

Political Science 170 Section 002

Introduction to World Politics

Spring Term 2008

MWF 4:00-5:50 pm

241 MSRB

Instructor: Professor Brian Champion

Office: 1225 HBLL

Extension: 2-5862

email: brian_champion@byu.edu

Office hours: 2:00 pm-3:30 pm Mondays (and/or by appointment)

First day of class: Tuesday 29 April 2008

Last day of class: Monday 16 June 2008

A former British Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston, is reputedly once to have said of Great Britain:

**We have no permanent allies,
we have no permanent enemies,
we only have permanent interests.**

--attributed to Henry John Temple Viscount Lord Palmerston 1784-1865, Foreign Secretary and two-time Prime Minister under Queen Victoria. What he actually said was [concerning apparent British apathy regarding Polish struggles against Russian hegemony, which Palmerston did not believe that it met the threshold of justifiable war] **“He concluded with the famous peroration that Britain had no eternal allies and no perpetual enemies, only interest that were eternal and perpetual . . .”**--quoted in David Brown, *Palmerston and the Politics of Foreign Policy, 1846-1855* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2002), pp. 82-83.

And former US Secretary of State Madeline Albright has written on the importance of knowing the past:

**History never repeats itself exactly,
but we ignore its lessons at our peril.**

--Madeline Albright, “The Role of the United States in Central Europe”, *Proceedings of the Academy of Political Science* 38(1): 71-84. The exact quote, found on page 72, is: “History is a strange teacher. It never repeats itself exactly, but you ignore its lessons at your peril”. The bolded version above is the more common iteration.

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the subdiscipline within political science of international politics, sometimes called international relations or world politics. This subdiscipline complements other political science subdisciplines such as comparative government, international studies, and political theory in that it surveys world events for points of commonality and of divergence, and analyzes political theories (such as democracy, realism, liberalism, neorealism/neoliberalism, and civil society, to mention just a few) found in the

academic study of international relations. It also relies heavily on political, social, economic and military history to help explain current manifestations and behaviors of political activity.

This class is also intended to provide students with a basic understanding of forces, dynamics and theories of the international politics such that:

- a). students may begin to understand and appreciate global events of which they are aware; and
- b). students become familiar with an intellectual foundation for advanced study in additional classes in international relations, world politics, ethics, development, international law, and political theory.

The best way to do well in this course is to **consistently and daily do the texts' and required readings** and to **memorize the significant concepts, phrases, "buzz words", dates, names of people and places, and events in the history of world politics**. Only by memorizing the specifics can they be used in intelligent political discourse.

Required texts for this class are:

1. John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens, eds. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, 4th edition. London/New York: Oxford University Press, 2008
2. John G Stoessinger, *Why Nations go to War*, 10th edition, Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2008.
3. Rodger W Claire, *Raid on the Sun: Inside Israel's Secret Campaign That Denied Saddam the Bomb*, New York: Broadway Books, 2004.
4. Subscription to *New York Times*, available in either the **Twilight Zone** or from a **box outside SWKT; this can be ordered at the Customer Service desk, 3rd Floor, Bookstore**. (NOTE: the web version doesn't provide the depth or breadth of coverage of the paper edition, so it is unacceptable in this class). This will be necessary for the briefing assignment mentioned below.

Grades: There may be a slight grading curve in this class which will look (roughly) like this, which is a fairly normal distribution:

Approximately

The top 20% of the class will earn A's.

The next 35% of the class will earn B's.

The next 25% of the class will earn C's.

The next 5% of the class will earn D's.

The last 5% of the class will earn E's.

I reserve the right to make adjustments to this proposed grading curve.

Grades will be *considered* along these guidelines:

93-99 = A	72-78 = B	51-57 = C
86-92 = A-	65-71 = B-	44-50 = C-
79-85 = B+	58-64 = C+	39-43 = D
		0-39 = E

Grading: There are 6 grading points in this class: the quizzes, the Israeli raid paper, the midterm exam, the briefing paper, and the final exam, as follows:

1. **Quizzes** 10%

6 short (5-8 minute) multiple choice, true/false, and/or fill-in-the-blank noncumulative quizzes (taken *from the readings and from the lectures*) constitute 10% of the final grade. I will drop the lowest score, then average the 5 scores and take 10% of that for calculation in the final grade. Dates for the quizzes are:

Quiz #1 Friday 9 May; Quiz #2 Friday 16 May; Quiz #3 Friday 23 May; ; Quiz #4 30 May; Quiz #5 Friday 6 June; Quiz #6 Friday 13 June.

