

San José State University
Department of Political Science
POLS 4 Introduction to International Relations
Fall 2009

Instructor:	Dr. Karthika Sasikumar
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Office Hours:	MW 10.30-11.30 am and 3 pm-4 pm
Class Days/Time:	MW 1.30 pm to 2.45 pm
Classroom:	Clark Hall 310

Course description and objectives

Introductory survey of major topics in international relations, including global, national and individual causes of war and peace, international cooperation, north-south relations and political economy. The main goal of this course is to give students the analytical tools to understand the unfolding events of world politics. The course is structured around the idea of anarchy and its ramifications for the behavior of states, including efforts by states to escape the violence and inefficiency of anarchy.

General Education Guidelines: Political Science 04 is designed to increase the student's understanding of human behavior and social interaction in the context of value systems, economic structures, political institutions, social groups, and natural environments. Students shall be able to identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.

General Education Learning Objectives: After taking this course,

- 1) by studying concepts such as power, influence, and justice, students shall be able to identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context of human life, the processes of social change, and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.
- 2) by studying the evolution of world politics, students will be able to place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.

- 3) students will be able to identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them
- 4) after being exposed to different approaches to the discipline of International Relations, students will be able to evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.
- 5) by studying concepts such as the nation-state and the international system, students will be able to apply multidisciplinary material to a topic relevant to policy and social action at the local, national and/or international level.

Diversity: By studying concepts such as constructivism, feminism, and migration, students will be able to examine issues of diversity.

Writing: Students must write a minimum of 1,500 words in a language and style appropriate for the discipline. The writing assignment calls for students to integrate their learning from different weeks of the course and apply theoretical perspectives to new subject matter.

Course organization

The class will rely heavily on Blackboard, the course management software. Students should be aware that announcements, assignments and general information (including possible modifications to the syllabus) may be posted on Blackboard on a daily basis. Announcements may also be made in class.

There is no textbook for the course. Readings assigned for class meetings and uploaded on Blackboard. For many of the readings, I have assigned extracts to reduce the total number of pages you are required to read; however, you are encouraged to read the entire article. Needless to say, you are welcome to seek out (and encouraged to share) any other texts or media sources that are relevant to the topics for the course. If you have problems accessing the files, please contact me immediately. Students will have the chance to set the agenda for two of the classes. These topics will be decided by voting, and readings will be made available online at least a week before the class.

I will use Powerpoint for most classes, and the PDF files of the presentations will be available online after class. However, I strongly urge you to take notes during class as the presentations will only have the outlines for lecture and discussion. Note that the lectures and the readings, while complementary, will not cover exactly the same ground.

I will be available to meet with students in my office for four hours every week. If the times listed above are not convenient, I am happy to arrange another time.

A note on civility

Learning happens best in a civil environment. Please be aware that in a small class such as this one, your attention and participation are crucial to maintaining classroom civility. You are expected to be on time for class, and not to leave (or pack your belongings) until the instructor dismisses class. Cellphones should be answered only when absolutely necessary and should in any case be on 'vibrate' mode. If you bring a laptop to class, it should be used ONLY for taking notes. Students

found surfing, messaging etc. will be given one warning and then asked to leave the class. If you bring a snack to class, please try to minimize distraction.

Email communication is encouraged. You are expected to write in a courteous and respectful manner as you would in professional correspondence. Do not expect an immediate response via email. If your email question is sent at the last minute it may not be possible to send you a response before an assignment is due or a test is given. Do not post personal information about yourself or others about third parties to Blackboard. Note that the lecture materials, quizzes etc. are generated for this specific course—please consult with me before circulating or citing elsewhere.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, academic renewal, etc. Refer to the current semester's [catalog policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html> for any add/drop deadlines, policies, and procedures section and specific registration information. [Late drop policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Evaluation

1. Pop Quizzes

There will be five unannounced in-class quizzes designed to test your knowledge of the readings. Quiz questions will be multiple-choice or short answer. **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UPS ON QUIZZES.** Your four highest scores on the five quizzes will be counted. Each pop quiz is worth five points. It will be based only on the assigned readings for that class and will be taken in the first ten minutes of class.

