

Fall 2000

# International Relations Syllabus

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**Syllabus for  
International Relations  
GOVT 340 – Autumn 2000  
Dr. Steven Alan Samson  
Liberty University  
School of Business and Government**

- I. **Course Description** Techniques for managing and resolving conflict in international relations. Emphasis is on current international issues like U.S. arms policy and U.S. policy in the Middle East.

More generally, a study of the relations between sovereign nations with special emphasis on the causes of war, security and peace issues, and international political economy.

- II. **Rationale** This course directly supports Aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the Liberty University Statement of Purpose.

- III. **Prerequisite** GOVT 200 or GOVT 220, preferably both

- IV. **Materials List** Roskin, Michael, and Norman O. Berry. IR: The New World of International Relations  
Thompson, Kenneth W. Fathers of International Thought

V. **Course Objectives/Requirements**

1. The student will be exposed to a variety of concepts and social science approaches to the study of international relations.
2. The student will learn how to analyze and compare the history, geography, economies, governing institutions, and political behavior of contemporary nations, states, and international entities.
3. The student will thereby become better equipped to understand, participate in, and evaluate international political processes.

VI. **Graded Requirements**

1. Each student is responsible for completing reading assignments prior to class and should keep a loose leaf notebook of class materials.
2. Participation is an essential part of class. Each student will report on one or two assigned collateral readings and help lead class discussions. In addition, each student will present a research report on a recent international event, conflict, or personality using sources from the internet. A typed, 2-3 page abstract or summary of each reading or report should be supplied at the time. Students should also be prepared to discuss textbook readings and current events. (10%)
3. Students will be tested on the lecture and reading material through a series of nine quizzes. (90%)
4. Two pass/fail world map quizzes are scheduled for September 11 and 25.
5. Quizzes should be taken at the scheduled date and time. Make-up quizzes must be taken in the testing center within **two days**, except in case of an absence due to illness, which may be excused with a note from the doctor. Otherwise, the student will lose one grade level on the quiz if it is not taken before the following class session. Students with an average of 80% or higher after six quizzes and/or a good attendance record (no more than three unexcused absences) will have the lowest quiz score dropped.
6. The grading scale is 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59 and below=F.

VII. **Attendance** Students are required to arrive **on time** for every class meeting. Students who are absent due to illness or emergency must notify the professor prior to class. For every absence, both excused and unexcused, a typed explanation stating the classes missed, circumstances, and a make-up plan must be provided immediately upon the student's return to class. **Each unexcused absence will deduct 20% from the participation grade.** Excused absences include participation in university-sponsored events, a death in the immediate family, or serious illness (if accompanied by a physician's note). Six unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. Persistent tardiness will also have a detrimental effect on grades.

VIII. **Dress Code** Observe the Liberty Way. Students who are not in appropriate campus attire will **not** be admitted to class. Caps will **not** be worn in class.

IX. **Office Location, Phone, E-Mail, Hours**

School of Business and Government, DH 130

Phone: 582-2640

E-Mail: [ssamson@liberty.edu](mailto:ssamson@liberty.edu)

Hours: MWF 1:15-2:15, 3:15-4:15; T 9:30-11:30; by appointment

CLASS SCHEDULE

**August**

Wed. 23 Introduction  
Fri. 25 Radosh; Mansbach, ch. 2  
Mon. 28 Mansbach, ch. 2; Thompson, Introduction, ch. 1  
Wed. 30 Thompson, chs. 1-3

**September**

Fri. 1 chs. 3-4  
Mon. 4 chs. 5-6  
Wed. 6 ch. 7; FIRST QUIZ: Mansbach; Thompson, Introduction-6  
Fri. 8 ch. 8  
Mon. 11 chs. 8-9; FIRST MAP QUIZ  
Wed. 13 ch. 9-10  
Fri. 15 chs. 10-Epilogue; Lieber  
Mon. 18 Roskin, ch. 1; SECOND QUIZ: Thompson, 7-Epilogue; Lieber  
Wed. 20 chs. 1-2  
Fri. 22 ch. 2  
Mon. 25 ch. 3; SECOND MAP QUIZ  
Wed. 27 chs. 3-4  
Fri. 29 ch. 4; THIRD QUIZ: Roskin, 1-3

**October**

Mon. 2 ch. 5  
Wed. 4 chs. 5-6  
Fri. 6 ch. 6  
Mon. 9 ch. 7; FOURTH QUIZ: Roskin, 4-6  
Wed. 11 ch. 8  
Fri. 13 FALL BREAK  
Mon. 16 chs. 8-9  
Wed. 18 ch. 9  
Fri. 20 ch. 10; FIFTH QUIZ: Roskin, 7-9  
Mon. 23 ch. 10-11  
Wed. 25 ch. 11  
Fri. 27 chs. 12  
Mon. 30 ch. 12-13

## November

Wed.	1	ch. 13; SIXTH QUIZ: Roskin, 10-12
Fri.	3	ch. 14
Mon.	6	chs. 14-15
Wed.	8	ch. 15
Fri.	10	ch. 16; SEVENTH QUIZ: Roskin, 13-15
Mon.	13	ch. 16
Wed.	15	ch. 17
Fri.	17	ch. 17-18
Mon.	20	ch. 18
Wed.	22	ch. 19
Fri.	24	THANKSGIVING BREAK
Mon.	27	ch. 19-20
Wed.	29	ch. 21; EIGHTH QUIZ: Roskin, 16-18

## December

Fri.	1	ch. 21; Reports
Mon.	4	Reports
Wed.	6	Reports
Fri.	8	Reports; NINTH QUIZ: Roskin, 19-21

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