

EWHA WOMANS UNIVERSITY

DRAFT

to be updated as necessary

Please note that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic,
the entire course will be conducted online.

Introduction to International Politics

Syllabus for Course 36003, Fall 2021

Tuesdays, 2:00-3:15pm

Thursdays, 3:30-4:45pm

Professor Leif-Eric EASLEY

Division of International Studies, Scranton College

Easley@ewha.ac.kr

Course Description

This is an introductory course that looks to provide a foundation for further study of international politics. The objective is to equip students with tools to learn from the historical development of international relations and better understand the current issues at stake in global politics.

The course introduces and applies international relations (IR) theories from realist/power-focused, liberal/interdependence and constructivist/identity perspectives. Key concepts include national interests, nationalism, regionalism, globalization, international institutions, arms races, transnational threats, human security and economic development. Historical coverage includes the World Wars, Cold War and especially the post-Cold War period. In the investigation of contemporary global issues, the course devotes particular attention to the East Asian region.

The course has no prerequisites but requires and will further develop your skills of identifying internationally relevant trends and events, collaborating with classmates to address discussion questions, and testing competing explanations for political outcomes such as institutional cooperation, military tension, economic growth, and cultural/historical reconciliation.

Course Requirements and Grading

Online discussion and group work	20%
Class attendance and participation	20%
Midterm examination	25%
Final examination	35%

The best way to master the subjects in this course (and strengthen your core academic skills) is to *have fun* actively engaging with the material. The professor wants you to be comfortable asking questions and to be bold about sharing your ideas — there are no bad questions or wrong opinions as long as you make an honest effort to learn and treat everyone in the class with mutual respect.

Photography, video and audio recording is not allowed during video conferences in the interest of a safe learning environment.

Online discussion

This course has a strong emphasis on your interacting with the material, by carefully doing the readings before class and taking notes during lecture, and also by discussing key questions with your fellow students online and offering your thoughts and ideas in online posts. You will be assigned to a discussion group at the beginning of the semester. Each group should have five members. For each of 10 discussion questions on the syllabus, your group should hold a **video conference of 20-30 minutes**.

A representative of your team should write up the group response to the discussion question and post it online **before class on the date the question is listed on the syllabus**. The write-up should be approximately three well-structured paragraphs in clear, spell-checked, academic English. Be sure to make reference to the assigned readings in your response (with page #s). You should also share your own ideas and opinions; you can write a consensus view or mention points of debate among group members. You may also ask follow-up questions in your post and/or share a link to an outside source. With 10 DQs and 5 group members, **each student is expected to post twice on behalf of the group**.

Absence policy

Please be aware that Ewha has strict policies about attendance; if you miss too much class, it is impossible to pass a course. In addition to Ewha's requirements, 20% of your grade in this course is based on participation, i.e. completing all online lectures and showing up on time and contributing to class video conferences. Just about everyone gets sick at some point or has a pressing outside commitment, so missing one class will not affect your participation score. However, two absences (and certainly more than two absences) will negatively affect your participation grade.

Please note: if you have any personal health issues which may affect your ability to complete any of the assignments for this course in a timely manner, please bring such matters to the attention of your professor in *advance*. Your professor wants you to succeed, and special arrangements are sometimes possible. But if you raise personal issues at the last minute, those look like excuses, and even if those issues are legitimate, it may be too late for other arrangements to be made. So please feel welcome to communicate any extenuating circumstances early in the semester. According to University Regulation #57, students with disabilities can request special accommodations related to attendance, assignments, and exams by contacting the professor at the beginning of the semester; students can receive support for such accommodations from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD).

Examinations

The midterm and final exam will be conducted online. The professor will discuss sample questions, provide study tips, and hold review sessions before the exams.

Course Schedule and Required Reading

The course is divided into three parts. Part I is an introduction of concepts, theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches often applied in the study of international politics. Part II focuses on historical case studies, not only for the sake of providing background on how international politics have developed to the present stage, but also to see how the approaches from Part I can be used to debate and explain international affairs. Part III uses the theory and history of the previous two sections to address contemporary issues of practice, i.e., policy areas in today's global politics.

