Upon completion of the course, it is hoped that you will have a richer understanding of the dynamics of international relations and a skills base upon which to build when conducting future research.

This course will address such questions as:

- How have international politics evolved?
- How have national security strategies changed since the end of the Cold War and since 9/11/01?
- What role does state economic power play in our international system?
- How was our current international monetary system structured and how have the rules evolved?
- What role can ideas play in a world often governed by military power?
- Under what conditions can states achieve cooperation?
- How are regional and multilateral organizations changing international politics among states?
- How can we understand the changing nature of the state and the resultant changes in international affairs?
- Do not-for-profits have any impact on the international relations among states?

Students will be required to attend and participate in class, to complete assignments, and to attend any scheduled talks or movies that take place in the evening. Grades will be based on the following percentages:

- General participation including speakers, cases, documentaries, group participation, and class (you cannot participate if you do not attend class) 15%
- Policy Memo 15%
- Essay annotated bibliography 15%
- Two response postings on Blackboard: one on guest speaker, one on documentary (5% each) 10%
- Essay 15%
- Final exam 30%.
If you travel with a dance troupe or sports team/club and expect to occasionally miss a class, please advise the professor in writing/email in advance of your absence. If you have a disability that needs accommodation please notify the professor and arrange to present documentation from the Oberlin College Office of Disability Service.


Each of your course assignments must be submitted in hardcopy. Additionally, you must submit an electronic copy of each of your assignments on blackboard within 20 minutes of the assignment deadline.

You are responsible for the information in the readings and also for class and related material from speakers, documentaries, etc. The day each reading is due is noted on your syllabus. When the material is presented in class that is not included in the reading, you are responsible for that material as well. If you miss class get the notes or you will not be able to offer complete answers to questions asked on the final exam.

Please familiarize yourself with the Oberlin Honor Code which guides your work in this and all your classes. [http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/students/student_pages/honor_code.html)

You are responsible for researching and writing your own assignments. However, you may share resource leads, discuss the readings, and help one another to edit each other’s work. You may also/are encouraged to consult with the college writing tutors (you will find their hours posted at Mudd library). Remember that using another author’s work without proper attribution is criminal theft.

According to the Oberlin College honor code, you must inform the student honor committee if you have knowledge of any infraction of the honor code. The honor code applies to all work, not just exams. You must sign your work as indicated on the honors website before submitting it. You may type the inscription for an electronic submission.
As is normal college policy, you may not alter the date or time of your final exam to accommodate travel plans. I CANNOT reschedule your exam for ANY reason. Only Dean Kathryn Stuart (Dean of Studies) can alter your exam time in the case of an exceptional reason (she will not consider it exceptional if you failed to secure a plane ticket after all of your exams are completed). Please check the college exam schedule of your classes before purchasing airline tickets home. You must take exams at the official times scheduled except when you have a take-home exam and the professor is willing to allow you to turn in the material early. Your scheduled final exam for this class is: **Sunday Dec 19, 2010 9-11 A.M.**

"We have, I fear, confused power with greatness." Stewart Udall

“Give a member of Congress a junket and a mimeograph machine and he thinks he is Secretary of State.” Dean Rusk

"The management of a balance of power is a permanent undertaking, not an exertion that has a foreseeable end." Henry Kissinger

“War is politics by other means.” Karl von Clausewitz

“The price of apathy towards public affairs is to be ruled by evil men.” Plato

**Tuesday September 7, 2010**
Overview of the Course
Review of the syllabus
Studying IR vs. Comparative Politics
Studying IR vs. Current Events

**Thursday September 9, 2010**
No class as it is a religious holiday. As a make-up session, you will be required to attend one of the lectures in the Oil and International Relations one-credit
course being offered by the Politics Department this semester. The speakers and times are listed on blackboard. Under assignments in blackboard there is a response guide that you will complete and post on backboard in which you evaluate the material in the lecture that you attended.

