
PO 4700
Contemporary International Relations

Maxwell Theater (MT)
ARTS 2039 (HT)

Contact Information

Michaelmas Term

Prof. Constantine Boussalis
3 College Green, 4.07
Office Hours: Wed 2–4PM
boussalc@tcd.ie
Ph.: Ph.: 01 896 3482

Hilary Term

Prof. Thomas Chadeaux
3 College Green, 5.05
Office Hours: Wed. 9:30–11:30AM
thomas.chadeaux@tcd.ie
01 896 3484

Description

The objective of this undergraduate module is to help students critically evaluate current world affairs using concepts and theories from contemporary international relations research. The international system is a complex environment. Multiple actors, interests and institutions interact to produce outcomes that we read and hear about in the media every day. Students will acquire the necessary theoretical tools which will allow for a clearer understanding of the international system and will facilitate critical and informed evaluation of global events. the causes and consequences of conflicts between nations, as well as theories of international security. Existing empirical results will also be emphasized and particular attention will be paid to the relevance of the concepts introduced to contemporary geopolitical issues and conflicts.

The first segment of the course will cover the central themes and theories related to international political economy. We will also engage with important new topics of international relations that are especially relevant to understanding the international system of the 21st century, such as transnational networks and issues dealing with environmental policy cooperation. Following the ‘money’, we will next shift our focus to the ‘blood’ where we will review the many dimensions of international conflict, ranging from interstate warfare to transnational terrorism.

Requirements and grading

Your grade for the entire course will be calculated as follows:

Final Examination (60 %)

The final examination will cover the entire year. Material presented either in the lecture, in the readings or in the tutorials may form the subject of a question. The examination will consist of three questions. Each answer will count toward 1/3 of your examination's grade (i.e., 20% of your total grade for each answer).

Debates (5%)

Format: These debates are based on the traditional Oxford-style format, with one side proposing and the other side opposing a 'motion'. You will be required to participate in 4 debates throughout the year (2 in each term). These debates will take place during the tutorials and last 20 minutes each. By *Monday, 10 October*, you will be randomly assigned a motion and a position (yes/no)—please go to Blackboard ('files') to find the 4 debates in which you will take part (e.g., MT3 means that you will join debate 3 in the Michaelmas term). For example, a motion may be: "The United Nations is Obsolete". A group of students will be on the "yes" team, and another group on the "no" team.

Your oral participation in each debate will be worth 1.25% of your final grade. Your grade for the oral participation will depend on the following criteria:

1. Familiarity with the rules of the debate
2. Demonstrated substantial knowledge of the issue
3. Conveyed well-researched arguments, supported with evidence
4. Demonstrated awareness of the opposition's arguments
5. Ability to convey complex ideas simply and concisely

Students who are not part of that week's debate team are still expected to come prepared and contribute to the discussion. For examples of debates with a similar format, please see: <http://intelligencesquaredus.org/debates/past-debates>

The audience will vote on which side of the motion they support, both before and after the debate.

Presentations (10%)

You will be required to present on a topics listed in the syllabus for each week. You will be required to give 2 presentations over the course of the year (1 in each term).

These presentations should last no more than 7 minutes and be based on a single slide. Grading will be based mainly on clarity of exposition and the quality of the content. The presenters are also expected to be able to respond to questions from the audience (including the lecturers).

Essays (25%)

You will be required to submit two essays (1 per term). Each essay is **due on the Friday of the last teaching week**. Each essay should be double-spaced, 12pt font, and maximum 1,800 words in length (including abstract, reference list, footnotes, and title page). Please note that the essay requires an abstract (no more than 150 words) that summarizes the paper. You may choose your topic from the following list:

- Michaelmas Term:
 1. Why does a political system offer trade protection to some groups and not to others? Pick a major economy and discuss which competing trade groups receive protection and which ones do not.
 2. Europe is currently experiencing an unprecedented in recent memory influx of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. What is wrong with current EU immigration policy in adequately addressing this challenge? Explain with evidence and offer a discussion on potential solutions.
 3. There is staunch debate over the working conditions in manufacturing facilities in the developing world. Should there be stronger “sweatshop” regulation or would this be counterproductive? Explain in detail.
- Hilary Term:
 1. Information is now more detailed and readily available than ever before. How might this affect the propensity of states to go to war?
 2. How might information about what the other knows—second-order information—affect the propensity to go to war?
 3. Can the risk of war be correctly estimated, or do we really only learn from history that we do not learn from it?

