

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
INAF 201

TRINITY COLLEGE
Fall 2003

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructors:	<i>Dr. Bob Maguire</i>	<i>Ms. Maia Stierankova</i>
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Course Hours:	<i>Tuesday, 6:30 -9:00 PM</i>	

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course has two salient objectives:

- To introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of International Affairs through exposure to an array contemporary international issues.
- To provide students an opportunity to acquire and improve research, writing and presentation skills that will contribute to successful, upper-level college coursework, including the ability to interpret information from maps.

These objectives will be achieved through readings, lectures, discussion, audio-visual materials, student research and presentations, and participation in a speaker series. Particular attention this semester will be placed on the demand for, supply of, and competition over, precious global resources, and their link to international security issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Basic Student Information

Please write the following information on the front side of the index card provided during the first class. **It is very important for you to provide an active email address since we will communicate with you during the semester via email:**

- *Name*
- *Mailing address*
- *Telephone number(s) and best time to call*
- *E-mail address*
- *Current or potential major*

On the flipside of the card, provide the following information:

- *Reason you enrolled in INAF 201*
- *Three current international issues that interest you*
- *The part of the world that interests you the most*

Books

Two books are required for this class. They are available at the Trinity College bookstore:

1. **Student Atlas of World Politics**, John L. Allen (fifth edition)
2. **Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict**, Micheal T. Klare

Additional Reading Materials

The instructors will occasionally provide students with articles to supplement readings from the required books.

Readings

All readings assignments must be done prior to class.

Attendance

Attendance is critically important since classroom presentations will sometimes introduce information and topics that are not in the readings.

Please come to class on time. Those who arrive late not only interrupt the class, but also miss essential information.

Every student should arrange to have a classroom ‘buddy’ with whom she/he can compare or share notes, should something unforeseen compel you to miss a class. Please advise one of the instructors in advance – in person, by phone, or by email - if you know you will miss a class.

Grades and Due Dates

Grades are based a variety of assignments and activities, as follows. Assignment due dates are in parentheses:

1. Issue Journal (Oct. 7):	15%
2. Issue Presentation (Oct. 7 & 14):	10%
3. Test (Oct. 7):	15%
4. Issues Paper Draft (Oct. 28):	15%
5. Issues Paper Final (Dec. 2):	20%
6. Writing on Deadline Exercise (Dec. 9):	10%
7. Info from Maps Assignments (Sept. 23 & 30, Oct. 21):	10%
8. Participation (Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 2):	<u>5%</u>
	100%

Missed or Late Assignments

Missed or late assignments will be penalized as follows:

- 1 – 2 days late: reduction of one-half of a letter grade
- 3 – 7 days late: reduction of one letter grade
- 8 – 13 days late: reduction of two letter grades
- 14 or more days late: zero

“Plan your work and work your plan.”

Missed Test

We will have only one test. **There is no final exam in this course.** The missed test can be made up provided that the student gives advance notice to one of the instructors - in person, by phone or via e-mail. If advance notice is not provided, a make-up will be arranged only under exceptional circumstances.

Missed Classroom Exercises

There are two classroom exercises in this course for which attendance is mandatory: a presentation, and an in-class writing assignment. It is essential that each student participate in these two exercises. Missed participation in the presentation and in-class writing exercises can be made up only if advance notice is given to one of the instructors.

Class Etiquette

The classroom is our sanctuary – and performing space. With this in mind, please respect the following class etiquette guidelines:

- a. **Cell phones:** Please turn off cell phones prior to class. Phone calls can be made before or after class.
- b. **Food:** Do not eat during class. We will have a break mid-way through each class session.
- c. **Arrival:** Please arrive in class a few minutes prior to 6:30, so we can start on time. The classroom door closes at 6:30. Habitual or excessive lateness will result in a forfeiture of the 5% participation grade.
- d. **Departure:** As a rule we will end at 9:00, not before. If you must leave class early, please advise the instructor during the class break.

Hard Copy Requirement

All assignments must be submitted in a hard copy form. Diskettes and e-mail attachments will *not* be accepted unless pre-arranged.

Explanation of the Assignments

1. Issue Journal and Presentation:

The objectives of this assignment are to help you become familiar with a variety of important contemporary issues, to encourage you to read about them, and to help you improve your analytical, writing and presentation skills. Each student will be required to write six, one-page summaries of articles on six different international issues. A format for the summaries will be distributed in class. Two or three articles will be provided from the Programs in International Affairs archives; students will be responsible for finding the other articles on their own. Each article must be on a different global issue. The journal will consist of the six article summaries accompanied by a photocopy of each newspaper article, an index, and a world map identifying a location for each article.