**Tuesday September 14, 2010**

**Understanding the International System I.**

**Some Core Terms and Concepts of International Politics**

Collective Goods Problem/Anarchy; Dominance; Reciprocity
Identity; The State; Institutions; The International System; IGOs; NGOs; MNCs;
GDP; Levels of Analysis (Individual; Domestic; Interstate; Global);
East-West Relations; North South Relations.


**Thursday September 16, 2010**

**Understanding the International System II.**

**Some Core Terms and Concepts of International Politics (pay careful attention to the case of India)**

Realism; Sovereignty; Deterrence; Compellence; Balance of Power; Power Distribution; Multi-polar system; Hegemony; Alliances; Bandwagoning and Balancing; Rationality; Zero-Sum Game; NATO; Alliance Cohesion; Game Theory (Prisoner’s Dilemma PD); Arms Race; Non Aligned Movement: Marshall Plan.


**Tuesday September 21, 2010**

**Understanding the International System III.**

**Some Core Terms and Concepts of International Politics**

Liberalism; Kantian Peace; Liberal Institutionalism; Regimes; Collective Security; Democratic Peace; Military Industrial Complex; Collective Security; Rally Round the Flag Syndrome; Decision Making Models; Postmodernism; Constructivism;
Marxism; Peace Studies; Gender and International Relations; Liberal Feminism; Difference Feminism; Positive Sum Game.


**Thursday September 23, 2010**

**Readings on U.S. Afghanistan Policy Making in the International System**


Richard Haas, “Rethinking Afghanistan” *Newsweek* July 26, 2010


What were the alternatives open to President Obama? Who supported which option? What context/extra information does Baker provide in his article that addresses the art of policy making rather than data about Afghanistan? What does Richard Haas believe was done incorrectly by the Obama administration? To what degree does domestic politics influence our policy options in Afghanistan? To what extent is Afghanistan an issue in the upcoming November 2010 election?

**Tuesday September 28, 2010**

**The Use of Military Force in International Politics**


**Some Core Terms and Concepts:** Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs); Conventional Weapons; Chemical and Biological Warfare; Land Mines; Stealth Technology; Terrorism; Command and Control; Counter Insurgency; Cyberwar/Electronic Warfare; Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs); Short Range Ballistic Missiles (SRBM); Nuclear Proliferation; Non Proliferation Treaty 1968; International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); MAD; SDI; ABM Treaty 1972; Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty 1996.
Questions: How do we evaluate/calculate military power? Which capabilities are appropriate for which kinds of warfare? How can we decide how much to spend on military capability?

Thursday September 30, 2010
Globalization, Finance, and World Trade

Some Core Terms and Concepts: IMF; World Bank (IBRD); National Accounts; International Currency Exchange (fixed/浮动); Exchange Rates; Gold Standard; MNCs; Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); Hyperinflation; Keynesian Economics; Off shore Headquarters, Washington Consensus; GATT, WTO, Cartels, Mercantilism, Comparative Advantage, Uruguay Round, Doha Round, Free Trade Area of the Americas; OPEC; Liberal Economics.

Questions: How is a country’s currency valued? Why does it rise and fall? What role can central banks play in a country’s financial affairs? How do states become indebted?

Tuesday October 5, 2010
Discussion about class assignments:
writing an annotated bibliography;
writing a policy memo;
writing a political essay

(Reminder: the policy memo is due Monday Oct.18, 2010)

Thursday October 7, 2010
Globalization and Integration
Financial Times: “Turkey’s Regional Initiatives” July 20, 2010 and “Turkey Throws Sanctions Lifeline to Iran” July 25, 2010

Some Core Terms and Concepts: International Integration; Regionalism; Neofunctionalism; European Union; Europe’s Monetary Union; EFTA; NATO; OSCE; Information Technology; Maastricht Treaty 1991; Lisbon Treaty 2007; Common Agricultural Policy; Customs Union vs. Free Trade Area.
**Questions:** Why are some states members of NATO but not the EU? What are the issues surrounding Turkey’s admission to the EU? What steps is the Turkish government taking to establish Turkey as an independent, important regional power and what are likely to be some of the consequences?

