UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Political Science 12 **Philip G. Roeder**
International Relations **Fall Quarter 2017**

Political Science 12 is an introduction to the problems of conflict and cooperation among sovereign states and the search for peace in a rapidly changing world. This is an introductory course: It assumes no previous study of international (or domestic) politics. The primary goal of the course is to acquaint you with major modes of analysis in the scholarly study of international relations. This is organized around the central question of the course: Why war and what can we do to preserve the peace?

I. WHY WAS THERE CONFLICT IN THE PAST?
   A. Why Did Europe Slip into the First World War?
   B. Why a Second World War?
   C. Who or What Was to Blame for the Cold War?
   D. Has a Long Peace Just Ended?
II. STATES: WHY DO SOME FIGHT AND OTHERS COOPERATE?
III. INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS: WHY ARE SOME PEACEFUL?
   A. The International System of States: An Overview.
   B. The Security Dilemma: Is Conflict Inherent in Anarchy?
   C. Unipolarity: Can a Hegemon Guarantee the Peace?
   D. The Balance of Power: Can the "Invisible Hand" Protect Us?
   E. The Balance of Terror: Can MADness Save Us?
   F. International Institutions: Can We Build Peace?
IV. WHERE DOES WORLD POLITICS GO FROM HERE?
   A. Is the World Developing a Culture of Cooperation?
   B. Are New Actors Transforming Global Politics?
   C. Why Would Rational Economic Actors Ever Go to War?
   D. Are International Relations Really Changing?

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Office hours:	Mondays 1:00-2:00 pm, and by appointment		

Teaching Staff:

John Porten	SSB 326	Wed 9:45-10:45 am	john.porten@gmail.com	Sections # 1, 2, 7
Rachel Schoner	SSB 322	Mon 9:45-10:45 am	rschoner@ucsd.edu	Sections # 3, 4, 5

Reading Assignments. All readings are available on electronic reserve through the Library. There are no required books at the Bookstore.

Normally you will only need to read approximately two articles per week, but most of these articles are written at a level that demands close attention and thought. These are not textbook chapters. Instead, each author takes a stand on a contested issue. Pay close attention to the ways in which their intellectual assumptions shape their analyses. Note the different ways in which authors (1) frame their research questions, (2) use theory to derive expectations (hypotheses) about the empirical patterns we should observe, and (3) present evidence that they claim confirms their hypotheses.

Podcasts. All lectures and PowerPoint presentations should be available after class on the UCSD podcast web-site.

Discussion Sections. Participation in the weekly meetings of your discussion section is required. In discussion sections the teaching assistants will clarify what the professor really meant to say in lecture. The sections provide you with an opportunity to discuss the assigned readings and to complete the writing requirements for this course. Since your TA will grade your examinations, it is important that you work closely with her or him.

Examinations. Each examination will include two parts—short-answer questions (completed in class) and an essay (completed "at home"). The dates of the examinations are as follows:

Midterm Examination.	Monday, October 30.	(Regular class time)
Final Examination.	Tuesday, December 12.	(11:30 am)

You must turn in each take-home essay no later than the time of the corresponding in-class examination.

Grades. Your course grade will be the weighted average of your performance in discussion sections and on two examinations. In the computation of your course grade, your performance will be weighted as follows:

Discussion sections	20%
Midterm examination	30%
Final examination	40%
Additional weight to the better exam	10%

Maintaining Academic Integrity. UCSD takes academic integrity very seriously. Academic integrity is a commitment of students to one another that they will not cheat. This ensures that all students will be evaluated equally and fairly on the basis of the work they do for the class.

In this course, please submit only your own work. By taking this course, you agree to submit your papers for textual similarity review by Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms-of-use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site.

TritonED Site. Copies of the syllabus, the lecture outlines, and each assignment will be posted to a web-site for this course. If you lose your hardcopy of the syllabus or any assignment, check TritonED.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS

I. WHY WAS THERE CONFLICT IN THE PAST?

Mo Oct 2.	Introductory Meeting.
We Oct 4.	Why Did Europe Slip into the First World War?

<u>Assignment for Week 1 Discussion Sections:</u>

John G. Stoessinger. *Why Nations Go to War*, any edition. Chapter 1.

[This is a fun read. Why do many political scientists have reservations about its analysis?]

Mo Oct 9. Why a Second World War?
We Oct 11. Who or What Was to Blame for the Cold War?

Assignment for Week 2 Discussion Sections:

Stephen van Evera. "The Cult of the Offensive and the Origins of the First World War." *International Security* 9 (Summer 1984), 58-107.
[Pay particularly close attention to van Evera's thesis and theory on pages 58-66; review pages 66-107 as evidence to support the thesis.]

Ja Ian Chong and Todd H. Hall. "The Lessons of 1914 for East Asia Today: Missing the Trees for the Forest." *International Security* 39 (Summer 2014), 7-43.
[This article illustrates how the models we derive from historical experiences continue to influence our thinking about contemporary events.]

Mo Oct 16. Has a Long Peace Just Ended?