Lectures are informed by the required readings below and by your instructor's experience in the field. A useful textbook for background reading is Henry R. Nau, *Perspectives on International Relations*, CQ Press, 2012. You may want to use the copy on reserve in the library for reference or advance study.

You will be responsible for *all required readings* listed below, as well as occasional short articles on current events posted online (via "Professor Easley" on Facebook). The readings linked via Ewha library digital subscriptions require you to log in first at <http://lib.ewha.ac.kr> with your Eureka credentials. Sometimes content providers change web addresses; if a link does not work, try the library webpage "Discovery" tool.

For your reference, a list of recommended readings is provided at the end of the syllabus. "Recommended readings" are not required, but one way to increase your chances of earning an 'A' in this course is to enrich your contributions to discussion

and your responses to exam questions by drawing from the recommended readings.

Thursday, September 2: Course welcome and overview [recorded]

McClelland, Charles A. and Robert Pfaltzgraff. 2019. "International Relations." *Encyclopedia Britannica*; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/international-relations>.

Part I: Concepts, Theory and Methodology in International Politics

Tuesday, September 7 and Thursday, September 9: Realist/power and liberal/interdependence perspectives [recorded]

Snyder, Jack. 2004. "One World, Rival Theories." *Foreign Policy*; <http://www.jstor.org.ssl.access.ewha.ac.kr/stable/4152944>.

Walt, Stephen M. 2020. "The Realist's Guide to the Coronavirus Outbreak." *Foreign Policy*; <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/09/coronavirus-economy-globalization-virus-icu-realism>.

Tuesday, September 14: Identity/constructivist perspectives [recorded]

Discussion question #1: Which theoretical perspective (realism, liberalism or constructivism) do you think best explains inter-Korean relations in the past five years?

Leheny, David. 2014. "Constructivism and International Relations in Asia," in Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, Oxford University Press, pp. 64-80; <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com.access.ewha.ac.kr/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199916245.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199916245-e-004>

Thursday, September 16: Levels of analysis [recorded]

Rourke, John. 2008. "Levels of Analysis and Foreign Policy," in *International Politics on the World Stage*. McGraw-Hill.

Tuesday, September 21: NO CLASS because of Chuseok

Thursday, September 23: Psychological, institutional factors in decision-making [recorded]

Discussion question #2: What do you think is the most important constraint that limits leaders' ability to implement effective policies?

Goldstein, Joshua S. and Jon C. Pevehouse, 2012. "Foreign Policy," in *International Relations*. Longman.

Part II: Historical Background and Case Study Applications

Tuesday, September 28: Using IR theories to understand history [recorded]

Trachtenberg, Marc. 2006. "Diplomatic History and International Relations Theory," in *The Craft of International History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Thursday, September 30 and Tuesday, October 5: Causes and consequences of the World Wars [recorded]

Discussion question #3: Why do we study history? Give an example where a theoretical perspective is useful for explaining a historical trend or event.

Van Evera, Stephen. 1984. "The Cult of the Offensive and the Origins of the First World War." *International Security* 9: 58-107;
<http://muse.jhu.edu.access.ewha.ac.kr/article/446058/pdf>.

Sagan, Scott D. 1988. "The Origins of the Pacific War." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 18: 893-922; <http://www.jstor.org.access.ewha.ac.kr/stable/204828>.

Highlighted history of the World Wars (with photos) at
<https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i/world-war-i-history> and
<https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/world-war-ii-history>.

Thursday, October 7: The Cold War — ideological and regional conflict [recorded]

Gaddis, John L. 1993. "International Relations Theory and the End of the Cold War." *International Security* 17: 5-58;
<http://muse.jhu.edu.access.ewha.ac.kr/article/447032/pdf>.

"Cold War," a documentary series by the History Channel, 2011. Read the chapter overviews at <http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/cold-war-history>.

Tuesday, October 12: Post-Cold War politics [recorded]

Discussion question #4: Which argument do you find most persuasive: Prof. Fukuyama's *End of History*, Prof. Huntington's *Clash of Civilizations*, or Prof. Mearsheimer's *Tragedy of Great Power Politics*?

Betts, Richard K. 2010. "Conflict or Cooperation? Three Visions Revisited." *Foreign Affairs* 89: 186-194; http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edsjsr_edsjsr.20788730.

