

**Government 40:
International Conflict and Cooperation
Spring 2015
Mon, Wed 11am-12pm, CGIS S020**

This course provides an introduction to the causes of international conflict and cooperation. It begins by providing an overview of the major episodes of conflict and cooperation in history and an introduction to the schools of thought scholars have developed to explain these. It then considers substantive puzzles related to war, such as why states choose to fight rather than negotiate, whether they fight wars to satisfy domestic political interests, how certain psychological factors can make war more likely, whether democratic institutions influence the occurrence of war, and whether peacekeeping can keep the peace. After this, we will explore the origins and effects of international institutions, including the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. We will also examine conflict and cooperation in international trade and finance, the challenges of global economic inequality and development and the impacts of foreign aid. We will move on to discuss ethnic and religious tensions, international law, human rights, and efforts to address global environmental problems. We conclude with a discussion of the future of international relations.

Instructors:

Professor Michael Hiscox

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Office Hours: Wed 12pm-2pm.

Professor Amy Catalinac

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Office: CGIS K423.

Office Hours: Tues 10am-12pm.

Course Website:

We will post the syllabus, lecture slides, section information, and any exam-related information on: <http://isites.harvard.edu/k107971>.

Course Requirements:

1. **Participation (20%)**

This course depends on your participation. Sections will be held from the second week of class (the week beginning February 2), and attendance is mandatory. You are expected to

come to section having read the assigned material and attended the lectures for that week. During section, you are expected to contribute to the discussion in a way that demonstrates you have read the material and given some serious thought to it. If you must miss a section for illness or another legitimate reason, please inform your TF ahead of time. Your TF may ask you to attend another section or submit a page of written notes on the assigned material for that week.

2. Three Response Papers (20%)

You are expected to complete three short (500-word) response papers over the course of the semester. These papers are to be submitted to your TF during section. At least two must be submitted prior to the mid-term examination, which means they must be submitted in or prior to the sixth week of class (your section in the week beginning March 2). The latter must be submitted in or prior to the twelfth week of class (your section in the week beginning April 20). They are intended to help you develop the skills needed for the examinations and provide you with the opportunity to receive feedback from your TF about your grasp of the course material. In each paper, your task is to take a different contemporary or historical event and discuss and analyze it using a concept we have learned about in class. The TFs will not read drafts of papers, but will entertain conversation about them. Please consult the [Harvard Guide to Using Sources](#) for information about referencing. Either citation style is fine, as long as you are consistent. Please double-space your documents and use size-12 font with normal margins.

3. Midterm Exam (20%)

On Monday March 9, there will be an in-class mid-term exam. This will begin at 11.10am and will be 50 minutes long. It will be comprised of an identification section, in which you will be asked to identify and explain key concepts that have been introduced in lecture and section, and a short essay section. More information will be provided later.

4. Final Exam (40%)

The final piece of assessment for the course is a final exam, to be administered during the official examination period. It will cover material from both before and after the mid-term examination. Information about the final exam will be provided later.

Grade Breakdown:

Participation	20%
Three Response Papers	20%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	40%

Teaching Fellows:

Mr. Chris Lucas (Head TF, PhD Candidate, Department of Government)

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Office Hours: Thu 5pm-6pm, CGIS S002B.

Mr. Peter Volberding (PhD Candidate, Department of Government)

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Mr. Michael Gill (PhD Candidate, Department of Government)

Email: mzgill@fas.harvard.edu

Office Hours: Tue, 4-5pm, CGIS S002B.

Required Textbook: We will be using the following textbook for the course, which is available for purchase at the COOP. It is also on reserve at Lamont Library. We will refer to this as FLS throughout the syllabus.

Jeffrey A. Frieden, David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. *World Politics. Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. W. W. Norton, New York, 2nd edition, 2013.

Additional Assigned Material: We will supplement the textbook with other assigned material, which will be available on the course website. There may be minor adjustments to the assigned material as the course progresses, which will be communicated well in advance.

