Introduction to International Relations
Political Science 170
Winter 2013

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Office: 762 Kimball Tower
Office Hours: 10-11 MWF, or by appointment

If you can’t come during my office hours, contact me to set up another time. Don’t be afraid to come see me. My job is not to be distant and to try to fail you. My job is to explain things and to help you understand. I like my job.

Subject Matter:
International Relations (IR) is the subset of Political Science that studies relationships between countries. That is, we are more interested in what goes on between countries than within countries. (Of course, we also have to know what goes on within countries to know how they will interact with others.) And we are particularly interested in the political aspects of those relationships. International Relations scholars examine history to better understand present trends, and they evaluate present trends to suggest the best policies and to predict future relations. Some of the many interesting IR questions include the following:

• What are the causes of war? How do we promote peace?
• Why are people killing each other this week in (fill in names of countries here)?
• Can we make the world more just?
• How do we create global prosperity?
• Do democracies go to war?
• Does economic interdependence create peace?
• Is war ever morally justifiable? Are there moral standards for fighting wars?
• Do nuclear weapons make the world more dangerous?
• Does nationalism make peace between nations impossible?
• What foreign policies should my country adopt?
• Is China becoming a superpower? Will the U.S. remain a superpower?
• How do countries try to influence other countries?
• Can the West get along with Islamic countries?
• Are there global human rights norms?
• Do powerful countries control the international economy?
• What can we do about global terrorism?
Primary Course Goals:
1. **Citizenship:** To increase your ability and willingness to participate in the political process in your home country. You should have a better understanding of some of the core issues facing policymakers and voters, and also the critical thinking ability to wrestle with complicated issues.

2. **Scholarship:** To lay a foundation for the academic study of International Relations. You should learn not only about current issues in the world but also about the core concepts and great ideas that help scholars make sense of the complexities of IR.

International Relations Tool Kit:
We obviously cannot discuss every interesting or important issue facing voters, scholars, and policymakers in the world today. No course, or even series of courses, could hope to accomplish that task. We can, however, assemble a tool kit that you can continue to use in your study of International Relations. Our tool kit will include the following:

1. **Concepts:** These are the fundamental vocabulary that scholars and policymakers use to communicate with each other: building blocks like “power,” “anarchy,” and the “security dilemma.”

2. **Geography:** You should be able not only to find countries on a map but also to explain how geography influences political relations between states.

3. **Great Ideas (aka Theories):** You should be familiar with the great thinkers of International Relations and their ideas about how world politics is organized (or disorganized), where war and peace come from, and so on.

4. **Historical Precedents:** The old cliche is (partially) true: “Those who don’t know the past are doomed to repeat it.” We cannot understand our own post-Cold War era unless we have a historical baseline for comparison: What can we learn about today from the problems of the past? But we must also ask, How is our era unique?

5. **Current Applications:** We will practice applying our concepts, theories, and historical precedents to current issues.

**Grading:**

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<td>Geography Quizzes</td>
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All four Exams will be given in class and strictly time limited. Exams will consist of short answer questions and short essays. Exam 1 is a shorter—but not easier—exam very
early in the semester to give you an idea what the format of the other exams will be. In preparing for exams, general understanding is useful, but does not substitute for a firm grasp of the details. You should be aware that satisfactory or average work will receive a C grade. Only good or excellent work receives higher grades.

Because the course is organized so that later topics build on earlier topics, all exams will be comprehensive. However, the primary focus of each exam, including the final, will be the most recent material. You may not use cell phones or any electronic device during quizzes or exams. Remember also that according to BYU policy the final exam cannot be given early; please make your travel plans accordingly.

**Geography Quizzes** will require you to learn place names in every region of the world. There will be 5 quizzes covering country names and key geographic features such as bodies of water; all are listed below. Once a region has been covered on a quiz, those place names may also appear on exams. All quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. In case you arrive late or have an unexcused absence, there will be one makeup quiz at the end of the semester. You will not be able to make up more than one quiz (unless it is an excused absence).

