

Political Science 403W: The U.S. in World Affairs

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**THE FINAL EXAM (27% the course grade)**  
**Due in hard copy 12 May 2017 at noon in my office or earlier.**  
**I will not accept any exam by e.mail.**

I expect, and will grade accordingly, that you will comply with the following:

- 1) I suggest you review **WRITING IN POLT 403**.
- 2) The essays will be single-spaced with normal default spacing, 1" margins, and of required length or the handwritten equivalent. You will use a font with a size of 11 or 12 and a face such as Times New Roman or the equivalent. Examples of faces you will not use are `courier new` and `O C R`. *Failure to follow the above can cost a 1.0 cut for the task.*
- 3) The essays will begin with a topic sentence or a thesis statement. *Failure to do this will cost 1.0 for each essay.*
- 4) When you draw from a reading or another source, credit the reading or source with a note in the form – (Bressler, p. 180). *If I find inadequate sourcing, I will assign a cut of up to 1.0 for the essay.*
- 5) *Essays that are not the required length will lose 1.0 each.*
- 6) Please type your essays.

**You may not collaborate on this task.**

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**6 APR**

Topic: Critical Issue (II)

**ESSAY on FINAL EXAM**

Sub-Topic: Military Interventions

My website: vu-graphs, Hoffman's views on military interventions

My website: Ingram, vu-graph, "When Thinking About the Use of Force"

My website: Jordan, Chapter 16, "Irregular Challenges, Military Intervention, and Counterinsurgency," pp. 330-334

*In a near failed state where there has been increasing violence against the population by the government, an insurgency has developed. The insurgent leadership has asked the U.S. to intervene militarily.*

1. **(15) In a one-page essay**, discuss what you would consider in making a decision to intervene militarily or not.

**11 APR**

Topic: Critical Issue (III)

**ESSAY on FINAL EXAM**

Sub-Topic: Terrorism (Anti-American Terrorists)

Focus: Theory

*Wikipedia*. Terrorism, section 1, "terminology"

Focus: Al-Qaeda

My website: Jordan, Chapter 14, “Asymmetric Conflict, Terrorism, and Preemption,” pp. 297-303

My website: The Economist, “Al Qaeda: The other jihadist state,” 17 Sep 2016 Sep 17th 2016 |

*Focus:* ISIL

My website: Council on Foreign Relations, Laub, “Backgrounder: The Islamic State,” 10 Aug 2016

2. **(15) In a 3/4-page essay:**
  - a. define terrorism in your terms and explain why you have chosen your definition
  - b. discuss the threat to the U.S. from Al Qaeda and ISIL

### 18 APR

*Topic:* Critical Issue (V)

**ESSAYS on FINAL EXAM**

*Sub-Topic:* Russia

*Wikipedia*, “Russia”: Introduction & Foreign Relations

*BBC*, “Russia Profile,” 27 Dec 2016

Business Insider, Friedman, “10 Maps that Explain Russia’s Strategy,” 1 Feb 2016

*Carnegie Moscow Center*, Trenin, “Russia’s Post Soviet Journey,” 25 Dec 2016

*The Economist*, “Russia: Foreign Policy: The Fog of War,” 22 Oct 2016

“Russia and U.S. National Interests: Why Should Americans Care,” Allison and Blackwill, 2011

*The Economist*, “What America might want from Russia but is unlikely to get,” 11 Feb, 2017

3. **(7) In a 3/4-page essay:** *discuss* the situation in Russia, as it is presented in these readings.
4. **(8) In a 3/4-page essay:** *discuss* the relationship between Russia and the U.S. in terms of their interests, as you can develop that relationship from these readings.

### 25 APR

**ESSAYS on FINAL EXAM**

*Topic:* Critical Issue (VII)

*Sub-Topic:* Human Rights

My website: *UN*, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

My website: *The Danish Institute for Human Rights*, “Are Human Rights Universal” (undated)

My website: *Human Rights Quarterly*, Donnelly, “The Relative Universality of Human Rights,” May 2007, especially pp. 282-284 & 298-306

My website: *The Economist*, “The politics of human rights”

My website: *The Economist*, “Righting wrongs”

5. **(7) In a ½-page essay,** *explain* what you believe ought to be included among human rights and give examples. This is not about universal or relative rights; that issues is next.
6. **(8) In a ½-page essay,** *discuss* if human rights are universal or relative.
7. **(8) In a ½-page essay,** given your views as presented in 1 and 2, *discuss* your view regarding the issue in *The Economist*, “Righting wrongs” and “The Politics of human rights.”

### 2 MAY

**TASKS on FINAL EXAM**

*Topic:* Critical Issue (IX)

*Sub-Topic:* Human Development

My website: Zoellick, “Fragile States: Securing Development” Sep 2008

8. (8) Zoellick states that “Our appreciation of how best to secure development – to synthesise security, governance and economics to be most effective – is still modest.”

**In a 1/2-page essay**, *describe* what you believe are the two most critical priorities to be considered when trying to help a fragile state and *explain* your choices.

My website: UN, “Human Development Indicators”

9. (4) **In a paragraph**, *describe*:
- the three dimensions of human development used in the index
  - the limitations of those three dimensions.

Wikipedia, “Poverty”

10. (6) **In a short essay**:
- define* poverty (Besides the first sentence of the Wikipedia article, look at definitions)
  - and explain* how poverty differs from absolute poverty

#### 4 MAY

*Topic*: Critical Issue (X)

**TASKS on FINAL EXAM**

*Sub-Topic*: Sustainable Development

Wikipedia, “Malthusian Catastrophe”

11. (4) **In a paragraph**, *describe* the basic Malthusian Catastrophe.

My website: “The Tragedy of the Commons”

12. **EXTRA CREDIT** (4) **In a paragraph**, *describe* the tragedy of the commons.

My website: Brundtland Commission Report, Chapter 2: “Toward Sustainable Development, section I, Concept of Sustainable Development,” 1987

My website: Ingram, “Some Economic Concepts,” XV

(The Production Possibility Curve) & class notes

13. (10) **In a 3/4-page essay**, *describe* the concept of sustainable development.