Electronic Sectioning: We will send you an email after study card day asking you for your preferences regarding sections. At present, sections are scheduled for Wed at 3pm and 4pm and Thu at 10am, 11am, and 4pm. These times are subject to change based on student numbers. Please fill out your preferences. After this, students need to contact the head TF to be sectioned. Section lists will be distributed via email and online.

Policy on Collaboration: Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to learning. You are encouraged to consult with your classmates as you prepare for section, write your response papers, and study for the final exam. However, after discussions with your peers, you must make sure that your response papers are the result of your own efforts. In addition, you must cite any books, articles, websites or lectures that you have consulted using appropriate citation practices.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Students needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a documented disability must present their Faculty Letter from the [Accessible Education Office](#) and speak with either professor by the end of the second week of the semester. Failure to do so may result in our inability to respond in a timely manner.

Important Dates:

Sections Begin Week Beginning February 2
(At Least) Two Response Papers Due Week Beginning March 2
Mid-semester Exam March 9
Third Response Paper Due Week Beginning April 20
Final Examination TBA

COURSE OUTLINE

PART I: COURSE INTRODUCTION

Jan 26: Conflict and Cooperation in History (Catalinac).

FLS, Chapter 1.

Stephen Walt. International Relations: One World, Many Theories. *Foreign Policy*, pages 29–46, Spring 1998.

Jan 28: The Puzzle-Oriented Approach (Catalinac).

FLS, Chapter 2.

John J. Mearsheimer. The false promise of international institutions. *International Security*, 19(3):5–49, 1994.

PART II: RATIONALIST EXPLANATIONS FOR WAR

Feb 2: The Bargaining Model of War (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 80-115.

Henry A. Kissinger. The Future of U.S.-Chinese Relations. Conflict Is a Choice, Not a Necessity. *Foreign Affairs*, 91:44–55, March, April 2012.

For Reference:

James Fearon. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization*, 49(3):379–414, 1995.

Robert Powell. War as a commitment problem. *International Organization*, 60(1):169–203, 2006.

Stephen M. Walt. Rigor or rigor mortis? rational choice and security studies. *International Security*, 23(4):5–48, 1999.

Feb 4: Issue Indivisibility and War (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 115-123.

Stacie E. Goddard. Uncommon Ground: Indivisible Territory and the Politics of Legitimacy. *International Organization*, 60:35–68, January 2006.

For Reference:

M. Taylor Fravel. Power Shifts and Escalation: Explaining China's Use of Force in Territorial Disputes. *International Security*, 32(3):44–83, 2007.

PART III: NON-RATIONALIST EXPLANATIONS FOR WAR

Feb 9: Psychological Factors (Catalinac).

Jonathan Mercer. *Reputation and International Politics*, pages 44–73. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N.Y., 1996.

Rose McDermott. Prospect Theory in International Relations: The Iranian Hostage Rescue Mission. *Political Psychology*, 13(2):237–263, 1992.

Daniel Kahneman and Jonathan Renshon. Why hawks win. *Foreign Policy*, 158:34–38, 2007.

For Reference:

Robert Jervis. *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J., 1976.

Feb 11: Identity-related Factors (Catalinac)

Deborah Welch Larson and Alexei Shevchenko. Status Seekers: Chinese and Russian Responses to U.S. Primacy. *International Security*, 34(4):63–95, Spring 2010.

Thomas U. Berger. Norms, Identity, and National Security in Germany and Japan. In Peter J. Katzenstein, editor, *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*, pages 317–356. Columbia University Press, New York, 1996.

For Reference:

Nina Tannenwald. The Nuclear Taboo: The United States and the Normative Basis of Nuclear Non-Use. *International Organization*, 53(3):433–468, Summer 1999.

Feb 16: No lecture. President's Day

PART IV: DOMESTIC POLITICAL EXPLANATIONS FOR WAR

Feb 18: Leaders and Political Uses of Force (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 124-142.

