POLSCI 101

International Politics

Session 4, 2023

Dates: Tuesday and Thursday 2:45 PM - 5:15 PM (China Standard Time)

Academic credit: 4 credits

Course format: In-person

Instructor's Information

Takumi Shibaike

Assistant Professor of International Relations Email: <u>takumi.shibaike@dukekunshan.edu.cn</u> Personal website: <u>https://takumishibaike.github.io/</u> Office hours: By appointment via <u>https://takumishibaike.youcanbook.me/</u>

My teaching and research interests are in the areas of international relations, global environmental governance, and the politics of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). Prior to joining Duke Kunshan, I held postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Calgary and the European University Institute. I received my Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Toronto. My research has appeared in journals such as *Global Environmental Politics, International Studies Quarterly, Global Society,* and *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly,* among others.

What is this course about?

Why does global politics happen in the way it does? How can we understand and explain it? This course begins with fundamental questions about the world, human nature, and the state. You will learn key conceptual and theoretical tools to study and analyze global politics. This course will also cover major topics in global politics, including war, finance, and climate change.

What background knowledge do I need before taking this course?

There are no prerequisites for this course.

What will I learn in this course?

By the end of this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Define key concepts in global politics based on academic knowledge.
- Assess the advantages and disadvantages of theories and concepts in global politics.
- Build your own argument based on academic knowledge.
- Critically evaluate academic papers.
- Apply key concepts and theories in real-world examples.



What will I do in this course?

You are expected to do the following:

- Check email regularly for announcements.
- Complete reading assignments.
- Watch asynchronous lectures.
- Write weekly reflection memos on reading assignments (more instructions below).
- Participate actively in class discussions individually and as a group (more instructions below).
- Create a podcast episode in a pair (more instructions in class).
- Complete an essay assignment (more instructions in class).

Reading reflection memos:

- Every week, choose the session to write a memo on, except for Week 1 in which everyone must write on the second session, "How should we study global politics? Should it be a science?".
- Submit your memo any time *prior to* the synchronous meeting for the session of your choice.
- Your memo must respond to the questions being asked in the course schedule below.
- Your memo should be no more than **500** words.
- You should respond to the questions by
 - 1) stating your position;
 - o 2) supporting your position with the course material; and
 - o 3) explaining how and why your position agrees or disagrees with the course material.
- You should demonstrate **both** 1) that you have your own argument **and** 2) that you have understood all of the required readings. Identifying connections and tensions between the readings will be helpful.
- A memo should be structured as clearly as possible.
- To write an effective response, you should concisely summarize the readings in plain language. Avoid direct quotations as much as possible.
- You must write your memo independently. You can, of course, discuss the course material with your classmates, but writing must be on your own.
- I recommend using in-text citations without a full bibliography.

Participation:

- **Participation is more than attendance.** You are expected to regularly ask questions and share your thoughts with classmates during the meetings.
- More than *three* instances of unexcused absence will automatically result in a *zero-point* grade. You must inform me of your absence (such as illness) *prior to* the meeting. I may request a written document for your absence to be excused.
- The pandemic may incur various obstacles to your participation. If you cannot participate in in-person meetings, refer to the course policy below and consult me for possible arrangements.

How can I prepare for the class sessions to be successful?

Successful students will have done the following:

• Complete reading assignments *prior to* the meetings.

- The meetings will include discussion-based activities with your classmates. Peer learning is an important learning experience of this course.
- Ask questions and share your thoughts verbally in class with some regularity.
 - In this course, you will learn not only from me but also from your classmates. No need to make "clever" comments, but your regular contribution is essential to the success of this course.
- Make connections between the readings and lectures.
 - Take notes when you read the course material and listen to the lectures.
 - Lectures *do not* simply explain the readings. The lectures and readings are complementary to each other to help you understand complex concepts and theories.
 - If you have any unresolved questions, ask them during the meetings.
- For assignments, respond to the questions being asked.
 - It may seem obvious, but this is sometimes forgotten when multiple deadlines and personal commitments come at once. Answer the questions.
- For reflection memos, incorporate the feedback you receive at each interaction.

