Course Overview:

This course examines the forces that shape global stability (and instability). Building on a basic framework outlining how and why actors interact in the international system, this course will explore how states design and agree to international agreements, what those agreements consist of, and how those agreements influence state behavior. The course will also expose students to studies of international law and organizations.

Course Structure and Policies:

1. **Readings**: The following book is required for this course and available from the University Coop Bookstore. All other readings will be made available electronically through Blackboard. Recommended readings are obviously not required but are a start for further reading for those of you interested in particular topics.
   

2. **Communication**: I will normally post course announcements on blackboard, but you are responsible for any and all announcements made during the class period. It is a good idea to check with friends if you miss class. Otherwise, contact me if you have questions or concerns.

3. **Deadlines and Exams**: *Absolutely no late assignments will be accepted or alternate exam arrangements made, with the exception of an illness, a university-approved function, or death in the immediate family that clearly interferes with your ability to finish the assignment on time.* Documentation is required for each of the above and you are required to inform me before the deadline or scheduled exam time. Acceptable documentation for illness must come from health services or a doctor and demonstrate that you are physically unable to attend exam or complete an assignment. Failure to notify me will result in a zero for the assignment or exam.
4. Class conduct:

   a. Technology: Laptop computers and cell phones are prohibited. If you are seen with one you will be asked once to put it away; you will be asked to leave class upon subsequent occurrences. Please silence and put away all electronic devices prior to the start of class. If you are seen with a cell phone or other electronic device during a quiz or exam, you will automatically receive a zero. If you require a device for disability purposes please see me and provide documentation from the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office (http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/ 512-471-6259)

   b. Punctuality: Please be on time to class. It is inconsiderate to your classmates and disruptive to the classroom environment to arrive after class has begun.

Assignments and Grading

Your grade will be composed of the following:

25% participation and “expert discussion leading”
25% 3-5 page essay
25% midterm exam
25% final exam

Grade Scale:

90.000 and above A
80.000 – 89.999 B
70.000 – 79.999 C
60.000 – 69.999 D
59.999 and below F

Participation and expert discussion leading: The course will be part lecture, part participatory discussion. You will be individually responsible for one supplementary reading during the semester. During the week we cover that reading you will be one of the class “experts,” responsible for stimulating some discussion about the article. As part of this assignment, you will prepare a 1-2 page response paper about the article that summarizes the core argument and provides a brief reaction to the piece and circulate three questions about the topic on blackboard by 10 pm the night prior to the class. The assignment week will be decided randomly and distributed during the first week of class.

3-5 page essay: You will compete one 3-5 page analytical thought essay this semester. It is due in class, Thursday April 14. Please bring a stapled, hard copy to class. Please use 12-point font, default margins, double spacing, and no title page (simply name and date in upper left-hand corner and a brief title). The paper topic will be handed out at least
two weeks prior to the due date. These essays will be self-contained, requiring no research outside of what we’ve covered in class. It will require you to answer a question or series of questions in a concise, systematic and well-organized way. You should state a clear answer to the question(s) and synthesize various arguments for and against your answer, drawing explicitly on readings and class lectures. You will be evaluated on clarity, substance, overall organization, grammar and style.

The writing center may be a useful resource as you craft your paper. My recommendation is to compose a draft early and take it to the writing center located in Flawn Academic Center 211 (phone: 512-471-6222). I will not read and comment on drafts but I will answer questions regarding assignments.

A note on citation style and plagiarism: You should directly cite when you state arguments that are not your own or provide evidence that is not common knowledge. When in doubt, cite or ask me. Citations can also be used to direct your reader to the scholarly articles(s) you’re referring to when you make a claim or argument. Direct quotations should also include a page number. Please use in-text citations of the form (author year, page number), although page numbers are not necessary unless you use a direct quote or very close paraphrase. Please provide a list of sources (following the style of the syllabus reading list), at the end of your paper.

Paper grade guidelines:

A  An A paper will have a clear and concise organization in which the introductory paragraph(s) signals what the paper will cover and in what order. The prose will be concise; eliminate unnecessary language. The organization of the paper should flow logically and clearly answer the questions posed. In addition, an A paper will draw accurate connections across the concepts involved and provide an excellent synthesis and analysis. An A paper will contain no or very few spelling or grammatical mistakes.