To help you get more out of lectures and class discussions, you are required to turn in 10 **Reading Response Essays** based on daily class readings. The dates and topics will be announced in class. Each essay should be no longer than 1½ pages, typed and double spaced, and will be graded on a check/check-plus/check-minus basis. **Because essays are designed to help you prepare for class, all assignments are due in class on the day indicated in the syllabus. Late assignments will not be accepted, and you must be personally present in class to turn in your assignment.** You will have plenty of choice about which assignments to complete, but it is your responsibility to make sure that you turn in ten. I encourage you to start turning in assignments early in the semester, in case unforeseen circumstances force you to skip later assignments.

To help you make connections between academic concepts and real-world events, you are also required to turn in 3 **Current Events Essays** based on articles you have found in a major newspaper (or its online edition). I will provide a list of high-quality newspapers (e.g., the *New York Times* or *Washington Post*) that you can use to complete the assignment. Dates and topics are in the schedule below. For each assignment, you should collect 3-4 relevant newspaper articles and write a short essay (about 2-3 pages, typed and double spaced) linking the current events to the assigned topic. Your selected articles could be on a single event or on several events with a common theme. The best assignments will combine careful article selection with thoughtful essays. Essays will be graded on a check/check-plus/check-minus basis, but on a more rigorous scale than the Reading Response Essays.

Finally, you should remember that all forms of cheating, including plagiarism, are grave violations of the standards of any university. I have given failing grades as a result of academic dishonesty at BYU and will do so again if necessary. BYU’s Academic Honesty Policy is in the university catalog and on the web at [http://honorcode.byu.edu](http://honorcode.byu.edu). If you have any questions about what constitutes academic honesty in this class, please don’t hesitate to ask me.
Absences:
Attendance in class is expected. I will not take attendance every day but may do so at any time. Absences will be excused if you are unable to be in class for non-voluntary reasons such as illness, death in the family, or BYU-approved travel. Other absences will be treated as unexcused. Multiple unexcused absences will affect your grade. If you have to miss class and want to make sure I don’t mark you absent, please leave me a brief voicemail or email explaining why you will not be in class.

For excused absences, you may take a make-up exam or geography quiz. Please contact me as soon as possible, preferably in advance, to make the necessary arrangements. But if you miss a class day when a writing assignment is due, there are enough choices offered that you can usually skip that day’s assignment and do another one.

For unexcused absences, I do not accept late writing assignments. However, exams are different: if you miss an exam for an unexcused reason (e.g., you attended a friend’s wedding or just overslept), you may take the exam late with a penalty. The amount of the penalty will depend in part on how long you wait before contacting me. Once I have returned the graded exam to the class, I will no longer give late exams. As noted above, you may make up one geography quiz at the end of the semester.

Readings:
The reading load is heavy for an intro-level course. You should expect to read over 75 pages per week on average. There are two required books:

Joseph Nye, Jr., and David Welch, *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation*, 8th ed., 2011 (Longman)


Earlier editions of both texts will also work: see Learning Suite for the page number conversions. There will also be a large set of required readings that will be available on Learning Suite or as a packet at the Joseph F. Smith Building copy center (B115 JFSB).

Other University Policies:
Federal law and BYU policy provide protections for students against sexual discrimination and harassment (including student-to-student harassment) and also require reasonable accommodation of students with disabilities. If you feel you have encountered sexual harassment or discrimination, please talk to me, the Equal Employment Office (422-5895), or the Honor Code Office (422-2847). If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (422-2767) and discuss it with me.
**Geography List:**

These are all the place names and geographic features you will need to know for the five quizzes. To find blank maps for practicing, google “blank world maps.”