And please note: there will be no “automatic make-up” quizzes. You must ask me if you can “make up” a quiz, and I will adjudicate each request on its own merits—some cases I will approve and some I will not. I reserve the right to change these quiz dates with one week’s notice.

2. **Raid on the Sun paper** 10%; You must read and digest the essence of Rodger Claire’s book, *Raid on the Sun: Inside Israel’s Secret Campaign that Denied Saddam the Bomb*. Many people think that a nuclear Iran is the next big national security challenge for the United States (and/or the Western world), and that all we have to do is execute a raid similar to the Israeli raid and that will eliminate the Iranian nuclear problem. The Israeli raid was unique for a number of reasons, and any preemptive raid must consider many factors. First, you should explain the background or context in which this episode occurred. Then, your paper should answer the following: Why did Israel attack Iraq? What are some examples of the kinds of preparation the Israelis undertook for this mission? Is the Israeli mission considered a success and/or a failure? Which lessons, if any, should America and/or American leaders take from the Israeli experience? You should include any number of examples from the book that substantiate your conclusion(s), and using sound reason and clear logic, make the case for your answers above. The assignment will be completed in about 750 words (or three double-spaced pages) plus one page as a cover sheet with only the following: the title of your paper, your name, and “Political Science 170, Spring Term 2008”. Anything more than this will result in reduced points. No special folders or covers,

please. No footnotes are required, but when you quote or reference something in Claire's book, use parenthetical page numbers. **This paper is due before prayer in class on Wednesday 14 May 2008.** Claire is also eligible for testing on the midterm and/or final exams.

3. **Mid-term Exam: Monday 21 May 2008;** 20%.

4. **Briefing paper** 15%:

The premise of this assignment is that on **Monday 16 June 2008** you will have to make a succinct briefing to a very busy senior government official or to a time-pressed corporate decision-maker who is interested in the recent history of a particular part of the world. In order for you to make a coherent and understandable briefing paper, you must consistently monitor events, much as officials at the State Department or the CIA or a corporate intelligence unit would. To do this, you need to compile a minimum collection of 15 news stories (essentially, one per week) from the *NYT* selected on the following basis:

a). The world, for this assignment, will be divided alphabetically by the first letter of your surname:

A-D will cover Asia: all of Iran north along eastern shore of Caspian Sea to northern border of Kazakhstan east to Pacific Ocean, including Mongolia, China, North Korea, Japan, south to Australia and New Zealand, west to, but not including, Madagascar;

E-I will cover Middle East and north Africa: along southern border of Senegal, southern border of Mali, southern border of Niger, southern border of Chad, southern border of Sudan, southern border of Ethiopia, south to the south-western border of Somalia, to the Arabian Sea, all of the Arabian Peninsula, to the eastern Iraq/Iran border, west along the southern shore of the Mediterranean Sea (including Cyprus, Syria and Israel) but **not** Turkey;

J-N will cover the Western Hemisphere: but not, which is to say, excluding, the USA.

O-U will cover sub-Saharan Africa: south of the line mentioned above (essentially south of the Sahara);

V-Z will cover Europe/Russia: including Turkey, along the western shore of the Caspian Sea, all of Russia (including Chechnya, Azerbaijan, and Georgia) east to the Bering Strait, west to the Azores and north from the Mediterranean to the North Pole, and north west to Greenland (which is actually a Danish colony), an Iceland.

