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**POL 491-03**  
**Power, Bargaining, & Conflict**  
**Dr. Kyle Haynes**

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Office: BRNG 2234  
Office Hours: M 2-3:20, W 10-12, 2-3:20

Spring 2017  
Classroom: Beering B206  
MWF 12:30 – 1:20

## Course Overview

*Course Description:* This course explores the role of power and coercion in international politics. Students will read and analyze scholarly research on conflict and bargaining in international politics. Theoretical concepts will be applied to historical case studies and contemporary policy debates. Students will be required to write an original research paper, applying course material to a case or topic of their choosing.

## Required Reading

There is no textbook for this course. All readings will be made available in PDF format, or via online link, through Blackboard. All readings listed in the syllabus are mandatory. Students are encouraged to attend office hours to discuss both the assigned readings and opportunities/materials for further exploration of particular topics.

## Assignments and Evaluation

Final course grades consist of four elements:

- *Participation (20%)*: This course will be structured primarily as a seminar, with student participation a central component. Students are expected to read assigned materials carefully and critically, and to come to class prepared to express their views and respond to classmates' comments.
- *Midterm Exams (20% each, 40% total)*: A take-home exam will be handed out after class on Monday, Feb. 22. This exam will be due by email on Friday, Feb. 24. An in-class exam will be given on Wednesday, Apr. 12. These exams are each worth 20% of your overall grade. The second exam is *not* cumulative, and will only cover material since the first exam.

- *Research Paper (40%)*: This course is a research seminar. As such, students are expected to produce an original, 12-15 page research paper on a topic of their choosing. This paper should critically apply course material to an important issue in contemporary international politics. We will discuss the requirements for this paper in greater detail throughout the semester.

Late assignments will be docked 1/3 letter grade per day late. Final grades will be determined based on the following breakdown: 93 - 100 = A; 89.5 - 92.9 = A-; 86.5 - 89.4 = B+; 82.5 - 86.4 = B; 79.5 - 82.4 = B-; 76.5 - 79.4 = C+; 72.5 - 76.4 = C; 69.5 - 72.4 = C-; 66.5 - 69.4 = D+; 62.5 - 66.4 = D; 59.5 - 62.4 = D-; 0 - 59.4 = F.

## Class Policies

- *Attendance*: Regular attendance is required. If you miss class due to illness or family emergency, you need to let me or Tony know as promptly as possible and be prepared to provide documentation attesting to the reason for your absence.
- *Lateness/Early Departure*: You must arrive to class on time, and stay for the entire 50 minute class session. If you know in advance that you will be arriving late or leaving early, please let me know beforehand and sit near an exit so you do not disrupt class.
- *Conduct*: I expect the classroom to be a safe space for open exchange and debate. Most importantly, I expect students to treat one another with respect. Offensive, aggressive, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language and conduct will **not** be tolerated.
- *Technology*: Mobile phones are strictly prohibited in this class. If I see a student on their phone, I will ask the student to put it away. If I see that student on their phone again, I will ask the student to leave class for the day. Laptop computers are allowed for note taking purposes, but *only* during lecture portions of class. Computers and tablets should be put away during discussions and debates. I will be sure to tell students when they need to put their computers away for the day.
- *Missing Exams*: Students who plan to miss a scheduled exam for legitimate reasons (i.e. official athletic competition, school-related travel) must let me know *in writing* at least two weeks before the exam so alternative arrangements can be made. I will allow make up exams in the event of unplanned absences due to medical or family emergency. Documentation *must* be provided for a make-up exam to be given.
- *Cheating and Academic Dishonesty*: I take academic integrity *very* seriously. Students are expected to learn from one another, and collaborative study groups are encouraged. But all submitted assignments must be entirely your own, original work. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. The Office of the Dean of Students ([www.purdue.edu/odos](http://www.purdue.edu/odos)) provides additional information on University policies and procedures regarding academic dishonesty.

- *Grade Appeals*: Grade appeals will be accepted no sooner than 48 hours and no later than 5 days after students receive their graded assignments. Initial appeals must go through the TA, and subsequent appeals can be made to the professor. Each appeal must include a written explanation of the reason for the appeal and responses to written comments on the original assignment. We reserve the right to adjust your grade in either direction, up or down, in response to your appeal.
- *Special Needs*: If you have any special needs or a disability requiring any additional accommodations, University policy requires you to contact the Disability Resource Center ([drc@purdue.edu](mailto:drc@purdue.edu)) to coordinate the appropriate arrangements. I am committed, along with the DRC, to making this course accessible to everyone.

## Course Schedule and Assignments

### Mon, Jan 9: Introductory Material

- No Reading

### Wed, Jan 11: What is Power?

- David Baldwin: “Power and International Relations”

### Fri, Jan 13: Balance of Power Theory

- Stephen Walt: “Alliance Formation and the Balance of World Power” (Excerpt)

### Mon, Jan 16: No Class – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### Wed, Jan 18: Case Study – Nixon’s “Triangular Diplomacy”

- Evelyn Goh: “Nixon, Kissinger, and the ‘Soviet Card’”

### Fri, Jan 20: Application – Contemporary US/Russia/China Triangle

- Francis Sempa: “Is Kissinger’s Triangular Diplomacy the Answer?”