2. Exam

There will be a prelim on October 12. The prelim includes map-marking. A map with twenty major places already marked will be made available in the second week of class. There will also be twenty short-answer questions.

3. Final exam

The final exam is on December 14. It consists of four essays which are to be written in 2 hours. All sections of the course will be equally weighted in the final. In class on December 7 I will distribute a set of six essay questions, of which four will appear on the exam..

4. Participation

Participation – speaking up during class discussion and active listening – will count for 10% of your total grade. Please note that I will be calling on students by name to ensure that everybody has a chance to contribute to our discussion.

Assignment	Points
Pop Quizzes (highest 4 @ 5 points each)	20
Prelim	30
Final exam	40
Participation	10

Final letter grades for the course will be assigned based on the following scale

A plus	95-100
A only	90-94
A minus	85-89
B plus	80-84
B only	75-79
B minus	70-74
C plus	65-69
C only	60-64
C minus	55-59
D	50-54
F	49 or less

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University's [Academic Integrity Policy](http://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/faculty_and_staff/academic_integrity/index.html) is available at http://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/faculty_and_staff/academic_integrity/index.html. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html. Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

Course Schedule

- ❖ August 24: Introduction and discussion of syllabus

- ❖ August 26: Class canceled—instructor's furlough day

- ❖ August 31: Roots of anarchy (1)

Fromm, Erich. 1973. *The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. Read pages 237-43

Waltz, Kenneth. 2003. "The Anarchic Structure of World Politics." In *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, ed. R. Art and R. Jervis. New York: Longman. Read pages 47-56.

- ❖ September 2: Roots of anarchy (2)

Hobbes, Thomas. 1651/2009. *Leviathan, Chapter 13*. Modern History Sourcebook 1651/ [cited June 10 2009]. Available from <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/hobbes-lev13.html>

Morgenthau, Hans J. 2003. "The Moral Blindness of Scientific Man." In *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, ed. R. Art and R. Jervis. New York: Longman.

Zimbardo, Philip G. 2007. "Revisiting the Experiment." *Chronicle of Higher Education*. http://www.lucifereffect.org/about_reviews_chronicle.htm

- ❖ September 7: Class canceled—Labor Day

- ❖ September 9: Cooperation under anarchy (1)

Dawkins, Richard. 2006. *The selfish gene*. 30th anniversary ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Read pages 202-19.

Crowley, Meredith A. 2003. "An Introduction to the WTO and GATT." *Economic Perspectives: A Review from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago* 4Q:42-57. Read pages 42-48.

- ❖ September 14: Cooperation under anarchy (2)

Oye, Kenneth A. 1986. "Explaining Cooperation Under Anarchy: Hypotheses Under Strategies." In *Cooperation Under Anarchy*, ed. K. A. Oye. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Read pages 1-21.

Locke, John. "Of the beginning of political societies." Chapter VIII, *Second Treatise of Government*.

- ❖ September 16: Cooperation under anarchy (3)

Jervis, Robert. 1978. "Cooperation under the Security Dilemma." *World Politics* 30 (2):167-214. Read pages 167-87.

❖ September 16—Class canceled on account of furlough.

❖ September 21: Domestic politics

Gordon, Michael. 1974. "Domestic Conflict and the Origins of the First World War." *Journal of Modern History* 46:191-226.
Read 198-226.

❖ September 23: Organizations and policy

Krasner, Stephen. 1972. "Do Bureaucracies Matter? Or Allison Wonderland." *Foreign Policy* (7).

❖ September 28: Economics and security

Lenin, V.I. 2009. *Imperialism, the highest stage of capitalism*. Modern History Sourcebook, Fordham University 1916. Extracts. Available from
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1916lenin-imperialism.html>

Collier, Paul. 2006. *Natural Resources and Conflict in Africa*. Crimes of War, October 2004. Available from http://www.crimesofwar.org/africa-mag/afr_04_collier.html

❖ September 30: Economics and welfare

Frieden, Jeffrey A. 2006. *Global capitalism : its fall and rise in the twentieth century*. 1st ed. New York: Norton. Read Chapter 20.