**Quiz #1: Europe**

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<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
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<td>English Channel</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>Balkans (region)</td>
<td>Bosnia-Herzegovina</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>F.Y.R.O. Macedonia</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
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<td>Russia</td>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Kaliningrad</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Baltics (region)</td>
<td>Atlantic Ocean</td>
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<td>North Sea</td>
<td>Baltic Sea</td>
<td>Strait of Gibraltar</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea</td>
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<td>Aegean Sea</td>
<td>Black Sea</td>
<td>Bosporus</td>
<td>Dardanelles</td>
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<td>Montenegro</td>
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**Quiz #2: Middle East**

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<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea</td>
<td>Syria</td>
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<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>West Bank</td>
<td>Gaza Strip</td>
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<td>Golan Heights</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Sinai Peninsula</td>
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<td>Suez Canal</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>Yemen</td>
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<td>Arabian Sea</td>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
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<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>Persian Gulf</td>
<td>Horn of Africa</td>
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<td>Strait of Hormuz</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
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<td>Caucasus (region)</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Caspian Sea</td>
<td>Black Sea</td>
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<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>Bab el Mandeb</td>
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<td>Somalia</td>
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**Quiz #3: Asia and Oceania**

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<td>Russia</td>
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<td>Siberia</td>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>Caspian Sea</td>
<td>Iran</td>
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<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>Kashmir</td>
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<td>Arabian Sea</td>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Indian Ocean</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Himalayas</td>
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<td>Tibet</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>North Korea</td>
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<td>South Korea</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Sea of Japan</td>
<td>Taiwan</td>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>Laos</td>
<td>Burma/Myanmar</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Strait of Malacca</td>
<td>South China Sea</td>
<td>Spratly Islands</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
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<td>Diego Garcia</td>
<td>Guam</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>Pacific Ocean</td>
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**Quiz #4: Africa**

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<tr>
<td>Atlantic Ocean</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Western Sahara</td>
<td>Algeria</td>
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<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Sahara Desert</td>
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<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Chad</td>
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<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
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<td>Liberia</td>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>Republic of Congo</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
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<td>Democratic Republic of Congo (Zaire)</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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**Quiz #5: Americas**

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<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>Andes Mountains</td>
<td>Panama</td>
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<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
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<td>Greenland</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Bering Strait</td>
<td>Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacific Ocean</td>
<td>Atlantic Ocean</td>
<td>Gulf of Mexico</td>
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PART ONE: KEY CONCEPTS AND THEORIES
All references to Spiegel are to the 5th edition and references to Nye are to the 8th edition. For equivalent page numbers in earlier editions, see “Textbook Edition Conversions” document on Learning Suite.

Reading Questions for every reading are on Learning Suite.

Jan 7  What is IR?

Jan 9  Levels of Analysis, Anarchy, Security Dilemma
       Spiegel 3-38, 239-49
       Nye 33-55

Jan 11  Power
        Spiegel 249-59, 357-65
        Nye ch. 8

Jan 14  Power
        E. H. Carr, The Twenty Years’ Crisis, 1919-39, 1964 [1939], ch. 8

Jan 16  Geopolitics
        Raymond Duncan, Barbara Jancar-Webster, and Bob Switky, “Political Geography,” pp. 282-99

Jan 18  Realism
        Spiegel 38-42
        Nye 1-21, 55-57

Jan 21  No Class: Holiday

Jan 23  Realism
        Hans Morgenthau, Politics Among Nations, 1958, ch. 1

Jan 25  EXAM 1 (beginning of class!)
       Geography Quiz #1: Europe
       Realism
       Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince, 1513, excerpt

Jan 28  Neoliberalism
        Spiegel 42-47
        Michael Doyle, “Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs,” Philosophy and Public Affairs, Fall 1983, excerpt
Jan 30  Current Events #1: State Power (or State Influence)
Neoliberalism
Nye 58-68

Thomas Friedman, *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, 2000, ch. 12

Feb 1  Geography Quiz #2: Middle East
Morality in International Relations
Nye 21-30

