

POLI 12: Intro to International Relations, Spring 2011
Prof. David A. Lake

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Office Hours: SSB 447, Mon 10-12 (or by appointment)
Sections: A02 (Wed 11am, SOLIS110) & A09 (Th 11am, TM102)

Syllabus & Readings: The course and section syllabi, slides and links to material can be found at <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~dlake/courses/ps12/ps12.htm>.

Section will make up 30% of the entire course grade. The breakdown is as follows:

Attendance & Participation 10%

- 1) Participation is expected of all students. Please complete the required readings prior to section and come prepared to actively discuss the material.
- 2) Attendance is based on roll call taken at the beginning of each class. Absences due to illness will require a doctor's note. Contact the TA for any exceptional circumstances, such as family emergencies.

Short Assignments 10%: During the quarter, the TA will announce 2-3 assignments asking students to write a 1-page response to the week's readings. Responses should include a brief summary of each reading and/or your own opinion/analysis.

Long Assignment 10%: The final one-third of the 30% section grade is based on a 4-page paper using the "3 I's" framework to explore an event in international politics.

- 1) Topic: Students should pick a recent or on-going international event and inform the TA in writing by Week 3. The New York Times (www.nytimes.com) and Los Angeles Times (www.latimes.com) are good places to start searching for a topic. If you are unsure as to whether your topic fits the requirements, consult the TA during office hours or set up an appointment.
- 2) Sources: Use news articles and reliable secondary sources to support your analysis. Citations required.
- 3) Summary & Analysis: Any summary of the event should be no longer than 1 page. The rest of the paper should focus on analyzing the event from a "3 I's" perspective. Be sure to answer the following:
 - a. Who are the actors in this event and what are their interests? Remember actors may have incentives to strategically misrepresent their goals.
 - b. What is the nature of their strategic interaction?
 - c. If your case involves bargaining failure, is this a problem of information asymmetry, credible commitment, or some other bargaining problem? Why?
 - d. What institutions structure the actors' interactions? Do these institutions affect the outcome of the bargain? Explain how and why.

NOTE: All assignments other than the midterm and final exams are due in section. Electronic copies will not be accepted unless under exceptional circumstances.