

Eckerd College
International Relations and Global Affairs
Spring 2020
PO 103G-001

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Introduction to International Relations

MWF, 8:20am – 9:20am, FT 211

Course Description

This is an introductory course in International Relations. Its purpose is to familiarize you with the major issues within the field and the theoretical approaches that have been developed to understand these issues. You will be introduced to the following subjects: the historical development of the international system, international relations theory, war and the use of force, international political economy, human rights and ecological balance.

Required Texts

William Felice, *How Do I Save My Honor?: War, Moral Integrity, and Principled Resignation* (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2009).

Glenn Hastedt and William Felice, *Introduction to International Politics: Global Challenges and Policy Responses* (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2019).

Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* (N.Y.: Knopf, 2009).

Course Requirements

Students are required to attend all classes and to read the scheduled readings before each session. **NOTE: One grade is automatically deducted from any student who has 2 or more unexcused absences.**

There will be a three mid-term exams and a final exam. Grades will be weighted as follows: three mid-term exams (20% each), final exam (30%), and class participation (10%).

There will be no make-up exams except in extreme emergencies.

In addition to these requirements, each student should regularly follow the progress of current international issues (e.g. terrorism, the United Nations, Iraq, Iran, the Middle East, North Korea, etc.) by reading a national newspaper (such as *The New York Times* or the *Washington Post*) every day.

Office Hours:

Mon: 1:00—5:00PM

Wed: 3:00—5:00PM

Please stop by my office to discuss any questions or concerns about the class (or to chat).

Honor Code

All students are expected to uphold the Eckerd College honor code:

“On my honor, as an Eckerd College student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to tolerate these behaviors in others.”

You are required to write “pledged” on every assignment to indicate your work is consistent with the Honor Code.

Classroom Technology Policy

All digital and electronic devices, including laptops, ipads, e-readers, and cell phones, should not be visible and should not be turned on during class. The classroom is a place where we gather to exchange ideas in person, and to give and receive respect for those ideas. For that reason cell phones and all electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class. They should not be visible to you or others.

Accessible Education Services

If you have a disability or believe that you qualify for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or other laws, please contact Accessible Education Services at extension 8248 or via email at aes@eckerd.edu as soon as possible. Appropriate accommodations can only be arranged through that office, and may not be made retroactively.

Eckerd College complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting Accessible Education Services (located in Edmundson Hall) at extension 8248 or via email at aes@eckerd.edu.

Students with physical, cognitive, or psychological disabilities must contact Accessible Education Services, located in Edmundson Hall, at extension 8248 or via email at aes@eckerd.edu to discuss potential accommodations of other helpful services. All information will be kept confidential.

Title IX Reporting Policy

Eckerd College is committed to fostering a campus community based on respect and

nonviolence. To this end, we recognize that all Eckerd community members are responsible for ensuring that our community is free from discrimination, gender bias, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. In accordance with Title IX, Eckerd is legally obligated to investigate incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault that occur on our campus. Faculty who become aware of an incident of sexual violence, including harassment, rape, sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, are required by law to notify Eckerd's Title IX Coordinator. The purpose of this disclosure is to ensure that students are made aware of their reporting options and resources for support. For more information about your rights and reporting options at Eckerd, including confidential and anonymous reporting options, please visit <http://www.eckerd.edu/titleix/>.

Unauthorized Use of Course Materials

All course materials (including lectures, PowerPoint, and materials posted on Moodle or other course management sites or shared by email) may only be used for the purposes of an individual's or group's study while enrolled in this course, and may not be shared with a wider audience on or off campus nor posted on an external website without my explicit permission.