What texts, materials, and equipment will I need?

Textbook:

All required readings are available through DKU's online library or posted on Sakai.

How will my grade be determined?

Breakdown:

- Participation 20% (20 points)
- Reading reflection memos 40%
 - Week 1 0% (10 points)
 - Week 2 2% (10 points)
 - Week 3 6% (10 points)
 - Week 4 8% (10 points)
 - Week 5 8% (10 points)
 - Week 6 8% (10 points)
 - Week 7 8% (10 points)
- Podcast 20% (100 points)
- Final essay 20% (100 points)

Grading Scale:

Your grade will be rounded to the nearest integer. All grades are non-negotiable.

A+....100 - 98 A97 - 93 A-....92 - 90 B+....89 - 87 B86 - 83

B-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	82	-	80
C+	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	79	-	77
С	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	76	-	73
C-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	72	-	70
D+	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	69	-	67
D	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	66	-	63
D-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	62	-	60
F	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	59	-	0

Grading Criteria:

Excellent (A range): An A+ to A- grade demonstrates an ability to go beyond understanding the course material to applying the concepts and ideas in innovative and original ways, making connections between them. Excellent work excels in lucid written and oral communication above and beyond what would ordinarily be expected in an undergraduate course.

Good (B range): Students who complete all of the required readings and assignments, actively participate in class, and show that they have understood the course material can generally expect a B+ to B-.

Fair (C range): Students who complete the required readings and assignments but demonstrate significant gaps in knowledge and understanding can expect to attain a C+ to a C-.

Passing (D range): Students who partially complete the required readings and assignments and show only a marginal understanding of the course material can expect a D+ to D-.

Fail: Gross failure in completing assigned work or violations of academic integrity will result in failure.

What are the course policies?

Communications:

If you have any substantive questions or concerns about this course, I strongly encourage you to use my office hours (book via <u>https://takumishibaike.youcanbook.me/</u>).

Contact me via email for logistical and other minor questions and concerns. When writing an email, use the subject line starting from "POLSCI 101:". You can expect my response within 48 hours, usually much shorter, except weekends and holidays. Feel free to send me a follow-up email if you do not receive my response in time.

Pandemic Policy:

If you cannot participate in-person, you *must* contact me to make a special arrangement.

Late Penalty:

You may request an extension for large assignments with valid documentation *prior to* deadlines. Without my approval, a late penalty will be applied on your assignment. Each assignment's instruction will explain how the penalty is calculated (typically a daily point deduction).

No extension will be granted for weekly reflection memos. Under excusable circumstances (with my approval), you may skip a memo, but the weight of every other submission will increase such that the overall grade for reflection memos will remain 40% of your course grade.

Academic Integrity:

In this course, students who cheat will be penalized. Cases will be processed based on DKU's <u>Academic Policies</u> <u>and Information</u>. Any violation of academic integrity will result in a **zero-point** grade for this course. Feel free to consult DKU's <u>Writing and Language Studio</u> or me if you have any concerns about unintentionally violating academic integrity.

Academic Accommodations:

If you need to request accommodation for a disability, you need a signed accommodation plan from Campus Health Services, and you need to provide a copy of that plan to me. Visit the <u>Office of Student Affairs website</u> for additional information and instruction related to accommodations.

What campus resources can help me during this course?

Academic Advising and Student Support:

Please consult me about appropriate course preparation and readiness strategies, as needed. Consult your academic advisors on course performance (i.e., poor grades) and academic decisions (e.g., course changes, incompletes, withdrawals) to ensure you stay on track with degree and graduation requirements. In addition to advisors, staff in the Academic Resource Center can provide recommendations on academic success strategies (e.g., tutoring, coaching, student learning preferences). All ARC services will continue to be provided online. Please visit the <u>Office of Undergraduate Advising website</u> for additional information related to academic advising and student support services.

Writing and Language Studio:

For additional help with academic writing—and more generally with language learning—you are welcome to make an appointment with the <u>Writing and Language Studio (WLS)</u>. To accommodate students who are learning remotely as well as those who are on campus, writing and language coaching appointments are available in person and online. You can register for an account, make an appointment, and learn more about WLS services, policies, and events on the <u>WLS website</u>. You can also find writing and language learning resources on the <u>Writing & Language Studio Sakai site</u>.