Thursday, October 14: Great power rivalry and international order [recorded]

Ikenberry, John. 2000. Chapter 1 in *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order After Major Wars*. Princeton: Princeton University Press; <http://press.princeton.edu/chapters/s6981.pdf>.

Thursday, October 14: Review session for midterm exam [live session during class time]

Tuesday, October 19: Midterm exam [online during class time]

Thursday, October 21: NO CLASS because of Ewha midterm schedule

Part III: Policy Areas and Global Challenges

Tuesday, October 26: International terrorism and local conflicts [live session during class time]

Discussion question #5: Are asymmetric attacks (by states or terrorist groups) better understood in a global or local context? Consider how a policy response can have "unintended consequences."

Balcells, Laia and Jessica Stanton. 2021. "Violence Against Civilians During Armed Conflict: Moving Beyond the Macro- and Micro-Level Divide." *Annual Review of Political Science*, 24: 45-69; http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edswss_000652490700003.

Byman, Daniel. 2021. "The Good Enough Doctrine: Learning to Live With Terrorism." *Foreign Affairs*; http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/bth_151995947.

Thursday, October 28: China's transformation and American power [recorded]

Baum, Richard. 2010. "Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics," and "The Road to Tiananmen" in *China Watcher*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Nye, Joseph S. 2020. "Power and Interdependence with China." *Washington Quarterly* 43(1): 7-21;
http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edselc_edselc.2-52.0-85082510097.

Tuesday, November 2: Nuclear deterrence and nonproliferation [recorded]

Discussion question #6: Do you think the role and importance of nuclear weapons in international politics is increasing or decreasing? Inform your answer with a theoretical approach, addressing for example, the global balance of power (realism), the nonproliferation regime (liberalism), or the nuclear taboo (constructivism).

Look over materials at the Nuclear Threat Initiative website;
<http://www.nti.org/treaties-and-regimes/treaty-on-the-non-proliferation-of-nuclear-weapons>.

[Recommended but not required] Easley, Leif-Eric. 2016. "Obama's Nuclear Legacy: Reconciliation and Nonproliferation in Asia after Hiroshima." *Asan Issue Brief* 5:1-30;
<http://en.asaninst.org/contents/obamas-nuclear-legacy-reconciliation-and-nonproliferation-in-asia-after-hiroshima>.

Thursday, November 4: Security on the Korean Peninsula [recorded]

Snyder, Scott and Leif-Eric Easley. 2014. "South Korea's Foreign Relations and Security Policies," in Saadia Pekkanen, John Ravenhill and Rosemary Foot, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of the International Relations of Asia*, Oxford University Press, pp. 446-461;
<http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com.access.ewha.ac.kr/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199916245.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199916245-e-023>.

[Recommended but not required] Rozman, Gilbert, ed. 2018. *A Whirlwind of Change in East Asia: Assessing Shifts in Strategy, Trade, and the Role of North Korea*, Korea Economic Institute;
https://keia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/kei_jointus-korea_2018_180801_final_digital.pdf.

Tuesday, November 9: Territorial disputes in East Asia [recorded]

Discussion question #7: Which is a greater challenge for regional security — Korean unification or territorial disputes? Use theory and history to support your answer.

Fravel, Taylor. 2008. "Introduction" in *Strong Borders, Secure Nation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press; <http://press.princeton.edu/chapters/i8782.pdf>.

"Timeline of China's Maritime Disputes." 2020. Council on Foreign Relations; <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/chinas-maritime-disputes>.

Thursday, November 11: International trade, investment and finance [recorded]

Meltzer, Joshua. 2011. "The Future of Trade." *Foreign Policy*; <http://foreignpolicy.com/2011/04/18/the-future-of-trade>.

Fallows, James. 2008. "The \$1.4 Trillion Question." *Atlantic Monthly*; http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2008/01/the-14-trillion-question/6582/?single_page=true.

"The trade war escalates, and the fog of war descends." *Economist*, August 18, 2019; <https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2019/08/08/the-trade-war-escalates-and-the-fog-of-war-descends>.

Tuesday, November 16: Economic development, challenges of globalization [recorded]

Discussion question #8: What do you think are the main causes of financial volatility and economic inequality?