Rodrik, Dani. 2006. "Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? ." *Journal of Economic Literature* XLIV:973-87.

❖ October 5: Constructivism (1)

Wendt, Alexander. 2003. "Anarchy is What States Make of It." In *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, ed. R. Art and R. Jervis. New York: Longman. Read pages 73-79.

Hoffmann, Michael J. 2006. "Social (De)construction: The Failure of a Multinational State." In *Making Sense of International Relations Theory*, ed. J. Sterling-Folker. Boulder and London: Lynne Rienner. Read pages 123-36.

❖ October 7: Constructivism (2)

Risse, Thomas. 1996. "Collective identity in a democratic community : the case of NATO." In *The Culture of National Security: Norms and Identity in World Politics*, ed. P. J. Katzenstein. New York: Columbia University Press. Read pages 357-78.

Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Read pages 297-306.

October 12: Prelim

October 14: Class canceled on account of instructor's furlough

October 19: Class canceled on account of University furlough

❖ October 21: Democratic Peace Theory

Owen, John M. 1994. "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace." *International Security* 19 (2):87-124. Read pages 87-108.

Chua, Amy. 2003. *World on fire : how exporting free market democracy breeds ethnic hatred and global instability*. 1st ed. New York: Doubleday. Read pages 170-75, 259-73.

❖ October 26: Feminism

Hansen, Lene. 2001. "Gender, Nation, Rape: Bosnia and the Construction of Security." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 3 (1):55-75. Read pages 55-69.

Hochschild, Arlie. 2000. "Global Care Chains and Emotional Surplus Value." In *On the edge: living with global capitalism*, ed. W. Hutton and A. Giddens. London: Jonathan Cape.

❖ October 28: Culture (1)

Huntington, Samuel. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72 (3):22-49.

❖ November 2: Culture (2)

Mueller, John E. 2004. *The remnants of war*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. Read pages 42-52.

Huntington, Samuel. 2004. "The Hispanic Challenge." *Foreign Policy* March/April:31-45.

❖ November 4: Ethnic conflict

Kaufmann, Chaim. 1996. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars." *International Security* 20 (4):136-75. Read pages 136-151.

Fearon, James D. 2007. "Separatist Wars, Partition, and World Order." In *Living Together After Ethnic Killing: Exploring the Chaim Kaufmann Argument*, ed. M. Bloom and R. Licklider. London: Routledge.

❖ November 9: Hierarchy

Lake, David A. 2007. "Escape from the State of Nature: Authority and Hierarchy in World Politics." *International Security* 32 (1). Read 47-61.

❖ November 16: Empire

Ferguson, Niall. 2005. *Colossus : the rise and fall of the American empire*. New York: Penguin Books. Read pages 170-99.

Luttwak, Edward. 1999. "Give War A Chance." *Foreign Affairs* 78 (4):36-44.

❖ November 18: Terrorism (1)

Fukuyama, Francis. 2002. "History and September 11." In *Worlds in Collision: Terror and the Future of Global Order*, ed. K. Booth and T. Dunne. Houndmills: Palgrave.

Waltz, Kenneth. 2002. "The Continuity of International Politics." In *Worlds in Collision: Terror and the Future of Global Order*, ed. K. Booth and T. Dunne. Houndmills: Palgrave.

❖ November 23: Terrorism (2)

King, Nicholas. 2003. "The Influence of Anxiety: September 11, Bioterrorism and the American Public Health." *Journal of the History of Medicine* 58:433-41.

Bruno, Gregory. 2009. *The Evolution of Cyber Warfare*. Council on Foreign Relations, February 27 2008 [cited August 15 2009]. Available from http://www.cfr.org/publication/15577/evolution_of_cyber_warfare.html.

❖ November 25: Student Choice—by vote

❖ November 30: Student Choice—by vote.

❖ December 2: The end of the world as we know it

Fukuyama, Francis. 1989. "The End of History?" *National Interest* Summer.

Kagan, Robert. 2007. "End of Dreams, Return of History." *Policy Review*.

❖ December 7: Final exam questions and discussion

