

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 101—SPRING 2008

## GLOBAL AFFAIRS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

School of International Relations  
University of Southern California

**When:** Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-10:50am

**Where:** THH 301

**Who:** Geoffrey Garrett  
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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8.30-9:30am

### Teaching Assistants:

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the most important issues shaping global affairs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, focusing on the role of the United States amid the challenges posed by the key global transformations of the contemporary era: globalization, the rise of Islamic extremism, nuclear proliferation and the emergence of China and India as world powers. The course is designed to give students the ability to look behind today's news headlines to understand the underlying forces driving them. We will focus on analyzing the positions of key policy makers and opinion leaders whose behavior and views are shaping the world we live in.

### DISABILITY

Students requesting academic accommodations based on disability are required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP when adequate documentation is filed. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to a TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is open Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00. The office is in Student Union 301 and their phone number is (213) 740-0776.

## ASSESSMENT

**25% in-class midterm:** the mid-term will be a mix of multiple choice questions, short answers and one essay.

**35% final (2 hours):** the final will be a mix of multiple choice, short answers and two essays, covering material from the whole course but with more weight given to material covered after the mid-term.

**25% analytic paper (1200 words maximum):** Students will write a short paper on one of three topics that will be given out before spring break. You will be required to take a position on an important issue in contemporary global affairs and to defend it using evidence. You may draw your evidence from any published source, so long as you can document it (i.e. websites are acceptable as well as books, journals, magazines and newspapers—though I would tend not to rely on blogs unless they have very high reputations).

Papers will be due in class on the last day of the course, **May 1**. Late papers will not be accepted.

**15% discussion section participation:** You must attend all sections. Grading will be based on the quality and quantity of your participation in discussions.

**Bonus credit (of half a letter grade):** may be awarded for exceptional contributions to in class discussions.

## KEEPING UP WITH THE US AND THE WORLD

Every lecture will begin with up to 20 minutes of discussion of US and world events since the last lecture. You will be expected to contribute actively to these discussions. To do so, you will have to come to class informed as to what has been taking place in the world!

You can keep up with global affairs in many ways. My favorite sources of information include:

- <http://news.google.com>, for up to the minute information from around the world – I have the google news crawl on the computer all the time
- *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, the best full service US newspapers, with good websites that do not require paid subscriptions. *Los Angeles Times* is probably the next best paper in the country. You can get their web stuff for free.
- [www.cfr.org](http://www.cfr.org), the website of the Council on Foreign Relations based in New York
- *Economist*, a British weekly magazine. Reading this magazine every week is the best two-hour investment in your knowledge you can make each week

- *Financial Times* and *Wall Street Journal*, newspapers that covers global affairs as well as business. But they charge for web access

You also have access during the course to <http://researchnavigator.com>, which allows you to search the archives of the *New York Times* and the *Financial Times*. This will also be a valuable resource for writing your analytic papers, though your research should extend well beyond it.

## READINGS

The course reader must be purchased from the USC Bookstore. The lectures will not repeat the readings. Mastering the readings in advance will be essential to your ability to understand lectures and to participate in class discussions.

Note that some readings are NOT in the reader, but either are available online or will be distributed in class.

## SYLLABUS

### **Week 1: January 15 & 17 - Introduction**

January 15 will introduce the course and students will complete a survey to help inform the rest of the course. We will discuss the survey in class on January 17.

### **Week 2: January 22 & 24 – A Brief History of the 20<sup>th</sup> (“American”) Century**

- Khalilzad, *The United States and the World After the Cold War*
- Rice, *Promoting the National Interest*

### **Week 3: January 29 & 31 – The Presidential Candidates’ World Views**

- Clinton, *Security and Opportunity for the Twenty-first Century*
- Giuliani, *Toward a Realistic Peace*,
- Obama, *Renewing American Leadership*
- Romney, *Rising to a New Generation of Global Challenges*

[McCain and Huckabee to be handed out in class]

### **Week 4: February 5 & 7 – Before and After the “Super Tuesday” Primaries**

No reading, but please vote on February 5 and come prepared to talk about the issues and the elections all week

### **Week 5: February 12 & 14 – Big Picture Perspectives on a Complex World**

- Fukuyama, *The End of History?*

- Huntington, The Clash of Civilizations

**Week 6: February 19 & 21 - The Imperial U.S?**

- Brooks and Wohlforth, American Primacy in Perspective
- Ikenberry, America's Imperial Ambition
- Nye, Soft Power and American Foreign Policy

**Week 7: February 26 & 28 – the Politics of the War on Terrorism**

- Yankelovich, What Americans Really Think about U.S. Foreign Policy
- Zakaria, Why Do They Hate Us?

**Week 8: March 3 & 5 – A Globalization Primer**

- Bhagwati, Coping with Anti-Globalization
- Hoffmann, Clash of Globalizations

**Week 9: March 10 & 12 – Globalization and Inequality**

- Dollar and Kraay, Spreading the Wealth
- Garrett, Globalization's Missing Middle

**ANALYTIC PAPER TOPICS DISTRIBUTED**

**---no classes week of March 17: spring break!---**

**Week 10: March 24 & 26 – Mid-term**

**\*\*\*No class on March 24; mid-term in class March 26\*\*\***

**Week 11: April 1 & April 3 – Loose Nukes in Weak States**

- Markey, A False Choice in Pakistan,
- Carter, How to Counter WMD

Guest lectures by

Mike Chinoy, former Chief Asia Correspondent for CNN (North Korea)  
David Karl, Director of Studies, Pacific Council on International Policy (Pakistan)

**Week 12: April 8 & 10 – China and India**

- Huang, Can India Overtake China?
- Zakaria, Does the Future Belong to China?

**Week 13: April 15 & 17 – US Intelligence; North Korea**

- Flynn, America the Vulnerable

\*\*\* Guest lectures on US Intelligence by UCLA Professor Amy Zegart\*\*\*

**Week 14: April 22 & 24 – Development, Health, Environment**

- Sachs, The Development Challenge

\*\*\* April 22: Guest lecture by Jonathan Greenblatt, founder of Ethos Water\*\*\*

**Week 15: April 29 & May 1 – Global Politics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Wrap Up**

**Analytic papers due May 1 in class**

**FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY MAY 13, 8-10AM**