Jonathan W. Keller and Dennis M. Foster. Presidential Leadership Style and the Political Use of Force. *Political Psychology*, 33(5):581–598, 2012.

For Reference:

Kurt Taylor Gaubatz. Election cycles and war. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 35(2):212–244, 1991.

Feb 23: Interest Groups and the Military (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 143-154.

Jack Snyder. *Myths of Empire*, pages 112–152. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N.Y., 1991.

John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt. The israel lobby. *London Review of Books*, 28(6):3–12, 2006.

For Reference:

Michael C. Horowitz and Allan C. Stam. How Prior Military Experience Influences the Future Militarized Behavior of Leaders. *International Organization*, 68(3):527–529, 2014.

Feb 25: Democratic Institutions and War (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 154-167.

Michael Tomz. Domestic Audience Costs in International Relations: An Experimental Approach. *International Organization*, 61(4):821–840, 2007.

For Reference:

James Fearon. Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review*, 88(3):577–592, 1994.

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, James D. Morrow, Randolph Siverson, and Alastair Smith. An Institutional Explanation of the Democratic Peace. *American Political Science Review*, 93:791–807, December 1999.

PART V: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND WAR

Mar 2: Alliances (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 168-188.

Thomas J. Christensen and Jack Snyder. Chain Gangs and Passed Bucks: Predicting Alliance Patterns in Multipolarity. *International Organization*, 44(2):137–168, 1990.

For Reference:

Victor D. Cha. Abandonment, Entrapment, and Neoclassical Realism in Asia: The United States, Japan, and Korea. *International Studies Quarterly*, 44(2):261–291, 2000.

Mar 4: Collective Security Organizations (Catalinac).

FLS, pp. 188-213.

Virginia Page Fortna. Interstate Peacekeeping: Causal Mechanisms and Empirical Effects. *World Politics*, 56:481–519, 2004.

Mar 9: In-Class Midterm Exam

PART VI: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE

Mar 11: Trade (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 264-311.

Mar 16 - Mar 18: No lectures. Spring Break.

Mar 23: Finance (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 312-349.

Mar 25: Money (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 350-385.

PART VII: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

Mar 30: Poverty and Development (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 386-419.

Apr 1: Foreign Aid (Hiscox)

William Easterly. Can foreign aid buy growth? *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, pages 23–48, 2003.

Joseph Wright and Matthew Winters. The politics of effective foreign aid. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 13:61–80, 2010.

Apr 6: Immigration (Hiscox)

Wayne A Cornelius and Marc R Rosenblum. Immigration and politics. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 8:99–119, 2005.

Alan O Sykes. International cooperation on migration: Theory and practice. *The University of Chicago Law Review*, pages 315–340, 2013.

PART VIII: INTERNATIONAL LAW, NORMS, AND RIGHTS

Apr 8: International Law and Norms (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 420-451.

Apr 13: Human Rights (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 452-491.

Apr 15: Economic Sanctions (Hiscox)

Kimberly Ann Elliott and Gary Clyde Hufbauer. Same song, same refrain? Economic sanctions in the 1990's. *American Economic Review*, pages 403–408, 1999.

Navin A Bapat and T Clifton Morgan. Multilateral versus unilateral sanctions reconsidered: A test using new data. *International Studies Quarterly*, 53(4):1075–1094, 2009.

Meghan L O'Sullivan. Iran and the great sanctions debate. *The Washington Quarterly*, 33(4):7–21, 2010.

PART IX: EMERGING CHALLENGES

Apr 20: Global Environmental Problems (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 492-533.

Apr 22: Terrorism (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 242-263.

Eli Berman, Joseph H. Felter, and Jacob N. Shapiro. Constructive COIN: How development can fight radicals. *Foreign Affairs*, <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/66432/eli-berman-joseph-h-felter-and-jacob-n-shapiro/constructive-coin>, June 2010.

Apr 27: The Future of International Relations (Hiscox)

FLS, pp. 534-579.
