

**Department of International Relations**  
**BILKENT UNIVERSITY**

**IR 101-04: Introduction to World Politics**  
**Spring 2010**

Lectures: TUESDAY 10.40, 11.40  
FRI 8.40, 9.40

Classroom: A 331

**Instructor**

Özgür Özdamar

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Office Hours: Monday 9.40-10.30, Tuesday 9.40-10.30

**Course Description and Objectives**

This course will introduce you to studies of international relations. It will cover the basic concepts, theories, major actors and issues of IR. Therefore the course is not about “current affairs” of world politics although we will also discuss them as they relate to our subject matter.

The course will begin with a brief discussion of international system and its evolution in the last 500 years. Then we will spend about first half of the semester to cover basic concepts and theories of IR. In the second half of the course, we will cover substantial issues such as conflict, cooperation, use of force, terrorism, international law and organizations.

By the end of the course, you should be able to use different frameworks of analysis to explain relations of states and other actors and be familiar with most relevant issues in the field of IR.

**Readings and Required Textbooks**

The assigned readings for each week are listed in the course schedule below. There is a reasonable amount of readings for each week. Therefore, please do keep up with the readings each week. This class will be far more rewarding for you if you do so. Reading the material every week will enable you to be more engaged while listening to lectures and contributing to discussions. Both your exam and participation grades will be positively affected by reading the material on a regular basis and prior to class.

There are two required textbooks. The second textbook is a debate book on most discussed issues in IR in recent years.

1. Joshua Goldstein and Jon Pevehouse. 2010. *International Relations*. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. Pearson.
2. John T. Rourke. 2010. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*. 14<sup>th</sup> Edition. McGraw Hill.

## Course Requirements

1. Mid-Term Exam:	35%
2. Final Exam:	40%
3. Presentation	10%
4. Attendance and participation	15%

## Presentation

Every Friday, we will use the last hour of this course to debate the issues from the *Taking Sides*. In this debate hour, groups of two or three students will make an introduction to the debate issue and summarize it. Then, the group members will ask questions to the class and manage the classroom debate that day. This will make up 10 percent of your grade.

## Attendance and Participation

Your progress in this class is highly dependent on your perfect attendance and participation. Participation means listening, reading the material before class, asking questions and answering them when asked. Participation constitutes a substantial part of your grade.

## Make-up Policy

No make-up examinations will be granted without a university-approved excuse to miss a scheduled exam or quiz. In cases of severe illness or deaths in the family, I require proof (e.g. a signed doctor's note and an explanation on the doctor's letterhead describing why you cannot take the exam; obituaries; e-mails from your academic adviser explaining the specific situation). Make-up exams will be possible only if you contact me *in advance* by e-mail and provide me with the appropriate document. There will be no make-up assignments or tests for unexcused absences. Also, I usually require a research paper as a replacement of a make-up exam.

## Office Hours

Please visit me during the following hours for questions regarding the class:  
Monday 9.40-10.30, Tuesday 9.40-10.30

## Classroom Etiquette

I expect you to observe all rules of proper classroom conduct to provide an appropriate environment conducive to learning by all:

1. Please turn off your cell phones and pagers. No calls, incoming or outgoing, or text messaging are allowed.
2. Please refrain from talking, eating or other disruptive activity during class;
3. Please come to class on time and do not leave early; if you must do so, let me know beforehand and please sit near the door so your exit will be less disruptive. Unpunctuality

will result in a lower participation grade.

4. Please do not read newspapers or any other publications in the classroom. Also, please do not play games or surf on the web when you use a laptop computer.

### **Policy on Academic Honesty**

The academic work of all students must comply with all policies that appear in the Bilkent Website: <http://www.provost.bilkent.edu.tr/procedures/AcademicHonesty.htm>

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to the following: cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession of examinations, unauthorized changing of grades. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting or collaboration, consult the course instructor.

### Course Schedule and Readings

#### **Week 1 Introduction to the course**

<b>Week 2 Globalization and Int. System.</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch1</b>	
<b>Week 3 Realism</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch2</b>	
<b>Week 4 Realism + Liberalism</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch2 and Ch3</b>	
<b>Week 5 Liberalism</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch3</b>	<b>Rourke Issue 1</b>
<b>Week 6 Social Theories</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch4</b>	<b>Rourke Issue 2</b>
<b>Week 7 MIDTERM EXAM</b>		
<b>Week 8 International Conflict</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch5</b>	<b>Rourke Issue 8</b>
<b>Week 9 Military Force/Terrorism</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch6</b>	<b>Rourke Issue 14</b>
<b>Week 10 Spring Recess</b>		
<b>Week 11 International Org. and Law</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch7</b>	<b>Rourke Issue 16</b>
<b>Week 12 International Org. and Law</b>	<b>Goldstein Ch7</b>	<b>Rourke Issue 18</b>

**Week 13 Environment and Population**

**Goldstein Ch11**

**Rourke Issue 19**

**Week 14 North-South Gap**

**Goldstein Ch12**

**Rourke Issue 11**

**Week 15 North-South Gap**

**Goldstein Ch12**

**Rourke Issue 7**