Jan 29: Course Overview

I. (A) The Historical Development of the International System & (B) Women and Global Politics

Jan 31: (A) Continuity and Change in World Politics
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Intro., Ch 1

Feb 3: (B) Women and Global Politics
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Ch 2

Feb 5: (A) What is an International System?
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Ch 3

Feb 7: (B) Gender in International Relations
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Ch 4 & 5

Feb 10: (A) The Classic Balance of Power System
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Ch 6 & 7

Feb 12: (B) Gender in International Relations
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Chs 8 & 9

Feb 14: (A) WWI and the Collapse of the Balance of Power System
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Chs 10 & 11

Feb 17: (A) The Problems and Promise of Collective Security
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Ch 12

Feb 19: (B) Ending “Gendercide”
Reading: Kristof/WuDunn, Chs 13 & 14

Feb 21: **Test One – Women & Global Politics**

II. Theories of World Politics & Levels of Analysis

Feb 24: Thinking Critically about IR
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 1

- Feb 26: The Theory Challenge
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 2
- Feb 28: The Sovereignty Challenge
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 3
- March 2: The Values Challenge
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 4
- March 4: Levels of Analysis
- March 6: Review
- March 9: **Test Two—Theory in International Relations**

III. Power and The Use Of Force

- March 11: The Power Challenge
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 5
- March 13: Film: *Countdown to Zero*
- March 14-22: SPRING BREAK**
- March 23: The Cooperation Challenge
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 6
- March 25: The Security Challenge
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 7
- March 27: Proliferation of WMD
- March 30: Review
- April 1: **Test Three—Security and Force**
- April 3: The Concept of Security
Reading: Felice, Ch 1
- April 6: US Military Intervention
Reading: Felice, Ch 2

- April 8: The American/Vietnam War
Reading: Felice, Ch 3
- April 10: Good Friday—No Class
- April 13: The American/Vietnam War (cont.)
Reading: Felice, Ch 4
- April 15: The Iraq War
Reading: Felice, Chs 5 & 6
- April 17: Iraq and Vietnam
Reading: Felice, Ch 8
- April 20: Lessons?

IV. Economic, Human Rights, and Environmental Challenges

- April 22: International Political Economy
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 8, pp 231-251
- April 24: Economic Challenges
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 8, pp 251-263
- April 27: Human Rights Challenges (1)
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 9, pp 265-286
- April 29: Human Rights Challenges (2)
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 9, pp 286-295
- May 1: Environmental Challenges (1)
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 10, pp 297-319
- May 4: Environmental Challenges (2)
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 10, pp 319-325
- May 6: Final Lecture – 7pm – Miller Auditorium**
- May 8: Review
Reading: Hastedt & Felice, Ch 11
- May 14 Final Exam—8:00 – 11:00am**

Hurricane Instructions

If for any reason, Eckerd College is evacuated, students who leave campus for stays overnight or longer should bring their texts, notes and syllabus so that they are ready to continue their course work. In such an event, check your Eckerd e-mail from your off-campus location and continue with the course work according to the syllabus and as delivered via Moodle on your “myeckerd.edu” webpage.

Specific hurricane instructions for our class:

- 1) **Emergency Contact Information:** On the first day of class, each student must submit to me the following emergency contact information: address, phone number, cell phone, alternate email address. In addition, all students should fill out the emergency contact information form posted on the Eckerd College Intranet (<http://myeckerd.edu>).
- 2) **Books:** For all evacuations (no matter how short or long in duration), you must take your textbooks and continue your course work outlined in the syllabus.
- 3) **Moodle Questions:** I will post Moodle questions on all the reading assignments. Working with the texts, you should get as far as you can in answering the questions and posting your responses. I will be reading and responding to your postings. During all evacuations, the Eckerd College website will continue to provide access to email, Moodle, and your “myeckerd” webpage. I expect you to keep up with the reading and post careful responses to the Moodle questions.

During evacuations, please read the chapters carefully and thoughtfully, taking notes and underlining key concepts. I will provide comments on your work and grades as the term goes along. Moodle allows us to engage in a “virtual classroom” discussion of the key issues we will be studying this semester.
- 4) **Communication with me:** The primary method to communicate with me during a hurricane evacuation is via email at felicewf@eckerd.edu.
- 5) **Significant break in the semester (2-4 months):** If we have a significant break in the semester, I will convert this course to a form of an independent study. I will contact you via your emergency contact information. You will be asked to follow the course syllabus and the individual homework/Moodle discussion question assignments. But, in addition, I will be assigning you either a final analytic/research paper or an open book final exam essay. Depending on the circumstances, you will either return your work to me via email or the postal service.