Students enrolled in PO4701

Students who are enrolled in PO4701 and therefore are taking 10 ECTS for the module, will be required to complete one (1) debate, one (1) presentation and one

(1) essay over the full year. You may choose to submit your essay in either term. However, the essay must be related to the content covered in that term.

Turnitin

Please submit all your written work, including response papers, through Turnitin: (turnitin.com).¹

Class ID: 13663323 (Michaelmas); 13663349 (Hilary)

Password: contir2016 for both terms

Academic & Professional Ethics

Please do not plagiarize. Academic dishonesty is a serious matter, with serious consequences that can result in receiving no credit for an assignment, a failing grade for the module, and even expulsion from the programme. It is never permissible to turn in any work that contains others' ideas without proper acknowledgment. It is your responsibility to make sure that your work meets the standard of academic honesty set forth in the College Calendar (see <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/calendar>). Useful information is available at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>. If you are paraphrasing, cite the source. If you are quoting, use quotation marks and appropriate citation. Remember that academic integrity is a reflection of one's character. In addition, we strongly recommend that you visit <http://www.plagiarism.org/> for more information on what *is* and *is not* plagiarism. Lastly, students are required to only submit "new work" in each module, which means work that has not been submitted previously in any other university module. Students who wish to use previously submitted work as part of a new project will need the approval of the lecturer.

Syllabus Modification Rights

We reserve the right to reasonably alter the elements of the syllabus at any time. More often than not this will mean adjusting the reading list to keep pace with the course schedule, although we may add reading assignments as well.

¹For more information on Turnitin and academic integrity, please visit: <http://www.tcd.ie/CAPSL/students/integrity-plagarism/> and <http://www.tcd.ie/CAPSL/readysteadywrite/>

Readings

Main readings:

- Frieden, J. A., Lake, D. A., & Schultz, K. A. (2013). *World politics: interests, interactions, institutions*. New York: WW Norton. 2nd Edition. Abbrev: (*FLS*)
- Oatley, Thomas H. (2012) *International Political Economy*. Boston: Pearson-Longman. 5th Edition. Abbrev: (*Oatley*)

Weekly readings are also required and are listed below.

Course Outline

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Schedule: Michaelmas Term (Prof. Boussalis)

Week 1. Introductory Session

Required Readings:

- No readings this week

Presentations:

No presentations this week

Motion:

No debate this week

Week 2. International Trade Theory

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 264-273, 306-311
- *Oatley* pp. 21-68.

Suggested Readings:

- Irwin, D. A. (1996). *Against the tide: An intellectual history of free trade.* Princeton University Press.
- Bhagwati, J. N. (1989). *Protectionism (Vol. 1).* MIT press.

Presentations:

No presentations this week

Motion:

No debate this week

Week 3. Politics of International Trade

Required Readings:

- *Oatley* pp. 69-110

- Scheve, Kenneth F., and Matthew J. Slaughter. "A new deal for globalization." *Foreign Affairs* (2007): 34-47.
- Hiscox, M. J. (2002). Commerce, coalitions, and factor mobility: Evidence from congressional votes on trade legislation. *American Political Science Review*, 96(03), 593-608.

Suggested Readings:

- Goldstein, J. L., Rivers, D., & Tomz, M. (2007). "Institutions in International Relations: Understanding the Effects of the GATT and the WTO on World Trade."
- Mansfield, E. D., & Mutz, D. C. (2009). Support for free trade: Self-interest, sociotropic politics, and out-group anxiety. *International Organization*, 63(03), 425-457.
- Milner, H. V., & Kubota, K. (2005). "Why the move to free trade? Democracy and trade policy in the developing countries." *International organization*, 59(1), 107-143.
- Henisz, W. J., & Mansfield, E. D. (2006). "Votes and vetoes: the political determinants of commercial openness." *International Studies Quarterly*, 50(1), 189-212.
- Ehrlich, S. D. (2007). "Access to protection: Domestic institutions and trade policy in democracies." *International Organization*, 61(3), 571-605.

