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, and 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:

- **3 response memos** (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 three response memos analyzing and critiquing the week’s readings. Memos should be 3-4 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?
- 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? Be specific. I encourage you to download replication data and turn to outside readings, etc, when appropriate.
• How do these readings speak to other readings in the course or important debates in the literature?
• What questions do these readings raise for future research?

Your memos are due to me via email at 6pm the evening before 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 several stages:

1) Proposal – due Friday, October 16
2) Partial draft (literature review, research question, research design) – due Monday, Nov 23
3) Final draft – due Wednesday, December 16

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

Readings
For various reasons, I have decided to focus the majority of our readings on books. I have structured the readings so that you will usually read one book per week. You are expected to have read the entire book, not just selections.

I suggest that you purchase the books, however I have also requested that they be held on reserve at the library, AND I have a desk copy of each book that you can loan on request.

Participation
I expect all students to participate thoughtfully in all class sessions.

Office Hours:
I encourage you to see me during office hours. For graduate students, my office hours are by appointment so please just email me. You can also stop in during my undergraduate office hours (posted) for shorter questions.

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.
Sept 9 (no memos for this week, please)


Rogowski, Ronald. "Trade and the variety of democratic institutions." *International

Rogowski, Ronald. "Political cleavages and changing exposure to trade." *American Political


Chaudoin, Stephen, Helen V. Milner, and Xun Pang. "International systems and domestic

Sept 16

Cornell University Press.

Sept 23

Press.

Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, James Morrow, Alan Siverson, and Alastair Smith, “An Institutional
Explanation for the Democratic Peace,” *American Political Science Review* 93 (December

Sept 30

Cambridge University Press.

Weeks, Jessica L. 2012. “Strongmen and Straw Men: Authoritarian Regimes and the Initiation of
Oct 7


Oct 14


*Friday, Oct 16: research paper proposals due*

Oct 21


Oct 28


Nov 4


Nov 11


Nov 18


*Monday, November 23: partial draft due*
Nov 25


Dec 2


Dec 9