IT Support:

If you are experiencing technical difficulties, please contact IT:

- China-based faculty/staff/students 400-816-7100, (+86) 0512- 3665-7100
- US-based faculty/staff/students (+1) 919-660-1810
- International-based faculty/staff/students can use either telephone option (recommend using tools like Skype calling)
- Live Chat: <u>https://oit.duke.edu/help</u>
- Email: service-desk@dukekunshan.edu.cn

What is the expected course schedule?

Optional readings are provided for upper-year students who are interested in pursuing graduate studies in the field of international relations. **Do not** engage with them in your reflection memos unless you have my approval. If any of the links is compromised, please search the title on https://library.duke.edu/.

Торіс	What is the study of global politics?
Tuesday March 21	Welcome to the study of global politics. Do you think the world is getting better or worse?
	 This syllabus! (read thoroughly) Pinker, Steven. "A history of violence." <i>The New Republic</i> (2007, March 19) <u>https://advance-lexis-com.proxy.lib.duke.edu/api/permalink/806b489b-3a5c-4373-a164-a1676a732a2c/?context=1516831</u>
	 Optional: Cirillo, Pasquale and Nassim Nicholas Taleb. "The decline of violent conflicts: What do the data really say?" <i>Nobel Foundation Symposium 161: Causes of Peace</i> (2016, November 27). <u>https://ssrn.com/abstract=2876315</u>
Thursday	How should we study global politics? Should it be a science?
March 23	 Bernstein, Steven, Richard Ned Lebow, Janice Gross Stein, and Steven Weber. "God gave physics the easy problems: Adapting social science to an unpredictable world." <i>European Journal of International Relations</i> 6.1 (2000): 43-76. <u>https://journals-sagepub- com.proxy.lib.duke.edu/doi/pdf/10.1177/1354066100006001003</u> Watch: "Whisky Review/Tasting: Suntory Hibiki Japanese Harmony." <i>Whisky.com</i> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOOj0PQ5wr8&t=278s</u> (after 4:38 only)
	Optional:

Week 1

 Jackson, Patrick Thaddeus. "Must international studies be a science?." *Millennium* 43.3 (2015): 942-965. <u>https://journals-sagepub-</u> <u>com.proxy.lib.duke.edu/doi/pdf/10.1177/0305829815579307</u>

Торіс	What is the state of nature?
Tuesday March 28	 What is human nature? Are we destined to fight over scarce resources? Diamond, Jared. "Vengeance is ours." <i>The New Yorker</i> (2008, Apr 21) <u>https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2008/04/21/vengeance-is-ours</u> Mead, Margaret. "Warfare is only an invention – Not a biological necessity." (1940), in <i>Conflict After the Cold War (4th ed.)</i>, edited by Richard Betts, Pearson Longman, 2012. pp.244-248 (posted on Sakai)
	 Optional: Gat, Azar. "So why do people fight? Evolutionary theory and the causes of war." <i>European Journal of International Relations</i> 15.4 (2009): 571-599. <u>https://journals-sagepub-</u> <u>com.proxy.lib.duke.edu/doi/pdf/10.1177/1354066109344661</u>
Thursday March 30	 How do we escape the state of nature? Top-down or bottom-up—is one better than the other? Ball, Philip. "How to build a commonwealth" in <i>Critical mass: How one thing leads to another</i>. Macmillan, 2004. (posted on Sakai) Axelrod, Robert. "The live-and-let-live system in trench warfare in World War I" in <i>The Evolution of Cooperation</i>. Basic Books, 1984, pp.73-87. (posted on Sakai) Play: <u>https://ncase.me/trust/</u>

Торіс	What is the state?
Tuesday	What is the origin of the state? In what ways is the state different from the mafia?
April 4	 Tilly, Charles. "War making and state making as organized crime." in <i>Bringing the State Back In</i>, edited by Peter B. Evans et al., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1985, pp. 169-191. (posted on Sakai) Jones, Terril Yue. "Yakuza among first with relief supplies in Japan." <i>Reuters</i>. (2011, March 25). <u>https://www.reuters.com/article/us-yakuza-idUSTRE7206TF20110325</u>