Presentations:

No presentations this week

Simulation:

International Trade Game

Week 4. International Investment

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 312-338
- Sachs, J. (1999). Upstairs, downstairs. *The International Economy*, 13(5), 30.
- Easterly, W. (2001). Debt relief. *Foreign Policy*, 20-26.

Suggested Readings:

- Borensztein, E., De Gregorio, J., & Lee, J. W. (1998). How does foreign direct investment affect economic growth?. *Journal of International Economics*, 45(1), 115-135.
- Przeworski, A., & Vreeland, J. R. (2000). The effect of IMF programs on economic growth. *Journal of Development Economics*, 62(2), 385-421.
- Dreher, A., Sturm, J. E., & Vreeland, J. R. (2009). Development aid and international politics: Does membership on the UN Security Council influence World Bank decisions?. *Journal of Development Economics*, 88(1), 1-18.
- Broz, J. L. (2005). Congressional politics of international financial rescues. *American Journal of Political Science*, 49(3), 479-496.

Presentations:

1. FDI flows into the developing world
2. Multinational corporations and labor rights
3. The 2001 Argentine Default

Motion:

Motion HT-1: "The benefits of foreign investment in the developing world outweigh the drawbacks."

Week 5. Politics of International Migration

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 344-347
- Mayda, A. M. (2010). International migration: A panel data analysis of the determinants of bilateral flows. *Journal of Population Economics*, 23(4), 1249-1274.
- Adams, R. H., & Page, J. (2005). Do international migration and remittances reduce poverty in developing countries?. *World development*, 33(10), 1645-1669.
- Zaiotti, Ruben (2011) *Cultures of Border Control: Schengen and the Evolution of European Frontiers*. University of Chicago Press. Ch. 5.

Suggested Readings:

- Hatton, T. J., & Williamson, J. G. (2005). What fundamentals drive world migration?. In *Poverty, international migration and asylum* (pp. 15-38). Palgrave Macmillan UK.

- Scheve, K. F., & Slaughter, M. J. (2001). Labor market competition and individual preferences over immigration policy. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 83(1), 133-145.
- Adida, C. L., & Girod, D. M. (2010). Do migrants improve their hometowns? Remittances and access to public services in Mexico, 1995–2000. *Comparative Political Studies*.
- Facchini, G., & Mayda, A. M. (2008). From individual attitudes towards migrants to migration policy outcomes: Theory and evidence. *Economic Policy*, 23(56), 652-713.
- Docquier, F., & Rapoport, H. (2012). Globalization, brain drain, and development. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 50(3), 681-730.

Presentations:

1. Migrant and refugee flows into Europe
2. EU border control policy
3. The Visegrad Group

Motion:

Motion HT-2: “The EU should impose more restrictions on immigration.”

Week 6. International Monetary Relations

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 350-385
- Frieden, Jeffrey. “Globalization and exchange rate policy.” In *The Future of Globalization* (2008): 344-357.
- Eichengreen, Barry. “The eurozone crisis: the theory of optimum currency areas bites back.” University of California, Berkeley (2014).
- Henkel, Hans-Olaf. “A Sceptic’s Solution: A Breakaway Currency.” *Financial Times* 29 (2011).
- Berggruen, Nicolas, and Nathan Gardels. “The Next Europe: Toward a Federal Union” *Foreign Affairs* 92 (2013): 134-142.

Suggested Readings:

- Frieden, J. A. (1991). Invested interests: the politics of national economic policies in a world of global finance. *International Organization*, 45(04), 425-451.

- Eichengreen, B., & Leblang, D. (2008). Democracy and globalization. *Economics & Politics*, 20(3), 289-334.
- Walter, S. (2016). Crisis Politics in Europe Why Austerity Is Easier to Implement in Some Countries Than in Others. *Comparative Political Studies*, 49(7), 841-873.

Presentations:

1. The Eurozone
2. Trade imbalances in the Eurozone
3. Austerity in the Eurozone

Motion:

Motion HT-3: "The Euro should be abolished."

Week 7. Reading Week. No meeting.

