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. **Class format:** This course is designed primarily as a lecture, but will involve some discussion. This requires active participation. It is incumbent upon students to have completed the readings for the week before class in order to facilitate a successful class experience (this also requires that you attend class in order to be successful).

3. **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 (preferably during office hours) if you have questions or concerns.

4. **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.

5. 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 with 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 to arrive after lecture has begun.
   c. Respect your classmates, your professor, and yourself

Assignments and Grading

Your grade will be composed of the following:

15% daily attendance and participation
30% 3-5 page essay
27.5% midterm exam
27.5% 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

Attendance and Participation: Due to the size of the course it will often be organized in a lecture format, although participation and questions are always welcome. We will do spot checks on attendance throughout the semester.

3-5 page essay: You will compete one 3-5 page analytical thought essay this semester. It is due November 11 in class. 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.

Grading 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 will cover material presented in the first half of the class, and the final 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.

**Add/drop and incompletes:** Refer to the university catalog at http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi06-07/ch4/ch4f.html#Adding.and.Dropping.Courses and http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi06-07/ch4/ch4d.html#Grades

**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/ssd/
Course Calendar

Week 1 *Introduction* August 26
Preface and Chapter 1 in FLS.

Week 2 *A Framework for Understanding World Politics and Global Governance* August 31 and September 2
Chapter 2 in FLS

Week 3 *Bargaining and War* September 7 and 9
Chapter 3 in FLS

Optional:
Chapter 4 in FLS

Topic 4 *Multilateral Institutions and International Security* September 14 and 16
Chapter 5 in FLS

Optional:

Topic 5 *Institutional Solutions to Collective Action Problems and Patterns of Compliance* September 21 and 23


*Optional*:

**Week 6 September 28 and 30**

Review and Midterm (9/30)

**Week 7 International Trade and the GATT/WTO October 5 and 7**

Chapter 6 in FLS


**Week 8 International Finance and IFIs October 12 and 14**

Chapters 7 in FLS


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

*Recommended*:

**List of paper topics handed out in class 10/14**

**Week 9 International Monetary Relations and IFIs October 19 and 21**

Chapter 8 in FLS

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


**Week 10 Economic Development and the Multinational Community October 26 and 28**

Chapter 9 in FLS


*Recommended:*

**Week 11 Human Rights and International Institutions November 2 and 4**

Chapter 11 in FLS


**Week 12 Multilateral Criminal Courts November 9 and 11**


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

*Recommended:*

**Paper Due in class November 11**

**Week 13 The Environment and Collective Action November 16 and 18**

Chapter 12 in FLS


*Recommended:*

**Week 14 The Future of Global Governance November 23 and 25**

Chapter 13 in FLS

**Week 15 November 30 and December 2**

Review and **Final Exam (12/2)**