	 Watch: "The end of the Yakuza in Japan? An aging mafia fails to attract young people." <i>France 24</i> (2021, November 21) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a670X6oCDWA
	Optional:
	 Olson, Mancur. "Dictatorship, democracy, and development." American Political Science Review 87.3 (1993): 567-576. <u>https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/dictatorship-democracy- development/docview/214434459/se-2</u>
Friday	What makes a group of people a state?
April 7	 Lewis-Kraus, Gideon. "Founder." New York Times Magazine (2015, Aug 16) <u>https://www-proquest-com.proxy.lib.duke.edu/docview/1704718329</u> McRaney, David "The illusion of asymmetric insight." youarenotsosmart.com <u>https://youarenotsosmart.com/2011/08/21/the-illusion-of-asymmetric-insight</u>
	Optional:
	• Anderson, Benedict. <i>Imagined communities: Reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism</i> . Verso, 1983.

Торіс	Theories of international relations
Tuesday April 11	 How can we theorize the world, where everything is interconnected? Jervis, Robert. System effects. Princeton University Press, 1998. pp.10-28. (posted on Sakai) Walt, Stephen M. "International relations: One world, many theories." Foreign Policy (1998): 29-46. <u>https://www.jstor.org/stable/1149275</u>
	 Optional: Wendt, Alexander E. "The agent-structure problem in international relations theory." <i>International Organization</i> 41.3 (1987): 335-370. <u>https://www.jstor.org/stable/2706749</u>
Thursday	Materialism vs idealism—is one better than the other in explaining global politics?

April 13	Wendt, Alexander E. Social theory of international politics. Cambridge
	University Press, 1999. pp.8-33 (posted on Sakai)
	• Listen to (or read the transcript of): "Why do chemical weapons evoke such a
	strong reaction?" NPR (September 4, 2013)
	https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=218995964

Торіс	Power and order			
Tuesday	Who has power? How is it used?			
April 18	 Carr, E. H. <i>The Twenty Years' Crisis: 1919-1939</i>. Harper Torchbooks, 1939. "Power over opinion" in Chapter 8. (posted on Sakai) Mathews, Jessica T. "Power shift." <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, 76.1 (1997): 50-66. <u>https://heinonline.org/HOL/P?h=hein.journals/fora76&i=58</u> 			
	Optional:			
	• Barnett, Michael, and Raymond Duvall. "Power in international politics." International Organization 59.1 (2005): 39-75.			
	https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-			
	core/content/view/F5F3C74D30A12A5C4CC9B4EFEA152967/S0020818305050			
	010a.pdf/power_in_international_politics.pdf			
	• Waltz, Kenneth N. <i>Theory of international politics</i> . Addison-Wesley, 1979.			
Thursday	What kind of "order" do we have in this world? Is the liberal international order good for everyone?			
April 20	 Ikenberry, G. John. "The end of liberal international order?." International Affairs 94.1 (2018): 7-23. 			
	https://academic.oup.com/ia/article/94/1/7/4762691			
	• Pinkovskiy, Maxim L. "A discussion of Thomas Piketty's Capital in the Twenty-			
	First Century: By how much is r greater than g?" Liberty Street Economics			
	(2015, July 13) https://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed.org/2015/07/a-			
	discussion-of-thomas-pikettys-capital-in-the-twenty-first-century-by-how-			
	much-is-r-greater-than-g			
Monday	Deadline for podcast submission.			
April 24				