For the classroom presentation, each student will pick out one article from her/his journal and make a five minute presentation on it. Students may make an outline, but may not read from the article or from a prepared text. Students will summarize the content of the article and then provide an analysis of why this issue is important, what it implies, how it relates to other issues, etc.

2. Issues Paper - Draft and Final:

The objectives of this assignment are to help you to deepen your familiarity with one important contemporary issue of your choosing and to help you improve your research and writing skills. Each student will be required to write a 12 page (double spaced) research paper with a table of contents and bibliography. Students will identify a topic either from among those they became familiar with as a result of their issue journal work, or on another topic approved by the instructor. Students are required to submit a complete rough draft that will be reviewed carefully by the instructors for content and style, and returned for corrections.

3. Writing on Deadline:

The objective of this assignment is to help you develop skills required to write clear and concisely under deadline. Students will compose in class a 300-word essay on a topic related to Resource Wars. The exact nature of that essay will be revealed at the beginning of class on the day of the exercise. Students may refer to notes taken while reading the book, or to the book itself, but will not to already written materials. This class will be scheduled for a computer classroom. At least one student essay will be published in the Programs in International Affairs Newsletter.

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Class Schedule

Note: This schedule is subject to change during the semester

DATE	TOPIC	MISC
Tues. Sept. 9	Using the Atlas I: Maps 1 – 10 & 63 - 74; Class Review & Discussion; Group work	Assignment: Article Draft
Tues. Sept 16	Using the Atlas II: Maps 11 – 39; Class Review & Discussion; Group work,	Class will meet in the lounge on the Second Floor of Alumnae Hall. Assignment Due: Article draft. Assignment: Info from Maps
Tues. Sept. 23	Using the Atlas III: Maps 40 – 53 & 59 - 62; Class Review & Discussion; Group work	Assignment Due: Info from maps worksheets Video: <i>Urban Explosion</i> Term Paper topic due. Assignment: Info from Maps. Hand-outs: Readings on human trafficking
Tues. Sept. 30	Discussion: Slavery & Human Trafficking (after presentation)	Assignment Due: Info from maps worksheets INAF Speaker 1: <u>Jolene Smith, Free the Slaves</u> " <i>Combating Modern Day Slavery</i> " (invited)
Tues. Oct. 7	Test (45 minutes); First 10 Student Issues Presentations	Assignment Due: Issues Journal Assignment: Readings on the post-Soviet period in Russia
Tues. Oct. 14	Student Issues Presentations (11 – 16) (after presentation)	INAF Speaker 2: <u>Nadia Shvedova, Fulbright Scholar</u> " <i>Helping Russian Women Meet Challenges of the post-Soviet period</i> " Assignment: Info from Maps 53-58 Tests returned
Tues. Oct. 21	<i>Resource Wars: Chapters 1 & 2</i> (Global Security; Oil, Geography & War)	Presentation: <i>Geopolitics & Energy Supplies</i> (Geoffrey Kemp)
Tues. Oct. 28	<i>Resource Wars: Chapter 3</i> (Oil Persian Gulf)	Assignment Due: Term paper draft
Tues. Nov. 4	<i>Resource Wars: Chapters 4 & 5</i> (Energy: Caspian Sea; Oil: South China Sea)	Term paper drafts returned
Tues. Nov. 11	Discussion: Humans vs. Nature – Dams & the Environment (after presentation)	INAF Speaker 3: <u>Stephen Mwachofi, International Organization for Migration,</u> " <i>Preparing Kenyan Students to Address Global Problems</i> " (invited)
Tues. Nov. 18	<i>Resource Wars: Chapters 6 & 7</i> (Water Conflict)	Video: <i>Great Wall on the Yangtze</i>
Tues. Nov. 25	<i>Resource Wars: Chapter 8</i> (Minerals & Timber)	Video: <i>Blood Diamonds</i>
Tues. Dec. 2	<i>Resource Wars: Chapter 9</i> (Geography of Conflict) and <i>The Deadly Nexus</i>	INAF Speaker 4: to be announced Assignment Due: Term Paper
Tues. Dec. 9	Writing Under Pressure: Review of <i>Resource Wars</i>	Class will meet in a Computer Classroom