

**PLSC 170**  
**Introduction to International Politics**  
**Dr. Ken Stiles**  
**784 SWKT**

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**Course Description and Purpose:**

This course is designed for the uninitiated. We will discuss the key concepts, actors, principles, and developments in international affairs, with an emphasis on the period since 1900. We will address such questions as: Why do states go to war? Why is there terrorism? How is wealth created and distributed? Do international rules matter? How has globalization affected the people of the world? How do I fit into the greater scheme of things?

The expectation is that you will be able to understand and apply these principles to answering these questions. The hope is that by so doing you will begin to see how the world affects you and how you are affecting the world. You should come away with a sense of your “global citizenship” and a greater sense of responsibility toward those living and working around the planet – as well as to the planet itself. You should also come away with a better appreciation of how Gospel principles can help shape your global citizenship throughout your life.

**Course Readings and Assignments:**

The course is built around key concepts and principles of international relations. This will be enhanced through a deeper understanding of recent world history and current events. Do accomplish this, we will study two books: Charles W. Kegley’s World Politics: Trend and Transformation (12<sup>th</sup> edition), and Kendall W. Stiles’ Case Histories in International Politics (5<sup>th</sup> edition). You are expected to come prepared for each class by having previously studied all of the readings. Prior to class, you will also write up a brief “**reading reflection**” to record your response to the assigned readings. You are expected to write a paragraph (roughly 100 words) on each chapter, which means that your reading reflections will range in length from at least 100 to 300 words (see reading schedule below). These reflections will be graded on a “check”, “check-plus”, and “check-minus”. A “check-plus” is earned by relating the reading assignment to something outside of class or to one of the theories discussed on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. A “check-minus” is earned by failing to meet the 100-word minimum or simply summarizing the reading.

By studying the readings carefully, you will be prepared to discuss the material in class. Attendance is expected, and unexcused absences will be penalized. In addition, your comments will be evaluated and contribute to your “**participation**” grade. Higher points will be awarded for comments that refer to events outside of class, so it is incumbent

upon you to read a good daily newspaper. Free copies of the New York Times are available at the Kennedy Center each morning.

There will be **three in-class examinations** (see reading schedule for dates). Each test will follow a short-answer format and will cover the material back to the previous test. The final examination is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 1pm and will be held in class.

In addition, you will take a number of **history and geography quizzes** over the course of the term. Place-names are provided in this syllabus. You will be tested on “Europe/Asia” and “Africa/Americas/Oceania” place-names as scheduled in the calendar. In addition, you have a list of “key events” that you must learn. You will be tested on “Pre-1945” and “Post-1945” events as scheduled. Each of these tests will be of the “fill in the blank” variety.

Finally, you will write a **short paper**, due on June 11<sup>th</sup>. It should be 1,500 words long (plus or minus 100 words) and will consist of a comparison and contrast between any two of the cases in the Case Histories book. Your aim will be to identify two concepts, selected from the Glossary in Kegley (pages 569-583) that apply to both cases and discuss their significance. For example, if you were choosing the case on Yugoslavia and the case on Sino-Soviet-American relations, you might select “tit for tat strategy” (page 582) and “armed aggression” (page 569) and show that while in the case of Yugoslavia rival groups routinely resorted to low-level direct violence, while the case of Sino-Soviet-American relations the parties relied on deterrence and proxy warfare through third parties. On the other hand, they both show evidence of retaliatory action. For this paper you need not consult any sources beyond the case histories book. You will, however, need to obtain approval from the instructor on your choice of cases and concepts. You must forward these four items no later than May 30 (see “proposal” in reading schedule). It should be typed, double-spaced, with 12-point, Times New Roman font (for future purposes, you should assume that this will be the default format for any paper in political science.).