II. STATES: WHY DO SOME FIGHT AND OTHERS COOPERATE?

We Oct 18. Foreign Policies: What Makes Some States Aggressive?, I.

Assignment for Week 3 Discussion Sections:

John Lewis Gaddis. "The Long Peace: Elements of Stability in the Postwar International System." *International Security* 10 (Spring 1986), 99-142.
[As an historian rather than a political scientist, Gaddis characterizes the Cold War as a long peace, but does not develop a thesis to explain the peace. Instead, Gaddis reviews alternative explanations and asks at the end what conclusions we can infer from the historical record.]

Michael W. Doyle. "Liberalism and World Politics." *American Political Science Review* 80 (December 1986), 1151-69.
[Give particular attention to Doyle's thesis on pp. 1151-2 and the development of his argument about the development and consequences of liberal internationalism on pp. 1155-63.]

Mo Oct 23. Foreign Policies: Power and Strategy.
We Oct 25. Foreign Policies: What Makes Some States Aggressive?, II.

Assignment for Week 4 Discussion Sections:

David A. Lake. "Powerful Pacifists: Democratic States and War." *American Political Science Review* 86 (March 1992), 24-37.
[This article is a little more difficult than most, but well worth the effort you put into understanding its style of analysis. Ask your teaching assistant to help you work through this article in discussion sections.]

III. INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS: WHY ARE SOME PEACEFUL?

Mo Oct 30. MIDTERM EXAMINATION.
We Nov 1. The International System of States: An Overview.

Assignment for Week 5 Discussion Sections:

A. F. K. Organski. "The Power Transition." In *World Politics*, 2d ed, 338-76. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1968.
[This is from a textbook and should be easy to master.]

Mo Nov 6. The Security Dilemma: Does Conflict Inhere in Anarchy?
We Nov 8. Unipolarity: Can a Hegemon Again Guarantee the Peace?

Assignment for Week 6 Discussion Sections:

Christopher Layne. "The Unipolar Illusion: Why New Great Powers Will Rise." *International Security* 17 (Spring 1993), 5-51.

[Pay particular attention to Layne's thesis and theory on pages 5-16, read more quickly the two historical cases that he uses to support his theory on pages 16-32, and then think critically about his attempt to predict what will happen after 1993.]

Stephen G. Brooks and William C. Wohlforth. "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers in the Twentieth-First Century." *International Security* 40 (Winter 2015/16), 7-53.
[Note how Brooks and Wohlforth propose refining the concept of polarity and how they attempt to operationalize this with precise measures. Do not become mired in the numbers, unless you enjoy this sort of thing.]

Mo Nov 13. Balance of Power: Can the "Invisible Hand" Protect Us?
We Nov 15. The Balance of Terror: Can MADness Save Us?.

Assignment for Week 7 Discussion Sections:

John Mearsheimer. "The Case for a Ukrainian Nuclear Deterrent." *Foreign Affairs* 72 (Summer 1993), 50-66.

Steven E. Miller. "The Case Against a Ukrainian Nuclear Deterrent." *Foreign Affairs* 72 (Summer 1993), 67-80.

John Mearsheimer. "Here We Go Again," *New York Times* (17 May 1998), Section 4.
[This exchange among political scientists in the public media speaks for itself.]

Mo Nov 20. International Institutions: Can We Build Peace?
We Nov 22. The Day before Thanksgiving.

Mo Nov 27. Is the World Developing a Culture of Cooperation or Conflict?

Assignment for Week 8 Discussion Sections:

John S. Duffield. "Explaining the Long Peace in Europe: The Contributions of Regional Security Regimes." *Review of International Studies* 20 (October 1994), 369-388.
[Read carefully Duffield's thesis on pages 369-75 and theory on pages 375-8, but you can read more quickly the details of the European security regime on pages 379-86.]

Carl Kaysen. "Is War Obsolete? A Review Essay." *International Security* 14 (Spring 1990), 42-64.
[This is a book review. Be sure to distinguish Mueller's thesis and Kaysen's refinement of that thesis.]

Samuel P. Huntington. "The Clash of Civilizations." *Foreign Affairs* 72 (Summer 1993), 22-49.
[This very influential article speaks for itself.]

IV. WHERE DOES WORLD POLITICS GO FROM HERE?

We Nov 29. Are New Actors Transforming Global Politics?

Mo Dec 4. Why Would Rational Economic Actors Ever Go to War?
We Dec 6. Are International Relations Really Changing?

Assignment for Week 10 Discussion Sections:

Audrey Kurth Cronin. "Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism." *International Security* 27 (Winter 2002/3), 30-58.

Michael Mousseau. "Market Civilization and Its Clash with Terror." *International Security* 27 (Winter 2002-3), 5-29.
[Compare Cronin and Mousseau as two very different analyses of the sources of terrorism and proposals for Western policy responses. They reflect diverging theoretical approaches that we have encountered in this course.]

Tuesday, December 12. FINAL EXAMINATION. (11:30 am)