- b). Clip a minimum of 15 (no maximum) significant political, social or public policy articles from the *NYT* and collect them. **Each must be dated and the page number must be written on each article—half-point deduction for each missing dates and page numbers.** Political articles cover domestic or foreign policy or war topics, international trade, intelligence, diplomacy, etc. Social or public policy articles cover things like education policy, human rights, health and welfare policies, the environment, the economy, things related to women’s issues, taxation or governmental finance, etc.
- c.) Write a minimum and maximum 2 *full* pages briefing paper and mention the risks, events, policies, personalities, issues, concerns, wars, plagues, famines, floods, etc., from the articles you have collected. You must attach the 15 articles (or as many as you have) to the briefing paper you write. Your briefing paper could be arranged by country, alphabetically. Do not focus on only one country; but by the same token not every country in your assigned region needs to be mentioned. **Mention the major players.** More details about this assignment closer to when it is due.
- d). Each entry in the briefing paper must have a footnote to one or more of the clippings which you will attach to your briefing paper. **There must be a citation page at the end.**
- e). The briefing paper will have a cover sheet (no special covers or binders, please) with your name, the date, and **you must identify who your intended audience or reader is at the top of page 2 (page 1 is the cover sheet).**
- f). **The briefing paper will be due before prayer on Monday 16 June 2008.**
- g). **No late papers will be accepted**, for any reason. Mail it in, Fed Ex it, have a friend, fiancé(e), or complete stranger hand it in, but it must be in before prayer on 16 June 2008.
- h). Highest grades will be awarded for:
- 1). Comprehensive coverage;
 - 2). Insightful analysis;
 - 3). Clarity of writing;
 - 4). Meeting the required minimum and not exceeding the required maximum;
 - 5). Conforming to expected standards; and
 - 6). Succinct presentation.
- i). I will deduct 1 point for *each instance* of the following egregious academic errors:
- 1). Not capitalizing the “f” in French, or the “g” in German, or the “r” in Russian, *etc.* **All national pronouns must be capitalized—this applies to all written work, including exams.**
 - 2). The use of any email and/or text messaging slang words or shorthand, such as “w/” for “with”, or “w/o” for “without”, or

“b/c” for “because”, etc. **This also applies to all written work, including exams.**

j). I will also deduct five points for each article fewer than 15 from the *NYT*.

5. Lessons of History (LOH) Quizzes: 15%. Stoessinger covers 10 important wars of the 20th century, and we will have 5 quizzes on those 10 wars. These will be held similarly to the 5 other quizzes, which is to say, 5-8 minutes at the beginning of class, and each quiz will be based on 2 sequential chapters in Stoessinger. These quizzes will be on Mondays as follows:

LOH Quiz #1 Monday 5 May (Chapters 1 “The Iron Dice” and 2 “Barbarossa”); **LOH quiz #2** Monday 12 May (Chapters 3 “The Temptations of Victory: Korea” and 4 “A Greek Tragedy in Five Acts: Vietnam”); **LOH Quiz #3** Monday 19 May Chapters 5 “From Sarajevo to Kosovo: The War over the Remains of Yugoslavia” and 6 “Four Battles over God: India and Pakistan in 1947, 1965, 1971, 1998”); **LOH Quiz #4** Monday 2 June (Chapters 7 “The Sixty Years’ War in the Holy Land: Israel and the Arabs” and 8 “Saddam Hussein’s Wars Against Iran and Kuwait”); and **LOH Quiz #5** Monday 9 June (Chapters 9 “New Wars for a New Century: America and the World of Islam” and 10 “Why Nations Go to War”).

6. Final Exam: Thursday 19 June 2008, 5:00 pm to 6:50 pm, in the classroom, 30%.

Exams: A few more details about the exams will be shared as we get closer to them, but the final will be comprehensive. The mid-term exam will be held in the class during class time.

To reiterate:

Mid-term Exam: Wednesday 21 May 2008 *in the classroom during the first hour of class time.*

Final Exam: Thursday 19 June 2008 in the classroom from 5 pm to 6:50 pm. **This will be a cumulative exam.**

Please note: Students whose first language is not English will be permitted to bring a language dictionary to any or all of the quizzes, or to any exam.

Proposed schedule of classes and readings (this is a rough outline to which we adhere as best we can):

Week 1:

Syllabus, Intro to world politics, Baylis, et al “The evolution of International Society”, chapter 2; “International History, 1900-90”, chapter 3; “From the Cold War to the War on Terror”, chapter 4. [Note: we will not cover chapter 1 nor will you be responsible for its contents.]

“From the Cold War to the War on Terror”, Chapter 4, continued; Theories of World Politics: “Realism”, chapter 5, “Liberalism”, chapter 6, Neo-realism and Neo-liberalism” chapter 7, “Marxism”, chapter 8, “Social Constructivism”, chapter 9. [Note: we will not cover chapters 10 or 11 nor will you be responsible for their contents.]

Week 2

“The Changing Character of War”, chapter 12; “International and global security”, chapter 13.

Week 3

“International political economy”, chapter 14; “Global trade and finance”, chapter 26;

Week 4

“Gender in world politics”, chapter 15; “International Law”, chapter 16, “Human rights”, chapter 29; “Humanitarian intervention, chapter 30.