The final grade for the course will be determined with the following weights on each assignment:

First Exam (May 16) – 15%  
Second Exam (June 2) – 15%  
Final Exam (June 18) – 15%  
Attendance and Participation – 10%  
Reading Reflections – 15%  
Paper – 20%  
History and Geography Quizzes – 10%

### **BYU Policies:**

**Academic Honesty:** The first injunction of the BYU Honor Code is the call to "be honest." Students come to the university not only to improve their minds, gain knowledge, and develop skills that will assist them in their life's work, but also to build

character. President David O. McKay taught that "character is the highest aim of education" (The Aims of a BYU Education, p. 6).

BYU students should seek to be totally honest in their dealings with others. They should complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work. They should avoid academic dishonesty and misconduct in all its forms, including plagiarism, fabrication or falsification, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

Incidents of academic misconduct are to be reported to the administration of the center, which will deal with the matter according to the statement on "Procedures for Handling Incidents of Academic Dishonesty or Other Academic Misconduct" as written in the current undergraduate catalog.

**Students with Disabilities:** BYU is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates persons with disabilities who are otherwise qualified to participate in BYU's programs and activities. It is the policy of BYU to prohibit unlawful discrimination against persons with disabilities and to provide reasonable assistance in bringing them into the mainstream of campus life. To accomplish this, BYU complies with all applicable disability laws.

If a student has any disability which may impair their ability to complete courses successfully, they should contact the University Accessibility Center (801-422-2767) or the director of the BYU Salt Lake Center (801-933-9400 or 273-3434). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the University Accessibility Center or the office of the director at the center. If students need assistance or if they feel they have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, they may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office on the main campus at 801-422-5895, D-282 ASB.

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**Preventing Sexual Harassment:** Unlawful discrimination on the basis of gender will not be tolerated whether initiated by university faculty, administrative or staff personnel, students or by third parties on the campus. The university prohibits unlawful sexual harassment against all persons involved in the campus community, including administrators, faculty, staff, students, visitors, vendors, contractors and other third parties. The university also prohibits inappropriate gender-based behavior in the workplace or in the academic setting directed at another due to that person's gender and

which violates the Church Educational System Honor Code or the individual dignity of university personnel, students or campus visitors, but which does not rise to the level of unlawful sexual harassment.

If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please talk to your professor or contact the Equal Employment Office at 801-422-5895 or the Honor Code Office at 801-422-2847.

### **Course Reading Schedule:**

#### **Overview**

Wednesday, April 30: Basic Approaches and Theories  
Kegley, chapters 1, 2

#### **Power and International Relations**

Friday, May 2: Great Power Relations  
Kegley, chapter 4

Monday, May 5: Power and Arms  
Kegley, chapter 14; Case Histories 5, 10

Wednesday, May 7: Alliances and the Balance of Power  
Kegley, chapter 15; Case History 2

Friday, May 9: Foreign Policy Decision-Making  
Kegley, chapter 3

#### **Pre-1945 History Quiz**

Monday, May 12: Examples of Foreign Policy  
Case Histories 3, 4, 7

Wednesday, May 14: The Global South  
Kegley chapter 5

Friday, May 16: **First Examination**

#### **Actors in International Relations**

Monday, May 19: International Organizations  
Kegley, chapter 6, Case History 18

Wednesday, May 21: Non-Governmental Organizations  
Kegley, chapter 7, Case History 19

Friday, May 23: Human Rights and Mass Movements  
Kegley, chapter 8, Case Histories 12, 14

#### **Europe/Asia Geography Quiz**

Monday, May 26: Memorial Day Holiday – No Class

Wednesday, May 28: International Law  
Kegley, chapter 16, Case History 13

Friday, May 30: Collective Security and Global Collaboration  
Kegley, chapter 17, Case History 11  
**Submit Paper Proposal**

Monday, June 2: **Second Examination**

**Global Economy and Security**  
Wednesday, June 4: International Finance  
Kegley, chapter 9

Friday, June 6: International Trade  
Kegley, chapter 10, Case Histories 1, 17  
**Post-1945 Quiz**

Monday, June 9: Globalization and Human Security  
Kegley, chapter 11, Case History 16