Week 8. International Development: Domestic Perspective

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 386-400
- Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., & Robinson, J. A. (2001). The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation. *American Economic Review*, 91(5), 1369-1401.
- Banerjee, A. V., & Duflo, E. (2007). The Economic Lives of the Poor. *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(1), 141-167.
- *If the World were 100 People*, http://www.100people.org/statistics_100stats.php?section=statistics

Suggested Readings:

- Sen, A. (1988). The concept of development. *Handbook of development economics*, 1, 9-26.
- Olson, Mancur. (1993) "Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development." *American Political Science Review* 87(3): 567-576.
- Bourguignon, François and Christian Morrisson (2002) "Inequality among World Citizens: 1820-1992" *American Economic Review* 92(4): 727-744.

- Easterly, W., & Levine, R. (2003). Tropics, germs, and crops: how endowments influence economic development. *Journal of monetary economics*, 50(1), 3-39.
- De Soto, Hernando. *Mystery of capital: why capitalism triumphs in the West and fails everywhere else*. Basic books, 2003. pp. 36-68.

Presentations:

1. The Beijing Consensus
2. Economic development of South Korea
3. Economic development of North Korea

Motion:

Motion HT-4: "Autocratic countries are better equipped to develop"

Week 9. International Development: International Perspective

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 400-406, 413-418
- *Oatley* pp. 111-157
- Alesina, A., & Dollar, D. (2000). Who gives foreign aid to whom and why? *Journal of economic growth*, 5(1), 33-63.
- Sachs, Jeffrey D. "The case for aid." *Foreign Policy: Democracy Lab* (2014)
- Easterly, William. "Aid amnesia." *Foreign Policy: Democracy Lab* (2014)

Suggested Readings:

- Englebert, P. (2000). Pre-colonial institutions, post-colonial states, and economic development in tropical Africa. *Political Research Quarterly*, 53(1), 7-36.
- Nunn, N. (2007). The long-term effects of Africa's slave trades. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(1): 139-176.
- Sachs, Jeffrey. (2005) *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York: Penguin Press. pp. 244-308
- Easterly, W., & Pfutze, T. (2008). Where does the money go? Best and worst practices in foreign aid. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 22(2), 29-52
- Persson, A., Rothstein, B., & Teorell, J. (2010). The failure of Anti-Corruption Policies: A Theoretical Mischaracterization of the Problem. *QoG Working Paper Series*, 19, 2-21.

Presentations:

1. Trends in foreign aid (1960-2015)
2. The Millennium Villages
3. Foreign aid and health outcomes

Motion:

Motion HT-5: "Foreign aid works."

Week 10. Environment and International Politics

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 492-533
- *Oatley* pp. 358-367
- Matthews, H. D., Graham, T. L., Keverian, S., Lamontagne, C., Seto, D., & Smith, T. J. (2014). National contributions to observed global warming. *Environmental Research Letters*, 9(1), 1-9.
- Victor, D. G., Morgan, M. G., Apt, J., Steinbruner, J., & Ricke, K. (2009). The geoengineering option. *Foreign Affairs*, 88(2), 64-76.

Suggested Readings:

- Steffen, W., Grinevald, J., Crutzen, P., & McNeill, J. (2011). "The Anthropocene: conceptual and historical perspectives." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A: Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences*, 369(1938), 842-867.
- Bernauer, T. (2013). Climate change politics. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 16, 421-448.
- Keohane, R. O., & Victor, D. G. (2011). "The regime complex for climate change." *Perspectives on politics*, 9(1), 7-23.
- Breitmeier, H., Underdal, A., & Young, O. R. (2011). The effectiveness of international environmental regimes: Comparing and contrasting findings from quantitative research. *International Studies Review*, 13(4), 579-605.
- McCright, A. M., & Dunlap, R. E. (2003). Defeating Kyoto: The conservative movement's impact on US climate change policy. *Social Problems*, 50(3), 348-373.

Presentations:

No presentations this week

Simulation:

Climate Change Game

Week 11. International Law & NormsRequired Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 420-451.
- Finnemore, M., & Sikkink, K. (1998). "International norm dynamics and political change." *International organization*, 52(04), 887-917.
- Kyl, Jon, Douglas J. Feith, and John Fonte. "The War of Law: How New International Law Undermines Democratic Sovereignty" *Foreign Affairs* 92 (2013): 115-125.
- Koh, Harold Hongju, and Michael Doyle. "The Case for International Law" (2013): 162-165.