*Mid-term Exam: **Wednesday 21 May 2008** in the classroom during the first hour of class time.*

Week 5 “Regimes”, chapter 17; “The UN, EU and WTO”, chapter 18, and “Transnational Actors and IOs in global politics”, chapter 19,

“Terrorism”, chapter 21; “Nuclear proliferation” and “WMD”, chapter 22. [Note: we will not cover chapters 23, 24, or 25 nor will you be responsible for their contents.]

Week 6 “Environmental issues”, chapter 20; “Poverty, development and hunger”, chapter 27; “Human security”, chapter 29.

Week 7 “Globalization and the future”, chapters 31 and 32.

Final Exam: **Thursday 19 June 2008 in the classroom from 5 pm to 6:50 pm.**
This will be a cumulative exam.

Please note: the lectures do not exactly replicate the weekly reading schedule, meaning that things will be mentioned in lecture that are not in the texts but which augment and substantiate the readings and are equally eligible for testing on the quizzes and/or either exam.

For your information, all professors are prohibited by University regulation from giving *any exam* earlier than scheduled—please do not schedule weddings, plane flights, job interviews, etc., until after the exam as there will be **NO** exceptions to University policy.

Final exams and briefing papers will be kept in my office until noon 26 June 2008. If you wish to obtain your final exam you must provide *a self-addressed 9" x 12" stamped envelope*.

Academic dishonesty in any form, including cheating on quizzes or exams and/or intentional plagiarism, is considered a serious violation of the Honor Code. Any instance of academic dishonesty in this class will be penalized with a summary failing grade and a referral to the Honor Code Office (HCO). See http://honorcode.byu.edu/index.php?option=com_ezine&Itemid=4613 for specific examples of fabrication, falsification, cheating, intentional and inadvertent plagiarism. It is always a struggle to balance encouragement, compassion and support for students in their intellectual and career pursuits with the necessary rigorous evaluation of their work and intellectual honesty. As a professor, I always feel the pressure to grant inflated grades and often students seek exceptions to the stated grading policy on the grounds that they need a high grade to graduate, or to continue a scholarship, or for admission into graduate or law school. I strive mightily to be fair, but at the same time I am firmly committed to rigorous educational and intellectual standards. **Your final grade in this class is based upon your academic performance according to the grades stipulated in this syllabus.**

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and **student-to-student sexual harassment**. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the University but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please talk to your professor; or contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895 or visit D-282 ASB, or call 367-5689 (24-hours); or contact the HCO at 422-2847.

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center (formerly the Services for Students with Disabilities Office) at 422-2767. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the UAC office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-282 ASB.

Disclosure of political affiliation: I am a registered Utah voter, commonly called elsewhere in America an "independent" but in Utah the designation as "unaffiliated", which means I am neither Republican nor Democrat. On certain issues I am liberal and on other certain issues I am conservative. My purpose as a political science instructor is to help you *decide for yourself* the reasons for choosing whichever political or social

philosophy you choose. I do not expect nor demand that you to see things my way or a particular way, nor am I interested in “converting” “liberals” into “conservatives” or “conservatives” into “liberals”. By asking questions—many questions, and sometimes tough questions—I would like to provoke you into thinking seriously about important issues and concepts, so that you can *decide for yourself* which worldview you will have. You should not adopt a political or social worldview just because a college professor has one, or because your father or religious leader has one; you should choose a worldview for your own reasons, and if it is the same as a professor’s, or a father’s, or a religious leader’s, that’s okay, but if it isn’t the same, that’s okay, too. The important thing is that you *figure it out for yourself*, and not blindly accept what others tell you. In this class, at the very least, you are be permitted to ask all sorts of questions and view issues from a variety of perspectives and angles (some you might not have thought of before), as a process of *making up your own mind*. If you have any concerns about me “foisting” my worldview on any student, please see me.

There is no provision in this class for extra credit work by any student.

As a courtesy to your fellow classmates, please turn off all cell phones while in class and/or in exam situations. No eating of any kind of food (other than candy in small packages) will be allowed in the class; if you have to go to work or practice right from class, please leave a little early and eat on the way, but refrain from eating in class.

If at any time you have a problem with the class--the lectures, the quizzes, the exams, the grades, anything--please, *please* make an appointment to see me and we will discuss it.

Informally, I will operate on the “ten-minute rule”, which is, if I haven’t shown up for class by 4:10 pm you can assume I am not coming and class is canceled that day.