Course Description:

This seminar explores the relationship between domestic politics and international relations, particularly how politics at the domestic level affect preferences and interactions at the international level. The course has two main goals: to familiarize students with the burgeoning literature on this topic, and to help students develop valuable research and analytical skills.

The course is geared primarily at graduate students, but advanced undergraduates may enroll upon consultation with me. The seminar assumes some familiarity with international relations theory and an interest in research. Many of the readings utilize statistics or game theory; students not familiar with these tools should be prepared to commit some extra time to those readings. If you are unsure whether the course is right for you, please consult with me after the first session.

Course Requirements:

The course has three main requirements:

- 7 response memos on selections from the week’s readings (30%; see below for details).
- A research paper on a topic of your choosing. (40%; see below for details).
- Active and thoughtful class participation. (30%).

Response memos:
Each student will submit seven response memos analyzing and critiquing a subset of the week’s readings (signups for specific readings will take place in class the week before). Memos should be no longer than 3 double-spaced pages and should address the following kinds of questions:

- What are the central arguments of the readings?
- Are the arguments logically consistent and complete?
- To what extent are the arguments from different readings complementary or contradictory to one another?
- What evidence does the author use to test, support, or illustrate the argument? Do you find the evidence to be compelling? If not, what kind of evidence would be more convincing?
- How do these readings speak to previous readings in the course or important debates in the literature?
- What questions do these readings raise for future research?
Your memos are due via email at 6pm the evening before class. Please circulate to the entire class.

*Research paper assignment:*
Your major written assignment for this course is a research paper on a topic of your choosing.

This assignment will be due in two stages:

1) Rough/partial draft – due Wednesday, April 16 via email.
2) Final draft – due Friday, May 16 via email.

Please also plan to consult with me in office hours to discuss your project.

**Access to the Readings:**
Most of the readings are available online through the UW Library electronic journal subscriptions. When we read 1-2 chapters from a book, I will circulate an electronic copy of the reading.

NOTE: If a reading is starred “***”, this means that the reading is NOT available electronically and that you will be responsible for either purchasing the book or coordinating with other students to procure a copy. Here is a list of starred readings:


**Office Hours:**
I encourage you to see me during office hours. They are by appointment so please just email me.

**Other:**
I observe all university policies addressing racial, ethnic, gender, sexual preference, or religious discrimination and all forms of harassment. I conduct class in conformance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please familiarize yourself with policies that may apply to you, and bring any related to concerns to my attention.
1. **January 23: Introduction and Course Overview**


2. **January 30: Democracy and War**


**Recommended:**


And responses to Rosato:


3. **February 6: More on Domestic Politics and International Conflict: Non-Democracies, Leaders, Etc**


Weeks, Jessica. 2014. *Dictators at War and Peace*. Introduction, Chapter 1, and Chapter 3 (distributed electronically).


**Recommended:**

4. **February 13: External Conflict and the Second Image Reversed (1)**


5. **February 20: External Conflict and the Second Image Reversed (2)**


6. **February 27: Diversionary Conflict**


International Organization 56(2): 297–337.


Recommended


7. **March 6: Public Opinion, Congress, and War**


William Howell and Jon Pevehouse. 2011. While Dangers Gather. (chapters TBD)


Recommended:


8. **March 13: Economic Interests and International Security**


**Recommended:**


9. **March 27: Signaling and Crisis Bargaining (may need to reschedule)**


**Recommended:**


10. **April 3: Cooperation**


11. **April 10: Domestic Politics and Economic Policy (1)**


**Recommended:**


**12. April 17: Research mini-presentations**

**13. April 24: Domestic Politics & Economic Policy (2)**


Michael Bechtel, Jens Hainmueller, and Yotam Margalit. Forthcoming. “Preferences toward International
Redistribution: The Divide Over the Eurozone Bailouts.” *American Journal of Political Science.*

14. **May 1: IOs, Human Rights, Elections, Immigration**


**Recommended:**


15. May 8: Research Presentations