Suggested Readings:

- Tannenwald, N. (1999). "The nuclear taboo: The United States and the normative basis of nuclear non-use." *International Organization*, 53(03), 433-468.
- Keck, M. E., & Sikkink, K. (1998). *Activists beyond borders: Advocacy networks in international politics* (Vol. 35). Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. cc. 1-3.
- Tarrow, S. (2001). Transnational politics: contention and institutions in international politics. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 4(1), 1-20.
- Von Stein, J. (2005). "Do treaties constrain or screen? Selection bias and treaty compliance." *American Political Science Review*, 99(4), 611-622.

Presentations:

1. The Geneva Conventions
2. Guantanamo Bay
3. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Motion:

Motion HT-6: "International law doesn't affect state behavior"

Week 12. Human RightsRequired Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 452-491.
- Greenhill, B. (2010). The company you keep: International socialization and the diffusion of human rights norms. *International Studies Quarterly*, 54(1), 127-145.

Suggested Readings:

- Hathaway, O. A. (2007). “Why do countries commit to human rights treaties?.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 51(4), 588-621.
- Hafner-Burton, E. M. (2005). “Trading human rights: How preferential trade agreements influence government repression.” *International Organization*, 59(3), 593-629.
- Neumayer, E. (2005). “Do international human rights treaties improve respect for human rights?.” *Journal of conflict resolution*, 49(6), 925-953.

Presentations:

1. Trokosi
2. Child labor in the developing world
3. Laïcité and religious freedom

Motion:

Motion HT-7: “Human rights should take into account cultural differences.”

Schedule: Hilary Term (Prof. Chadeaux)

Week 1. Is War in Our Genes?

Required Readings:

- Walter R Mead. The Return of Geopolitics. *Foreign Affairs*. 17 Apr. 2014. 7 pages
- John G Ikenberry. The Illusion of Geopolitics. *Foreign Affairs*. 17 Apr. 2014. 7 pages
- Steven Pinker. *The better angels of our nature: The decline of violence in history and its causes*. Penguin UK, 2011. Chapter 5: "The Long Peace". 80 pages
- Robert Axelrod. The evolution of cooperation. In Anatolií Andreevich Gromyko and Martin Hellman, editors, *Breakthrough: Emerging new thinking: Soviet and Western scholars issue a challenge to build a world beyond war*. Walker (New York, NY), 1988. <http://www-ee.stanford.edu/~hellman/Breakthrough/book/pdfs/axelrod.pdf>

Suggested Readings:

- Joshua S Goldstein. War Really Is Going Out of Style. *The New York Times*. December 17, 2011. 3 pages *
- Kenneth N Waltz. *Man, the state, and war: a theoretical analysis*. Columbia University Press, 2001. Ch. 2 ('The First Image', pp. 16–41).
- Donald Kagan, Eliot A Cohen, Charles F Doran, and Michael Mandelbaum. Is major war obsolete? an exchange. *Survival*, 41(2):139–152, 1999.

Presentations:

No presentations this week

Motion:

No debate this week

Week 2. Forecasting Conflict

Required Readings:

- Kenneth J Arrow, Robert Forsythe, Michael Gorham, Robert Hahn, Robin Hanson, John O Ledyard, Saul Levmore, Robert Litan, Paul Milgrom, Forrest D Nelson, et al. The promise of prediction markets. *Science*, 320(5878):877, 2008
- Michael D Ward. Can we predict politics? Toward what end? *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 1(1):80–91, 2016
- Philip Tetlock and Dan Gardner. *Superforecasting: The art and science of prediction*. Random House, 2016, ch. 3–4, pp. 46–104

Suggested Readings:

- Bruce Bueno De Mesquita. *The Predictioneer's Game: Using the logic of brazen self-interest to see and shape the future*. Random House Incorporated, 2010 pp. 47–123
- Håvard Hegre, Joakim Karlsen, Håvard Møkleiv Nygård, Håvard Strand, and Henrik Urdal. Predicting armed conflict, 2010–20501. *International Studies Quarterly*, 57(2):250–270, 2013

Presentations:

1. The Senkaku Islands
2. The South China Sea
3. South Sudan

Motion:

No debate this week

Week 3. Bargaining and Conflict

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 80–123
- James D Fearon. Rationalist explanations for war. *International Organization*, 49(03):379–414, 1995.

