

**PSCI 4820: International Conflict  
Fall 2008**

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“War is neither glamorous nor fun. There are no winners, only losers. There are no good wars, with the following exceptions: The American Revolution, World War II, and the Star Wars Trilogy.”

*-Bart Simpson*

War has existed as a phenomenon across human history. Wars have shaped the form and activities of political institutions, contributing to the rise of states, the way in which they interact, and the manner in which they channel the resources of their people. This course will focus upon the forces that promote conflict and peace within the international system. Is a propensity for war an innate characteristic of humans or is it a reflection of failed political institutions? We will discuss the ways in which warfare has changed across history as well as the form it is likely to take in the future. Of particular interest in our survey of international war will be the intersection between war and politics.

This course begins with one fundamental assumption that we will discuss at the beginning of the term: war as a phenomenon is a concept that is generalizable over time. We will survey the scholarly literature on war in order to gain a better understanding of what the leading research on war can tell us about conflict in the international system. Following this survey, we will analyze the path that led to the current war in Iraq and its implications for American security.

**Assigned Readings**

Patrick Morgan (2006) *International Security: Problems and Solutions* Washington: CQ Press.

Carl Von Clausewitz, *On War* (**ebook**: available electronically through the library webpage)

Additional readings available online as noted below

**Grading**

Simulation paper – 15%

Research paper – 20%

Midterm exam – 30%

Final exam – 35%

\*\* Note: Students who are chronically absent from class, ill prepared for class, or who do not participate in class will have their grades reduced by up to one letter grade.

**Course Rules**

1. I take academic honesty very seriously. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating will receive an F in the course and will be referred to the proper university authorities.
2. Students may not turn in papers assigned or submitted to another class. Doing so without my prior permission will result in an “F” on the assignment.
3. I do not give extra credit or other compensatory assignments. Please do not ask, it will make both of us sad when I say “no”.
4. Course information will be disseminated through both the class webpage ([ecampus.unt.edu](http://ecampus.unt.edu)). You are responsible for checking the class webpage on a regular basis for class updates, information, and announcements.
6. This syllabus is not a contract; I reserve the right to alter both dates and assignments
6. Late assignments will only be accepted under extraordinary circumstances, with prior approval, and with appropriate documentation.

7. Students are expected to arrive at each class meeting with the readings for that class completed and prepared to discuss them.
8. I am available to answer questions about the course during my office hours, via e-mail, or by appointment. If you have a question about the course, do not hesitate to ask me. I get paid to study and talk about international conflict, a topic that interests me greatly. I am more than happy to do so with you.

### **Course Schedule:**

#### **Part 1: Roots of Conflict and the Means to Mitigate them**

1. Introduction (Aug 25)
2. Why War? (Aug 27)
  - Morgan, Chapter 1
  - Carl Von Clausewitz , *On War* (Chapter 1: What is War?, Chapter 2: End and Means in War) (**ebook**)
3. Individual-Level Explanations: Human Nature, Psychology (Sep 2-4)
  - Morgan, Chapter 2
  - Thomas Hobbes, “Chapter XIII: Of the Natural Condition of Mankind, As Concerning Their Felicity and Misery” <http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl302/texts/hobbes/leviathan-c.html>
4. Power Distribution, System Structure and War (Sep 9-11)
  - Morgan, Chapter 3, Chapter 6
  - Thucydides, “The Melian Dialogue” <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/melian.htm>
  - Kenneth N. Waltz (1988) “The Origins of War in Neorealist Theory” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 18, No. 4, The Origin and Prevention of Major Wars, pp. 615-628. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/204817>
5. Deterrence (Sep 16-18)
  - Morgan, Chapter 5
  - Christopher Achen and Duncan Snidal (1989) "Rational Deterrence Theory and Comparative Case Studies." *World Politics*, Vol. 41, No. 2, pp. 143-169 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2010405>
  - Paul K. Huth (1988) "Extended Deterrence and the Outbreak of War." *American Political Science Review* Vol. 82, No. 2, pp. 423-443 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1957394>
6. Simulation Week – Balance of Power (Sep 23-25)
7. Arms Races and War (Sep 30-Oct 2)
  - Paul F. Diehl, Mark J. C. Crescenzi (1998) “Reconfiguring the Arms Race Debate” *Journal of Peace Research*, Vol. 35, No. 1, pp. 111-118 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/425233>
  - Andrew Kydd (2000) “Arms Races and Arms Control: Modeling the Hawk Perspective” *American Journal of Political Science* Vol. 44, No. 2, pp. 228-244 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2669307>

**\*\* Simulation Paper Due, Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup> \*\*\***
8. Democracy and War (Oct 7-9)
  - Immanuel Kant, “Perpetual Peace – Section II, Definitive Articles 1-2” <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/kant/kant1.htm>, “First Supplement: Of the Guarantee for Perpetual Peace” <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/kant/firstsup.htm>

- Michael Doyle (1986) “Liberalism and World Politics” *American Political Science Review* Vol. 80, No. 4 pp. 1151-1169 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1960861>
- Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder (1995) “Democratization and War” *International Security*, Vol. 20, No. 1, pp. 5-38 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2539213>