### Mon, Jan 23: The Security Dilemma

- Robert Jervis: “Cooperation Under the Security Dilemma” (Excerpt)

### Wed, Jan 25: Critiques of the Security Dilemma

- Andrew Kydd: “Sheep in Sheep’s Clothing”

**Fri, Jan 27: The Security Dilemma in US-China Relations**

- Adam Liff & John Ikenberry: “Racing toward Tragedy?”

**Mon, Jan 30: Hegemonic Stability Theory**

- Robert Gilpin: *US Power and the Multinational Corporation* (Excerpt)

**Wed, Feb 1: Case Study – Pax Britannica**

- David Lake: “British and American Hegemony Compared”

**Fri, Feb 3: Retrenchment**

- Joe Parent & Paul MacDonald: “The Wisdom of Retrenchment”
- Kori Schake: “Will Washington Abandon the Order?”

**Mon, Feb 6: The Bargaining Model of War**

- Jeffrey Frieden, David Lake, & Kenneth Schultz: *World Politics* pp 82-99

**Wed, Feb 8: Costly Signaling**

- Thomas Schelling: *Arms and Influence* (Excerpt)

**Fri, Feb 10: Case Study – The Korean War**

- Thomas Christensen: “Threats, Assurances, and the Last Chance for Peace”

**Mon, Feb 13: Commitment Problems**

- Barbara Walter: “The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement” (Excerpt)

**Mon, Feb 15: Preventive War**

- Jack Levy: “Declining Power and the Preventive Motivation for War”

**Fri, Feb 17: Reassurance**

- James Steinberg & Michael O’Hanlon: “Keep Hope Alive”

**Mon, Feb 20: Case Study – US/British Rapprochement**

- Charles Kupchan: *How Enemies Become Friends* ch. 3
- Take home exam will be handed out after class.

**Wed, Feb 22: No Class – Prof. Haynes at Conference**

**Fri, Feb 24: No Class – Prof. Haynes at Conference**

- Take home exam due by email at midnight!!

**Mon, Feb 27: Coercion**

- Thomas Schelling: “The Diplomacy of Violence”

**Wed, Mar 1: Brinkmanship**

- Thomas Schelling: *Arms and Influence* (excerpt)

**Fri, Mar 3: Case Study – The Cuban Missile Crisis (Part I)**

- Ernest May & Philip Zelikow: *The Kennedy Tapes* (Excerpt)

**Mon, Mar 6: Case Study – The Cuban Missile Crisis (Part II)**

- David Coleman: “The Missiles of November...”

**Wed, Mar 8: Application – US-Russian Relations**

- Cynthia Roberts: “The Czar of Brinkmanship”

**Fri, Mar 10: Application – The South China Sea**

- Mira Rapp-Hooper: “Confronting China in the South China Sea”
- Ross Babbage: “It’s High Time to Outmaneuver Beijing in the South China Sea”
- **1/2 page research paper proposal due!**

**March 13 - 18: No Class – Spring Break**

**Mon, Mar 20: Writing Workshop**

- **No Reading**

**Wed, Mar 22: Economic Sanctions**

- Jonathan Kirshner: “The Microfoundations of Economic Sanctions”

**Fri, Mar 24: Application – Russia Sanctions**

- Andrew Weiss & Richard Nephew: “The Role of Sanctions in US-Russian Relations”
- Eric Lorber & Julia MacDonald: “Sensible Sanctions”

**Mon, Mar 27: Audience Costs & International Bargaining**

- Jonathan Brown & Anthony Marcum: “Avoiding Audience Costs”

**Wed, Mar 29: Reputation**

- Alex Weisiger & Keren Yarhi-Milo: “How and Why Reputation Matters”

**Fri, Mar 31: Nuclear Proliferation**

- Wyn Bowen & Matthew Moran: “Living with Nuclear Hedging”

**Mon, Apr 3: Application – Iran Nuclear Deal**

- Aaron Stein: “Down and Dirty on the Iranian Nuclear Deal”
- Trita Parsi: “The Iran Deal Worked”
- Michael Eisenstadt: “How the Iran Deal Could Complicate US Efforts to Prevent a Nuclear Breakout”

**Wed, Apr 5: Terrorism**

- Robert Pape: “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism”

**Fri, Apr 7: No class – Prof. Haynes at Conference**

**Mon, Apr 10: Catch Up and Review Session**

- No Reading

**Wed, Apr 12: Exam # 2**

- No Reading

**Fri, Apr 14: Thesis Workshop**

- No Reading

**Mon, Apr 17: No Class – 1 on 1 Meetings**

**Wed, Apr 19: No Class – 1 on 1 Meetings**

**Fri, Apr 21: No Class – 1 on 1 Meetings**

**Mon, Apr 24: Policy Discussion**

- No Reading
- Work on your research papers!

**Wed, Apr 26: Policy Discussion**

- No Reading
- Work on your research papers!

**Fri, Apr 28: Policy Discussion**

- No Reading
- Work on your research papers!

**Research Papers are due by midnight on Sunday, 4/30**