Neta Crawford, “Just War Theory and the U.S. Counterterror War,”
*Perspectives on Politics*, March 2003

Feb 4  Morality in International Relations

Doctrine & Covenants 98

Ray Hillam and David Andrews, “Mormons and Foreign Policy,”
*BYU Studies*, Winter 1985

PART TWO: EXPLAINING WAR AND PEACE

Feb 6  Geography Quiz #3: Asia and Oceania
Causes of WW1
Spiegel 59-89

Nye ch. 3

Feb 8  Geography Quiz #4: Africa
Balance of Power, Alliances and WW1

Feb 11  Domestic Politics and WW1

Feb 13  Misperception and WW1

Feb 15  Geography Quiz #5: Americas
Individuals and WW1
Feb 18  No Class: Holiday

Feb 19  Exam Review
(Tuesday)

Feb 20  EXAM 2

Feb 22  Causes of World War II
       Nye ch. 4
       Spiegel 89-109

Feb 25  Why the Cold War Started
       Nye 132-56
       Spiegel ch. 4

Feb 27  Current Events #2: Realism and/or Neoliberalism
       Mutual Assured Destruction
       Spiegel 259-68

Mar 1   Why the Cold War Stayed Cold
       Nye 161-77

Mar 4   Why the Cold War Ended
       Nye 156-61

PART THREE: POST-COLD WAR CONFLICT
Mar 6   Post-Cold War System
       Joseph Nye, Jr., Paradox of American Power, 2002, ch. 1
Mar 8 Should We Miss the Cold War?
    Spiegel 201-28
    John J. Mearsheimer, “Why We Will Soon Miss the Cold War,”
    *Atlantic Monthly*, August 1990

Mar 11 Nationalism or Globalization?

Mar 13 **Current Events #3: Morality in International Politics**
    Clash of Civilizations
    Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?” *Foreign Affairs*, Summer 1993

Mar 15 Confrontation with China?
    Nye 231-33
    David Shambaugh, “Containment or Engagement of China?”
    *International Security*, Fall 1996

Mar 18 Exam Review

Mar 20 **EXAM 3**

Mar 22 Islamic Threat?

Mar 25 Terrorism
    Spiegel 304-21, 228-33
    Michael Scott Doran, “Somebody Else’s Civil War,” *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2002
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Authors/Works</th>
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</table>
Victor Davis Hanson, “Democracy in the Middle East: It’s the Hardheaded Solution,” *Weekly Standard*, 21 October 2002  
Robert Cooper, “Military Occupation is Not the Road to Democracy,” *New Statesman*, 3 May 2004 |
| Mar 29 | Is Nuclear Proliferation Dangerous? | Spiegel 294-304  
Nye 225-30, 233-36  
| Apr 5 | Current Events #4: Nuclear Weapons Proliferation | Southern Development  
Thomas Lairson and David Skidmore, *International Political Economy*, 2003, ch. 9  
Mark Brawley, *Turning Points*, 1998, ch. 16 |
John Bolton, “Irresponsible: Against a ‘Responsibility to Protect’ in Foreign Affairs,” [www.aei.org](http://www.aei.org), 1 Apr 2011 |
Apr 10  International Law and the ICC
   Spiegel 493-529

   Nye 184-94

   Monroe Leigh, “The United States and the Statute of Rome,”
   *American Journal of International Law*, January 2001

   Associated Press, “U.S. Sees ICC in More Benevolent Light,”
   *New York Times*, 29 December 2006

Apr 12  Human Rights

   Amartya Sen, “Universal Truths: Human Rights and the
   Westernizing Illusion,” *Harvard International Review*, Summer
   1998

   November/December 2001

Apr 15  Exam Review

Apr 23  **11:00 am: FINAL EXAM (be on time!)**
   **(Tuesday)  Also: Geography Makeup Quiz—Comprehensive**