Wednesday, June 11: Globalization and the Environment  
Kegley, chapter 12, Case History 15  
**Paper Due**

Friday, June 13: Unconventional Warfare and Terrorism  
Kegley, chapter 13, Case Histories 8, 9

Monday, June 16: Globalization and the World's Future  
Kegley, chapter 18  
**Africa/Americas/Oceania Geography Quiz**

Wednesday, June 18: **Final Examination, 1-2:50 pm**

**Place-Names:**

Europe/Asia:

Afghanistan	Greece	Poland
Albania	India	Qatar
Armenia	Indian Ocean	Romania
Austria	Indonesia	Russia

Azerbaijan	Iran	Singapore
Bahrain	Iraq	Slovakia
Belarus	Israel	Slovenia
Belgium	Japan	South Korea
Black Sea	Jordan	Spain
Bosnia	Kazakhstan	Sri Lanka
Cambodia	Kosovo	Strait of Malacca
China	Kosovo	Suez Canal
Croatia	Kuwait	Sweden
Cyprus	Lebanon	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Mediterranean Sea	Taiwan
Denmark	Malaysia	Tibet
North Sea	Moldova	Turkey
Finland	Mongolia	United Arab Emirates
Gaza Strip	Norway	West Bank
Germany	Norway	

Africa/Americas/Oceania:

Algeria	Ecuador	New Zealand
Argentina	Egypt	Nigeria
Atlantic Ocean	El Salvador	Pacific Ocean
Australia	Ethiopia	Panama Canal
Belize	Falkland Islands	Paraguay
Bering Strait	Fiji	Persian Gulf
Bolivia	Greenland	Peru
Botswana	Grenada	Puerto Rico
Brazil	Guam	Red Sea
Burundi	Guatemala	Rwanda
Canada	Guyana	Saharan Desert
Caribbean Sea	Haiti	Senegal
Chad	Honduras	South Africa
Chile	Horn of Africa	Sudan
Colombia	Jamaica	Suriname
Costa Rica	Kenya	Tunisia
Cote d'Ivoire	Liberia	Uruguay
Cuba	Madagascar	Venezuela
Dem. Rep. Congo	Mexico	Western Sahara
Dominican Republic	Morocco	Zimbabwe

## **World Politics Chronology:**

### Pre-1945:

- 1900 China's Boxer Rebellion
- 1901 Queen Victoria dies (UK)
- 1901 Teddy Roosevelt becomes President (US)
- 1903 US gains control of the Panama Canal Zone
- 1905 Russian Tsar overthrown
- 1911 Mexican Revolution
- 1912 Fall of Manchu/Qing dynasty (China)
- 1912 Balkan Wars begin
- 1914 World War I begins after Archduke Ferdinand is assassinated
- 1914 US invasion of Mexico
- 1915 Turkey massacres Armenians
- 1916 Battles of Verdun and the Somme begin trench warfare in Europe
- 1917 Russian Revolution culminates in Lenin's seizure of power
- 1918 World War I ends on November 11<sup>th</sup>
- 1919 Treaty of Versailles settles World War I
- 1920 League of Nations begins operations
- 1922 Mussolini seizes power in Italy
- 1924 Stalin comes to power in Russia
- 1929 New York stock market crashes, accelerating the spread of global recession
- 1932 Franklin Roosevelt is elected
- 1933 Russia experiences a severe famine
- 1933 Hitler is elected in Germany
- 1934 Mao Zedong embarks on Long March with Chinese Communists
- 1935 Hitler's persecution of Jews becomes systematic
- 1936-1940 Spanish Civil War pits fascists against republicans
- 1937 Japan invades Manchuria (China)
- 1938 Nazis take power in Austria with Germany's support
- 1938 Germany, UK sign Munich Pact
- 1939 Germany invades Poland. World War II begins
- 1940 Germany invades the Netherlands, France, and other countries
- 1941 Germany invades the Soviet Union, ending their alliance
- 1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbor
- 1943 Allies invade, defeat Italy
- 1944 Allies invade Normandy
- 1945 Franklin Roosevelt dies (US)
- 1945 Germany surrenders
- 1945 Trinity Test shows atomic weapons are operational
- 1945 Japan surrenders after US drops two atomic bombs
- 1945 The United Nations begins operations