Suggested Readings:

- Erik Gartzke. War is in the error term. *International Organization*, 53(03):567–587, 1999.

- Robert Powell. War as a commitment problem. *International Organization*, 60(01):169–203, 2006. (a bit technical)
- Robert Powell. *In the shadow of power: States and strategies in international politics*. Princeton University Press, 1999. Ch. 3, pp. 82–114 (technical reading)
- James D Fearon. Bargaining over objects that influence future bargaining power. In *annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, August*, pages 28–31, 1996.
- Thomas Chadeaux. Bargaining over power: when do shifts in power lead to war? *International Theory*, 3(02):228–253, 2011.
- Dan Reiter. Exploring the bargaining model of war. *Perspective on Politics*, 1(01):27–43, 2003.
- Alastair Smith and Allan C Stam. Bargaining and the nature of war. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 48(6):783–813, 2004.

Presentations:

1. The Kurds
2. Refugee policies in the Middle East
3. Refugee policies in Europe

Motion:

Motion HT-3: “Europe should let in more refugees.”

Week 4. Domestic Politics and War

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 124–167
- Akbar Ganji. Who Is Ali Khamenei? *Foreign Affairs*. 12 Aug. 2013.
- James Lee Ray. Does democracy cause peace? *Annual Review of Political Science*, 1(1):27–46, 1998.

Suggested Readings:

- Thomas C Schelling. *Arms and Influence: With a New Preface and Afterword*. Yale University Press, 2008. ch. 2 (pp. 35–91)
- Sebastian Rosato. The flawed logic of democratic peace theory. *American Political Science Review*, 97(04):585–602, 2003.

- Bruce Bueno De Mesquita. *Principles of international politics*. CQ press, 2013. Chapter 6, pp 206–238.

Presentations:

1. The Lybian Crisis
2. The Yemeni civil war (2015–)
3. The relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia

Motion:

Motion HT-4: “Democratization would stabilize the Middle East.”

Week 5. Economic Interdependence and Conflict

Required Readings:

- Marina Ottaway, David Ottaway. How the Kurds Got Their Way. *Foreign Affairs*. 17 Apr. 2014. * (Skim)
- Erik Gartzke and Yonatan Lupu. Trading on preconceptions: Why World War I was not a failure of economic interdependence. *International Security*, 36(4):115–150, 2012.

Suggested Readings:

- Edward Deering Mansfield and Brian M Pollins. *Economic interdependence and international conflict: New perspectives on an enduring debate*. University of Michigan Press, 2003. Part I (pp. 31–59, 89–147).
- Mark JC Crescenzi. Economic exit, interdependence, and conflict. *Journal of Politics*, 65(3):809–832, 2003.
- Bruce M Russett and John R Oneal. *Triangulating peace: Democracy, interdependence, and international organizations*, volume 9. Norton, 1909.
- Zeev Maoz. The effects of strategic and economic interdependence on international conflict across levels of analysis. *American Journal of Political Science*, 53(1):223–240, 2009.
- Erik Gartzke, Quan Li, and Charles Boehmer. Investing in the peace: Economic interdependence and international conflict. *International Organization*, 55(02):391–438, 2001.

Presentations:

1. The South China Sea
2. The Senkaku Islands
3. China's defense policy

Motion:

Motion HT-5: "China and the US are enemies."

Week 6. Conflict Outcomes

Required Readings:

- Ivan Arreguin-Toft. How the weak win wars: A theory of asymmetric conflict. *International Security*, 26(1):93–128, 2001.
- Stephen Biddle. Ending the War in Afghanistan. *Foreign Affairs*. 12 Aug. 2013.
- Stephen Biddle. *Military power: Explaining victory and defeat in modern battle*. Princeton University Press, 2010. pp. 28–77.

