

Midterm 1 Review

POSC 1020 – Introduction to International Relations

Steven V. Miller

Department of Political Science



Goal for Today

Help you prepare for your upcoming midterm.

When is the First Midterm?

You will take the midterm this Thursday during class.

- The exam will be closed-book, closed-notes.
- You will have the full 75 minutes.

Don't be late.

- I will leave the room if and when the last student has finished the exam early.
- If you are *that* late to class, you're S.O.L.

There will be *no* make-ups.

- Academics are forever intolerant of weak excuses.

What Will Midterm 1 Look Like?

You will have 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions.

- Essentially: ten questions per chapter.
- *Bring no. 2 pencils!*
 - Bring multiple if you fear you'll break one.

Follow instructions and make sure you're reading carefully.

The Material on the Midterm 1

Know the following from Appendix B and associated readings.

- What is a theory?
- What are independent/dependent variables?
- What's wrong with Morgenthau's theory of power?
- How do we evaluate assumptions?
- First principle of wing-walking
- How to do inference (i.e. don't select on the dependent variable, and others).
- Necessity and sufficiency
- Falsifiability
- Parsimony
- How to interpret a regression table

Material from the Introduction Chapter

- Neorealism' argument about state behavior
- Motivations of leaders in the author's strategic approach
- Leader behavior in a strategic perspective
- The four puzzles of international politics
- Power in a strategic perspective

Material from Chapter 1

- What best explains leader tenure in office?
- Winning coalition and selectorate
- Public goods and private goods
- What a loyalty norm communicates

Material from Chapter 2

- The assumptions and predictions of median voter theorem
- Ideal points and single-peaked preferences
- Circular indifference curves and win sets
- The bargaining space (from our Iran-U.S. example in the chapter)

Material from Chapter 3

- Nash equilibrium
- Subgame perfection
- Dominant strategy

Note: I'm going to give you a simple normal form game and reproduce the Iran-U.S. strategic interaction game from the book.

- Know how to solve these games.

Conclusion

The midterm is on Thursday.

- There are **no** make-ups.
- Don't forget, and don't be late.

Bring no. 2 pencils!

- Bring multiple if you fear you'll break one.

See you then.

Table of Contents

Introduction

Important Things to Know About Midterm 1

The Material on Midterm 1

Conclusion