### Post-1945:

- 1947 Cold War begins
- 1947 Soviet Union consolidates control over Eastern Europe

1947 US announces Marshall Plan aid program for Western Europe  
1948 Berlin Airlift  
1948 Israel established  
1948 India, Pakistan declare independence  
1949 NATO is formed  
1949 Mao Zedong comes to power in China  
1949 USSR successfully tests an atomic weapon  
1950 North Korea invades South Korea. US invades in response  
1953 Eisenhower comes to power. Korean War ends  
1954 Algerians fight French for independence  
1956 USSR intervenes to stop rebellion in Hungary  
1957 European Common Market formed  
1959 Fidel Castro come to power in Cuba  
1959 Egypt seizes the Suez Canal  
1960 Widespread African decolonization begins  
1960 OPEC formed  
1961 Berlin Wall erected  
1962 Cuban Missile Crisis  
1964 Tonkin Gulf incident begins Vietnam War escalation  
1965 US intervenes in the Dominican Republic  
1966 Mao initiates the Cultural Revolution  
1967 Israel defeats Arab states in Six-Day War  
1967 Nigeria experiences deadly civil war  
1973 Vietnam War ends  
1973 Yom Kippur/Ramadan War coincides with oil crisis  
1973 Augusto Pinochet seizes power in Chile with US support  
1975 Khmer Rouge seize power in Cambodia. Genocide committed.  
1976 Soweto uprising suppressed in South Africa  
1979 USSR invades Afghanistan  
1979 Jimmy Carter brokers Camp David Accords  
1979 Ayatollah Khomeini seizes power in Iran, prompting second oil crisis  
1980 Iran and Iraq begin 8-year war  
1982 Israel invades Lebanon  
1982 Argentina invades the Falklands  
1983 Ethiopian famine begins  
1985 Mikhail Gorbachev takes power in the Soviet Union  
1989 Tiananmen Square massacre (China)  
1989 Berlin Wall dismantled, marking the end of the Cold War  
1989 US invades Panama to expel Manuel Noriega  
1990 South African apartheid ends as Nelson Mandela is freed  
1991 Persian Gulf War  
1991 USSR dismembered  
1993 European Union formed  
1996 Rwandan genocide  
2001 Terrorists attack US  
2003 US invades Iraq

**Summary (please print out and hang in a conspicuous place):**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
	<b>30-Apr</b> Kegley 1, 2	<b>2-May</b> Kegley 4
<b>5-May</b> Kegley 14 Cases 5, 10	<b>7-May</b> Kegley 15 Cases 2	<b>9-May</b> Kegley 3 <b>Pre-1945 Quiz</b>
<b>12-May</b> Cases 3,4,7	<b>14-May</b> Kegley 5	<b>16-May</b> <b>Exam</b>
<b>19-May</b> Kegley 6 Cases 18	<b>21-May</b> Kegley 7 Cases 19	<b>23-May</b> Kegley 8 Cases 12,14 <b>Europe/Asia Quiz</b>
<b>26-May</b> Holiday No Class	<b>28-May</b> Kegley 16 Cases 6,13	<b>30-May</b> Kegley 17 Cases 11 <b>Submit Proposal</b>
<b>2-Jun</b> <b>Exam</b>	<b>4-Jun</b> Kegley 9	<b>6-Jun</b> Kegley 10 Cases 1, 17 <b>Post-1945 Quiz</b>
<b>9-Jun</b> Kegley 11 Cases 16	<b>11-Jun</b> Kegley 12 Cases 15 <b>Paper Due</b>	<b>13-Jun</b> Kegley 13 Cases 8, 9
<b>16-Jun</b> Kegley 18 <b>Africa/Amer. Quiz</b>	<b>18-Jun</b> Final 1-2:50	