"Asian Demography." *Economist*, August 20, 2011; <http://www.economist.com/node/21526329>.

United Nations Millennium Declaration. 2000. UN A/Res/55/2; https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_55_2.pdf. Explore the following websites: UNDP: www.undp.org; Asian Development Bank: www.adb.org; World Bank: www.worldbank.org; NK: Witness to Transformation: <http://www.piie.com/blogs/nk>.

Thursday, November 18: International organizations [recorded]

Barnett, Michael N. and Martha Finnemore. 1999. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations." *International Organization* 53: 699-732; http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edsjsr_edsjsr.2601307.

Tuesday, November 23: Regional institutions [recorded]

Discussion question #9 : How do international organizations, regional institutions and national governments interact?

Laursen, Finn. 2004. "Regional Integration," in *Comparative Regional Integration*. London: Ashgate.

Thursday, November 25: Maritime, air, space and cyber security [recorded]

Freeman, Carla P. 2016. "The Fragile Global Commons in a World in Transition." *The SAIS Review of International Affairs* 36: 17-28;
http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edspmu_edspmu.S194547241610002X.

Easley, Leif-Eric. 2014. "Spying on Allies." *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy* 56: 141-156; http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edselc_edselc.2-52.0-84904915542.

Tuesday, November 30: Human security and the environment [recorded]

United Nations Development Program. 1994. "Human Development Report." Chapter 2, pp. 22-40;
http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/255/hdr_1994_en_complete_nostats.pdf.

Thursday, December 2: Public health and pandemic-era foreign policy [live session during class time]

Discussion question #10: In what ways does the younger generation see challenges and opportunities in international politics differently?

Drezner, Daniel W. 2020. "The Song Remains the Same: International Relations After COVID-19." *International Organization* 1-18;
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-organization/article/song-remains-the-same-international-relations-after-covid19/C0FAED193AEBF0B09C5ECA551D174525>

Cha, Victor. 2020. "Asia's COVID-19 Lessons for the West: Public Goods, Privacy, and Social Tagging." *The Washington Quarterly* 43: 1-18;
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0163660X.2020.1770959>

Gates, Melinda. 2020. "The Pandemic's Toll on Women." *Foreign Affairs*;
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/world/2020-07-15/melinda-gates-pandemics-toll-women>

Tuesday, December 7: Review session for final exam [live session during class time]

Tuesday, December 7 and Thursday, December 9: Civil society, NGOs, 'soft power' and domestic politics [recorded]

Haas, Peter M. 1992. "Epistemic Communities and International Policy Coordination." *International Organization* 46: 1-35;
http://lib.ewha.ac.kr/eds/detail/edo_9203301205.

Silver, Laura. 2021. "China's International Image Remains Broadly Negative as Views of the U.S. Rebound." Pew Research Center;
<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/06/30/chinas-international-image-remains-broadly-negative-as-views-of-the-u-s-rebound>.

Fearon, James D. 1998. "Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy, and Theories of International Relations." *Annual Review of Political Science* 1: 289-313;
<http://www.annualreviews.org.access.ewha.ac.kr/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.polisci.1.1.289>.

Tuesday, December 14: Final exam [online during class time]

Recommended Reading

Acharya, Amitav. 2009. *Whose Ideas Matter? Agency and Power in Asian Regionalism*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Adler, Emanuel. 2019. *World Ordering: A Social Theory of Cognitive Evolution*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Art, Robert J. and Robert Jervis. 2017. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, 13th ed. Boston: Pearson.

Axelrod, Robert. 1981. *The Evolution of Cooperation*. New York: Basic Books.

Baldwin, David A. 1993. *Neorealism and Neoliberalism: The Contemporary Debate*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Clark, Ian. 1999. *Globalization and International Relations Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Diamond, Jared. 2019. *Upheaval: Turning Points for Nations in Crisis*. New York: Little, Brown and Company,

Donnelly, Jack, 2000. *Realism and International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Doyle, Michael W. 1993. "Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs," *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 12: 205-35.

Eun, Yong-Soo. 2018. *What Is at Stake in Building "Non-western" International Relations Theory?*. New York: Routledge.

Fearon, James. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49: 379-414.