**Tuesday October 12, 2010**
**Europe as a Power Pole**

According to Khanna, Europe is a power pole that has emerged and must now determine its relations with Russia, Turkey, the Ukraine, Balkans, and the Caucasian Corridor. How did the European pole emerge? What are the issues Khanna identifies? Who are the important players? What are the stakes in the international politics that Khanna sketches? According to Khanna, what is the new bamboo curtain? How do the countries of Central Asia play a role? What role does oil and terror play in the international system today?


**Thursday October 14, 2010**
**The International Politics of the Middle East and South Asia**

**Policy memo due at 5pm Monday October 18, 2010**
Hardcopy and electronic copies are due.
Tuesday October 19, 2010
The International Politics of the Middle East and South Asia (continued)
Stephanie Sanok and Nathan Freier, “The End of Operation Iraqi Freedom and DoD’s Future in Iraq” September 1, 2010 Center for Strategic and International Studies (http://csis.org)
Kenneth M. Pollack, “Deterring a Nuclear Iran” Council on Foreign Relations May 2010
India’s Foreign Policy (embassy of India)

Thursday October 21, 2010
China’s Emerging Empire
What are the supports for and obstacles to China’s emerging empire? What geopolitical strategies is China pursuing?

Fall Recess
October 26, 2010 to October 28, 2010

Tuesday November 2, 2010 Election Day – Documentary
Each semester, I show a documentary the first class after fall recess. This year, some of you may be working on election day as it comes just after fall recess. You will need to borrow the dvd/cd at a later date and view it on your own time if you are absent due to election work or for other reasons. On blackboard you will find a reaction form that you need to complete and post.

Thursday November 4, 2010
What are the consequences of the November election for U.S. Foreign Policy?
What key foreign policy committee leadership positions were at stake?


US Senate Foreign Relations Committee and subcommittees http://www.senate.gov/general/committee_membership/committee_memberships_SSFR.htm
House Foreign Affairs Committee
http://www.internationalrelations.house.gov/members.asp

**Tuesday November 9, 2010**
**The End of the Monroe Doctrine**

**Some Core Terms and Concepts:** Monroe Doctrine, Hegemony, Manifest Destiny, Dirty War, Open Door Good Neighbor Policies, New International Economic Order (NIEO), dependency, Organization of American States (OAS), North American Free Trade Agreement, Central America Free Trade Agreement, Bolivarian Revolution.

**Thursday November 11, 2010**
**International Organization, Law, and Human Rights**

**Some Core Terms and Concepts:** The United Nations System, UN Charter, General Assembly, Security Council, Peacekeeping Forces, International Court, International Criminal Court, ECOSOC, Autonomous Agencies, UN Programs, international civil servants, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Just War Doctrine, collective security, war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity; regimes

**Tuesday November 16, 2010**
**Human Rights: Realists and Constructivists**
**Thursday November 18, 2010**
**Non Governmental Organizations and International Politics**

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**Annotated Bibliography due Friday November 19, 2010**
Hardcopy and electronic copies are due.

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**Tuesday November 23, 2010**
**Environmental Issues**
Peter Haas, "Do Regimes Matter? Epistemic Communities and Mediterranean Pollution Control" *International Organization* 43 3 Summer 1989
Mark Lynas, “How do I Know China Wrecked the Copenhagen Deal? I Was in the Room.” guardian.co.uk, Tuesday 22 December 2009

**Thursday November 25, 2010** Happy Thanksgiving (no class)

**Tuesday November 30, 2010**
**Water Conflicts**
**Thursday December 2, 2010**

**Theories of Foreign Policy Making**


**Tuesday December 7, 2010**

**Power Politics in the Twenty-First Century**

G. John Ikenberry “America’s Imperial Ambition” *Foreign Affairs* Vol 81 no.5 September/October 2002: 44-60.


**Thursday December 9, 2010 – Wrap Up**

*Essay due Friday December 10, 2010*

Hardcopy and electronic copies are due.


**Tuesday December 14, 2010 – Classes End**