Suggested Readings:

- Nigel Lo, Barry Hashimoto, and Dan Reiter. Ensuring peace: Foreign-imposed regime change and postwar peace duration, 1914–2001. *International Organization*, 62(04):717–736, 2008.
- Dan Reiter and Allan C Stam. *Democracies at war*. Princeton University Press, 2002. pp. 10–38.
- US Army Counter-insurgency handbook, chapter 2.
<http://usacac.army.mil/cac/repository/materials/coin-fm3-24.pdf> *
- Branislav L Slantchev. How initiators end their wars: The duration of warfare and the terms of peace. *American Journal of Political Science*, 48(4):813–829, 2004

Presentations:

1. Ethnic relations in Iraq
2. The political system of Iraq
3. The economy of Iraq

Motion:

Motion HT-6: "Obama's Iran deal is good for the Middle East."

Week 7. Reading Week

Week 8. Terrorism

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 242–263
- Scott Atran. Genesis of suicide terrorism. *Science*, 299(5612):1534–1539, 2003
- Robert A Pape. The strategic logic of suicide terrorism. *American Political Science Review*, 97(03):343–361, 2003
- Peter R Neumann. Negotiating with terrorists. *Foreign Affairs*, pages 128–138, 2007

Suggested Readings:

- Andrew Kydd and Barbara F Walter. Sabotaging the peace: The politics of extremist violence. *International Organization*, 56(02):263–296, 2002
- Max Abrahms. Why terrorism does not work. *International Security*, 31(2):42–78, 2006
- Assaf Moghadam. Motives for martyrdom: Al-qaida, salafi jihad, and the spread of suicide attacks. *International Security*, 33(3):46–78, 2009.

Presentations:

1. ISIS: origins
2. ISIS: current geopolitical state
3. ISIS: current funding and finances

Motion:

Motion HT-8: “ISIS is not a global threat.”

Week 9. Civil Wars: Origins

Required Readings:

- Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. Greed and grievance in civil war. *Oxford economic papers*, 56(4):563–595, 2004
- Daniel N Posner. The political salience of cultural difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are allies in Zambia and adversaries in Malawi. *American Political Science Review*, 98(04):529–545, 2004

- *FLS* pp. 219–242

Suggested Readings:

- Charles Tilly. *The politics of collective violence*. Cambridge University Press, 2003, Ch. 1 and 2, pp. 1–54
- James D Fearon and David D Laitin. Ethnicity, insurgency, and civil war. *American political science review*, 97(01):75–90, 2003
- Fearon, James. “Iraq: Democracy or Civil War?” Testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Government Reform, Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations. September 15, 2006.
<http://cisac.fsi.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/Fearon-testimony-9.15.06.pdf>
- Stathis N. Kalyvas. Civil wars. In Carles Boix and Susan C. Stokes, editors, *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Presentations:

1. The Sykes-Picot agreement and its ramifications.
2. Internal dimensions of the Syrian civil wars
3. External dimensions of the Syrian civil wars

Motion:

Motion HT-9: “The international community should send troops to Syria.”

Week 10. Civil Wars: Course, Termination and Aftermath

Required Readings:

- Barbara F Walter. The critical barrier to civil war settlement. *International organization*, 51(03):335–364, 1997
- Stephen John Stedman. Spoiler problems in peace processes. *International security*, 22(2):5–53, 1997

Suggested Readings:

- Barbara F Walter. Bargaining failures and civil war. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 12:243–261, 2009

Presentations:

1. Ethnic relations in Iraq
2. The political system of Iraq
3. The economy of Iraq

Motion:

Motion HT-10: "Territorial partition would solve Iraq's problems."

Week 11. Alliances

Required Readings:

- *FLS* pp. 172–187
- James B. Steinberg and Michael O'Hanlon. Keep Hope Alive. *Foreign Affairs*. 16 Sept. 2014.
- James D Morrow. Arms versus allies: trade-offs in the search for security. *International Organization*, 47(02):207–233, 1993.

Suggested Readings:

- Thomas J Christensen and Jack Snyder. Chain gangs and passed bucks: Predicting alliance patterns in multipolarity. *International Organization*, 44(02):137–168, 1990.
- Brett Ashley Leeds. Alliance reliability in times of war: Explaining state decisions to violate treaties. *International Organization*, 57(04):801–827, 2003.
- James D Morrow. Alliances: Why write them down? *Annual Review of Political Science*, 3(1):63–83, 2000.

Presentations:

1. NATO membership and expansions
2. NATO's missions since the end of the cold war
3. Russia–NATO relations since the end of the cold war

Motion:

Motion HT-11: "NATO is outdated."

Week 12. Review and Q&A