Ford, Martin. 2018. *Architects of Intelligence: The Truth about AI from the People Building it*. Birmingham: Packt Publishing.

Gaddis, John Lewis. 2005. *The Cold War: A New History*. London: Penguin.

Goh, Evelyn. 2016. *Rising China's Influence in Developing Asia*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Haass, Richard. 2020. *The World: A Brief Introduction*. Penguin Press.

Huntington, Samuel P. 1993. "Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72: 22-49.

Ikenberry, G. John and Michael Mastanduno, eds. 2003. *International Relations Theory and the Asia-Pacific*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Jervis, Robert. 1976. *Perception and Misperception in International Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Johnston, Alastair Iain and Robert S. Ross, eds. 2006. *New Directions in the Study of China's Foreign Policy*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Johnston, Alastair Iain. 2008. *Social States: China in International Institutions*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Kang, David C. 2003. "Getting Asia Wrong: The Need for New Analytical Frameworks," *International Security* 27: 57-85.

Katzenstein, Peter J. 2005. *A World of Regions*. Cornell: Cornell University Press.

- Keohane, Robert. 1984. *After Hegemony: Cooperation and Discord in the World Political Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Lévy, Bernard-Henri. 2019. *The Empire and the Five Kings: America's Abdication and the Fate of the World*. New York: Henry Holt & Co.
- Martin, Lisa L. 2000. *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Milanovic, Branko. 2016. *Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics," *International Organization*, 51: 513-553.
- Novotná, Tereza. 2015. *How Germany Unified and the EU Enlarged*. London: Palgrave Macmillan UK.
- Nye, Joseph S. and David A. Welch. 2010. *Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History*. London: Longman.
- Public Broadcasting System. 2011. "Women War and Peace," watch the documentary preview at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace>.
- Putnam, Robert. 1988. "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games," *International Organization* 42: 427-460.
- Rozman, Gilbert, 2004. *Northeast Asia's Stunted Regionalism: Bilateral Distrust in the Shadow of Globalization*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- Sachs, Jeffrey. 2007. "The Future of Globalization," lecture at Columbia University; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8beOXxJeaec>.
- Schultz, Kenneth A. 2001. *Democracy and Coercive Diplomacy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Shirk, Susan. 2007. *Fragile Superpower*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Simmons, Beth A. 1994. *Who Adjusts? Domestic Sources of Foreign Economic Policy During the Interwar Years*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Sluga, Glenda. 2016. *Women, Diplomacy and International Politics since 1500*. New York: Routledge.

Suh, J.J., Peter Katzenstein and Allen Carlson, eds. 2004. *Rethinking Security in East Asia*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Traister, Rebecca. 2018. *Good and Mad: The Revolutionary Power of Women's Anger*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Wendt, Alexander. 1999. *Social Theory of International Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Yahuda, Michael B. 1996. *The International Politics of the Asia-Pacific*. London: Routledge.

Other Recommended Resources

Read in the library (or online subscription): *Economist*, *Foreign Affairs*.

Podcasts: Economist, CNN Fareed Zakaria GPS, KBS World, NHK World, BBC World, think tanks like CSIS, Brookings, Carnegie, Council on Foreign Relations.

Follow on Facebook: the Diplomat, Economist, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Project Syndicate, ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yonhap News.

iTunes U feeds: Harvard, Stanford, Columbia, UCLA, Johns Hopkins.

Use customized web portal or app like Google News to keep up with articles of interest from the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and other top newspapers.

Asan Forum, <http://www.theasanforum.org>.

Comparative Connections, Pacific Forum journal of bilateral relations in Asia, <http://cc.pacforum.org>.

Congressional Research Service (CRS) Reports, <https://crsreports.congress.gov>.

Digital Collection of Classics in International Relations and Security, <http://www.css.ethz.ch/content/specialinterest/gess/cis/center-for-securities-studies/en/services/digital-library/series.html/123041>.

The Diplomat, <http://thediplomat.com>.

Global Asia, <https://www.globalasia.org>.

Google Public Data Explorer, <http://www.google.com/publicdata>.

New York Times archived articles, <http://timesmachine.nytimes.com>.

Washington Post Monkey Cage, <https://monkeycagetopicguides.org>.

World Politics Review, <http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com>.