9. Third-Party Efforts to Mitigate Conflict (Oct 14-16)

- **Morgan, Chapters 9 & 10**
- J. Michael Greig and Paul F. Diehl (2005) “The Peacekeeping–Peacemaking Dilemma” *International Studies Quarterly* 49(4)  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T\\_B&C=international+studies+quarterly](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T_B&C=international+studies+quarterly) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- Page Fortna (2004) “Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War. By” *International Studies Quarterly* 48(2)  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T\\_B&C=international+studies+quarterly](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T_B&C=international+studies+quarterly) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)

**\*\* Midterm Exam, Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup> \*\***

10. Ethnic Conflict & Nationalism (Oct 21-23)

- Chaim Kaufman (1996) “Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars” *International Security*, Vol. 20, No. 4, pp. 136-175 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2539045>
- Samuel Huntington (1993) “The Clash of Civilizations,” *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 72, no. 3  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T\\_B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T_B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- Radha Kumar (1997) “The Troubled History of Partition” *Foreign Affairs* 76(1)  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T\\_B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T_B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)

11. Unconventional War I – Guerilla Warfare (Oct 28-30)

- T.E. Lawrence, “The Evolution of a Revolt”  
<http://www-cgsc.army.mil/carl/resources/csi/Lawrence/lawrence.asp>
- United States Army, *Counterinsurgency Field Manual*, Chapters 1 & 5  
<http://www.fas.org/irp/doddir/army/fm3-24.pdf>

12. Unconventional War II - Terrorism (Nov 4-6)

- Martha Crenshaw (1981) “The Causes of Terrorism” *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 13, No. 4, pp. 379-399 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/421717>
- Andrew Kydd and Barbara F. Walter (2006) “The Strategies of Terrorism” *International Security*, 31 (Summer): 49–80.  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T\\_B&C=international+security](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T_B&C=international+security) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- Paul Berman (2003) “The Philosopher of Islamic Terror,” *New York Times Magazine*, March 23.  
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9F01E7D91731F930A15750C0A9659C8B63>

**Part 2: Ideas and the Path to War – The Case of Iraq**

1. Foundations: Conceptualizing America’s Role in the Post-Cold War World (Nov 11)

- G. John Ikenberry (2001) “Getting Hegemony Right” *The National Interest* Spring pp. 17–25.  
<http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Getting+Hegemony+Right-a072345245>
- William Kristol and Robert Kagan (1996) “Toward A Neo-Reaganite Foreign Policy” *Foreign Affairs* 75(4): 18-32

[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)

- Robert Jervis (2003) “The Compulsive Empire” *Foreign Policy* Jul/Aug, Iss. 137; pg. 82  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3183700>
- G. John Ikenberry (2002) “America's Imperial Ambition” *Foreign Affairs*. Sep 1, pg. 44  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)

2. Challenges: Competing Conceptions of the Threats Faced by the United States (Nov 13)

- Norman Podhoretz (2004) “World War IV: How It Started, What It Means, and Why We Have to Win” *Commentary* September.  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=commentary](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=commentary) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- Andrew Bacevich (2005) “The Real World War IV” *The Wilson Quarterly*. Vol. 29, Iss. 1; p. 36 (26 pages)  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=wilson+quarterly](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=wilson+quarterly) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)

3. Logic: Rationale for the Invasion of Iraq (Nov 18-20)

- James Rubin (2003) “Stumbling Into War” *Foreign Affairs* Sep/Oct 2003. Vol. 82, Iss. 5; pg. 46  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt (2003) “An Unnecessary War” *Foreign Policy* 137(January–February): 51–62 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3183521>
- Robert Kagan (2001) “On to Phase II” *The Washington Post* November 27, 2001, pg A13  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A19473-2001Nov26&notFound=true>
- Henry Kissinger (2002) “Phase II and Iraq” *The Washington Post* January 13, 2002 pg B07  
<http://irservices.library.unt.edu/ais.cfm?alpha=L> (access through LexisNexis Academic)

**\*\*\* Research Papers Due, Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup> \*\*\***

4. Aftershocks: What Now? Policy After Iraq (Nov 25-Dec 2)

- Joseph Nye (2003) “U.S. Power and Strategy After Iraq” *Foreign Affairs* Jul/Aug Vol. 82, Iss. 4; pg. 60-73.  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- James Dobbins (2007) “Who Lost Iraq?; Lessons From the Debacle” *Foreign Affairs* Sep/Oct Vol. 86, Iss. 5; pg. 61-74.  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- Condoleezza Rice (2008) “Rethinking the National Interest” *Foreign Affairs*. Jul/Aug Vol. 87, Iss. 4; p. 2-26  
[http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC\\_T B&C=foreign+affairs](http://dq4wu5nl3d.search.serialssolutions.com/?V=1.0&N=100&L=DQ4WU5NL3D&S=AC_T B&C=foreign+affairs) (you will need to navigate from here to the correct issue)
- Francis Fukuyama (2006) “After Neoconservatism” *New York Times Magazine* February 19  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/02/19/magazine/neo.html>

**\*\*\* Thanksgiving, November 27<sup>th</sup> – No Class Meeting \*\*\***

**\*\* Final Exam – Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 10:30am-12:30pm \*\***

### **Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism**

The *UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline* defines cheating and plagiarism as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others' tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one's own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of 'F' in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be the failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the field faculty in the case of departmental exams. Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary course work may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the case of undergraduate students, or the Graduate Studies Committee in the case of graduate students. These committees, acting as agents of the department chair, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case. Students may appeal a decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

### **Statement of ADA Compliance**

The Political Science Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request on or before the sixth class day (beginning by the second week of classes.)