance investments"</p>
W, 12-6	Central African conflict/reforming IR	<p>Annan, Chapter 5 Economist, "Africa's Great War," http://www.economist.com/node/1213296 Harman and Brown, "In from the margins?" Bischoff, Aning and Acharya, "Africa in global international relations" (PDF pages 20-36)</p>
F, 12-8	Conclusion: The future of the international system (online)	
M, 12-11	Final exam, 7:30-10:15	

Policies:**Syllabus:**

You must familiarize yourself with the syllabus before the semester begins. I may adjust readings, but I will not be changing any of the assignments, requirements, or grading procedures. I will also not be allowing any exams to be taken outside of the specified time (except for emergency reasons). By registering in the course you are agreeing to follow the syllabus.

Grade Changes:

I do not change grades, unless I have made a mathematical error. If you want to discuss your grades with me, you must come to office hours.

Assignment Policies:

I will grade papers according to format, clarity of argument, understanding of the topic, originality of arguments, and proofreading. I will hand out a grading rubric for each assignment and a completed grading rubric with the graded paper.

All written assignment should be written in 12 point, Times New Roman Font, with double spacing and one inch margins. All citations must be in text, author-date style, with a bibliography containing complete information. The specific style does not matter, as long as you are consistent; see this webpage for more information:

https://library.uvm.edu/research/citations_style_guides_and_information_management.

Spelling and grammar count towards the grade. All papers should include a clearly written introduction paragraph that sets up and summarizes your argument, as well as a conclusion paragraph that clarifies your argument and discusses why it is important. Papers that go beyond the length limit or deviate from the formatting requirements will be penalized.

All written assignments are due electronically at the beginning of the class in which they are assigned. If an assignment is not turned in at the beginning of the class in which it is assigned, or it is not uploaded as a Word or PDF, you will be penalized 1/3 letter grade if you turn it in by 5PM that day. If you still have not turned it in, you will be penalized 1 additional letter grade for each 24 hours it is late. It is your responsibility to ensure I receive your paper.

All in-class assignments (quizzes, mid-term and final) must be taken in the course session in which they are assigned unless I receive an official excuse beforehand. Failure to do so will result in a 0 for the assignment. If you have University-approved accommodations to take the exam elsewhere, you need to arrange that with the Student Accessibility Services office.

Extensions and Make-ups:

As there is only one writing assignment in this class (whose date is listed in the syllabus) I do not give extensions. Please review the syllabus and plan your semester accordingly. I will give each student one make-up for the in-class exams, but you must get in touch with me *before* the exam. If you have approved accommodations involving flexible deadlines, you must speak with me in advance of the due date or exam. If unforeseen circumstances arise, please reach out to the College of Arts and Sciences' Office of Student Services (or the equivalent office if you are a student in a different college).

Classroom Protocol:

The Department of Political Science classroom protocol-

- Students are expected to attend and be prepared for ALL regularly scheduled classes.
- Students are expected to arrive on time and stay in class until the class period ends. If a student knows in advance that they will need to leave early, they should notify the instructor before the class period begins.
- Students are expected to treat faculty and fellow students with respect. For example, students ***must not disrupt class by leaving and reentering during class***, must not distract class by making noise, and must be attentive to comments being made by the instructors and by peers.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS CLASSROOM PROTOCOL WILL RESULT IN A LOWERED PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE GRADE.

No audio or video recording of lectures or classroom discussion is allowed without the Professor's permission.

Absences due to obligations for UVM organizations or sports teams or religious holidays require advance notice.

For students who have disabilities or medical conditions, please communicate with me about any accommodations you require before making use of them. More information on the various resources available for students with disabilities is available at the university's office of disability services, ACCESS (<http://www.uvm.edu/access/>).

Laptops are allowed in class for *note-taking and review of readings only*. Any other use of a laptop will count against your participation grade. All phones must be turned off; any use of a phone in class will count against your participation grade.

Email and office hours:

In what city did the indie-rock band The Killers first get together? (Email me an answer to this question by 9/1 for one extra participation point)

I will make every effort to stay in contact with you as needed throughout the semester.

You can come to my office at any time during listed office hours; if you would prefer to make an appointment during my office hours, I will happily do that. I may be available to meet at other times outside of office hours; please email me or talk to me after class to set up a meeting.

I will also make use of BrightSpace to post announcements. BrightSpace announcements are not automatically emailed like Blackboard announcements; you will need to set your notification. Here is a link on how to do this: <https://www.uvm.edu/it/kb/article/brightspace-for-students/#managing-brightspace-notifications>

I will answer emails during office hours, and cannot guarantee a quick response outside those times. Be sure to look through the syllabus and BrightSpace announcements for answers to your questions.