Торіс	War
Tuesday	What are the causes of war? Does the bargaining model of war "explain" it?
April 25	 Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. <i>World Politics:</i> <i>Interests, Interactions, Institutions (4th ed.).</i> W. W. Norton, 2019. pp.96-130 (posted on Sakai) Kydd, Andrew H. and Barbara F. Walter. "By focusing on planes, terrorists take a calculated risk." <i>Los Angeles Times</i> (2010, January 24) <u>https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-2010-jan-24-la-oe-walter24-2010jan24-story.html</u>
	Optional:
	 Fearon, James D. "Rationalist explanations for war." International Organization 49.3 (1995): 379-414. <u>https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international- organization/article/abs/rationalist-explanations-for- war/E3B716A4034C11ECF8CE8732BC2F80DD</u>
Thursday	What is democratic peace? Is it real?
April 27	 Oneal, John R., and Bruce Russett. "The Kantian peace: The pacific benefits of democracy, interdependence, and international organizations, 1885–1992." <i>World Politics</i> 52.1 (1999): 1-37. https://heinonline.org/HOL/P?h=hein.journals/wpot52&i=27 White, Matthew. "Democracies do not make war on one anotheror do they?." (2005) http://users.erols.com/mwhite28/demowar.htm
	Optional:
	 Doyle, Michael W. "Liberalism and world politics." <i>American Political Science</i> <i>Review</i> 80.4 (1986): 1151-1169. <u>https://www-jstor-org.proxy.lib.duke.edu/stable/1960861#metadata_info_tab_contents</u> McDonald, Patrick J. "Great powers, hierarchy, and endogenous regimes: Rethinking the domestic causes of peace." <i>International Organization</i> 69.3 (2015): 557-588. <u>https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-organization/article/great-powers-hierarchy-and-endogenous-regimes-rethinking-the-domestic-causes-of-peace/4512AB956B5CB6ECB0E3851FBDFB70A3</u>

Торіс	Finance and climate change
Tuesday	How do we ensure global financial stability? Can the IMF take up that role?
May 9	 Iancu, Alina, Seunghwan Kim, and Alexei Miksjuk "Global financial safety net— A lifeline for an uncertain world" <i>IMF Blog</i> (2021, November 30) https://blogs.imf.org/2021/11/30/global-financial-safety-net-a-lifeline-for-an- uncertain-world/ Lipscy, Phillip Y., and Haillie Na-Kyung Lee. "The IMF as a biased global insurance mechanism: Asymmetrical moral hazard, reserve accumulation, and financial crises." <i>International Organization</i> 73.1 (2019): 35-64. https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international- organization/article/imf-as-a-biased-global-insurance-mechanism- asymmetrical-moral-hazard-reserve-accumulation-and-financial- crises/E945D3C17534A50EE7D0595E8FB9CD40 Zhou, Cissy. "China scrambles for cover from West's financial weapons" <i>Nikkei</i> <i>Asia</i> (2022, April 13) <u>https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/The-Big-Story/China- scrambles-for-cover-from-West-s-financial-weapons</u> Listen to: "Sri Lanka's foreign exchange problem" <i>The Indicator from Planet</i> <i>Money</i> (2022, April 16) <u>https://www.npr.org/2022/04/26/1094896074/sri- lankas-foreign-exchange-problem</u>
Thursday May 11	 Climate change—why is this simple problem so hard to resolve? Keohane, Robert O., and David G. Victor. "Cooperation and discord in global climate policy." <i>Nature Climate Change</i> 6.6 (2016): 570-575. <u>https://www.nature.com/articles/nclimate2937</u> Somerville, Richard. "The ethics of climate change" <i>Yale Environment 360</i> (2008, June 2) <u>https://e360.yale.edu/features/the_ethics_of_climate_change</u> Jinnah, Sikina. "Climate change bandwagoning: The impacts of strategic linkages on regime design, maintenance, and death." <i>Global Environmental Politics</i> 11.3 (2011): 1-9. <u>https://direct.mit.edu/glep/article/11/3/1/14520/Climate-Change-Bandwagoning-The-Impacts-of</u>
	 Optional: Aklin, Michaël, and Matto Mildenberger. "Prisoners of the wrong dilemma: Why distributive conflict, not collective action, characterizes the politics of climate change." <i>Global Environmental Politics</i> 20.4 (2020): 4-27.

	https://direct.mit.edu/glep/article/20/4/4/95068/Prisoners-of-the-Wrong- Dilemma-Why-Distributive
Monday May 15	Deadline for final essay submission.