B  A B paper will have a clear and concise organization in which the introductory paragraph(s) signals what the paper will cover and in what order. The prose should be concise and most of the relevant concepts will be covered in an accurate manner. The analysis should flow logically from the discussion of the concepts involved and there should be some synthesis or original analysis. The paper should have few spelling or grammatical mistakes.

C  A C paper will provide an introductory paragraph that signals what the paper will cover and in what order. The body should cover most of the relevant concepts but will not necessarily do so accurately. The paper may have moderate grammatical and spelling mistakes. Minimal synthesis or original analysis involved.

D  A D paper provides no clear organization and only covers some of the relevant concepts. Substantial grammatical or spelling mistakes. The text does not demonstrate a clear understanding of the concepts involved.
An F paper demonstrates no understanding of the concepts and does not follow a clear organization. Many grammatical and spelling mistakes. No clear synthesis or answer to the question.

**Exams:** There will be two in class exams designed to assess your knowledge of material covered in class. The midterm **February 24** will cover material presented in the first half of the class, and the final **May 5** will cover primarily material presented in the second half of the class, although it may be useful to draw on materials from the first half for some questions. These exams will be closed note, closed book, and you are not required to cite materials, although you may find it useful.


**Academic Misconduct:** All violations of university academic conduct guidelines, including plagiarism, will be referred to the dean of students office and will result in a zero on the assignment or exam in question. Plagiarism is the use of others’ ideas or work without credit and/or presenting derivative work as one’s own. This includes, but is not limited to, cutting and pasting from someone else’s work or an internet source, failing to identify exact quotes, failing to cite a source for information that is only available from that source, failing to cite a source for an idea or argument you borrowed from that source, and turning in work that is not your own.

**University Honor Code:** The core values of the University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness and respect towards peers and community.

**Students with disabilities** may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, [http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp/](http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp/)

**Notice regarding accommodations for religious holidays:** By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Emergency Evacuation Policy:** In the event of a fire or other emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate a building rapidly. Upon the activation of a fire alarm or the announcement of an emergency in a university building, all occupants of the building are required to evacuate and assemble outside. Once evacuated, no one may re-enter the building without instruction to do so from the Austin Fire Department, University of
Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.

Students should familiarize themselves with all the exit doors of each room and building they occupy at the university, and should remember that the nearest exit routes may not be the same as the way they typically enter buildings.

Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructors in writing during the first week of class. Faculty members must then provide this information to the Fire Prevention Services office by fax (512-232-2759), with "Attn. Mr. Roosevelt Easley" written in the subject line.

Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at http://www.utexas.edu/emergency.
Course Calendar

1. **Introduction** January 18 and 20
   Preface and Chapter 1 in FLS.

2. **A Framework for Understanding World Politics and Global Governance** January 25
   Chapter 2 in FLS
   **No class session on January 27**

3. **Bargaining and War** February 1 and 3
   Chapter 3 in FLS
   **Optional:**
   Chapter 4 in FLS

4. **Multilateral Institutions and International Security** February 8 and 10
   Chapter 5 in FLS
   **Optional:**

5. **Institutional Solutions to Collective Action Problems and Patterns of Compliance**
   February 15 and 17

Optional:

6. **Review and Midterm** February 22 and 24

7. **International Trade and the GATT/WTO** March 1 and 3

Chapter 6 in FLS


8. **International Finance and IFIs** March 8 and 10

Chapters 7 in FLS


“A Good war, the IMF assessed.” *The Economist* 9 September 2009.

Recommended:

**Spring break March 14-18**

9. **International Monetary Relations and IFIs** March 22 and 24

Chapter 8 in FLS

“Over to you, China; China, America, and the Yuan.” *The Economist* 10 April 2010.

**List of paper topics handed out in class on March 24**

**10. Economic Development and the Multinational Community** March 29 and 31

Chapter 9 in FLS


*Recommended:*


**11. Human Rights and International Institutions** April 5 and 7

Chapter 11 in FLS


**12. The International Criminal Court** April 12 and 14


“Why Africa still needs it; the International Criminal Court.” The Economist 4 June 2010.

Recommended:

***Paper due in class April 14

13. The Environment and Collective Action April 19 and 21

Chapter 12 in FLS


Recommended:

14. The Future of Global Governance April 26 and 28

Chapter 13 in FLS

15. Review and Final Exam May 3 and 5