

**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**  
**PLIR 7500**  
**“The Domestic Politics of International Relations”**

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Spring 2015  
Day and Time: Wednesdays 3:30-6  
Room: New Cabell Hall 594  
Email: phil@virginia.edu

Instructor: Philip B. K. Potter  
Office: S466 Gibson  
Office Hours: Wed. 1-3  
**or by appointment**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course we will analyze how the political, economic, and social structures of states affect foreign policy and international relations. We will focus on several distinct substantive areas, including the domestic politics surrounding the use of force, trade, and IO participation. You will leave the course with a stronger appreciation for the domestic pressures that influence state leaders and an improved ability to design and conduct your own research. The primary assignment will be a piece of original research, which you will develop over the course of the semester with substantial input from both the class and me. The goal is to develop either a chapter of your dissertation or the beginnings of a publishable paper.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Participation – 20%  
Research Paper – 50%  
Research Presentation – 20%  
Article Review – 10%

The major assignment for this course will be to write a journal length article. If you opt to write a chapter of your dissertation I would still like this iteration to be in the form of a freestanding article. The question should broadly relate to the relationship between domestic politics and international relations, but the specifics should relate to your particular interests. I will provide additional details about writing a research paper in class.

The paper will be due in several stages. You will submit an abstract equivalent to what is required for an application to a professional conference on February 4<sup>th</sup>. The introduction and theory portions of the paper, including hypotheses, will be due March 18<sup>th</sup>. This draft should be accompanied by a bibliography and should include appropriate citations. The final paper is due April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Late assignments will be penalized one half-letter grade per day. I will exchange these papers for single-blind peer review by a classmate, which will allow you to both practice writing reviews and provide additional feedback on your work.

At the end of the course you will present your research (15 minute presentation and 15 minute Q&A). The format will mirror what is used at some of the smaller international relations conferences such as IPES or Peace Science.

The goal is to make you more comfortable with the core arguments on how domestic politics influence international relations, but also with some of the basic tasks required of an academic.

## BOOKS

Weeks, Jessica. *Dictators at War and Peace*. Cornell University Press, 2014.

Weiss, Jessica Chen. *Powerful Patriots: Nationalist Protest in China's Foreign Relations*. Oxford University Press, 2014.

Christensen, Thomas J. *Useful adversaries: Grand strategy, domestic mobilization, and Sino-American conflict, 1947-1958*. Princeton University Press, 1996.

Chiozza, Giacomo, and Hein Erich Goemans. *Leaders and International Conflict*. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Hafner-Burton, Emilie. *Making human rights a reality*. Princeton University Press, 2013.

Baum, Matthew A., and Tim J. Groeling. *War stories: The causes and consequences of public views of war*. Princeton University Press, 2009.

Holsti, Ole Rudolf. *Public opinion and American foreign policy*. University of Michigan Press, 2009.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### 1/14 – Introduction

Gourevitch, Peter. "The second image reversed: the international sources of domestic politics." *International Organization* 32.04 (1978): 881-912.

Putnam, Robert D. "Diplomacy and domestic politics: the logic of two-level games." *International Organization* 42.03 (1988): 427-460.

Fearon, James D. "Domestic politics, foreign policy, and theories of international relations." *Annual Review of Political Science* 1.1 (1998): 289-313.

Milner, Helen V. "Rationalizing politics: The emerging synthesis of international, American, and comparative politics." *International Organization* 52.04 (1998): 759-786.

### 1/21 – Domestic Conditions and Use of Force

Ostrom, Charles W. and Brian L. Job. 1986. The President and the Political Use of Force. *American Political Science Review* 80 (2): 541-566.

Gaubatz, Kurt Taylor. 1991. Election Cycles and War. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 35(2): 212-244.

Howell, William G. and Jon C. Pevehouse. 2005. Presidents, Congress, and the Use of Force. *International Organization* 59 (1): 209-232.

Clark, David H., Benjamin O. Fordham, and Timothy Nordstrom. "Preying on the Misfortune of Others: When Do States Exploit Their Opponents' Domestic Troubles?." *The Journal of Politics* 73.01 (2011): 248-264.

### **1/28 – Domestic Politics and Security Policy**

Christensen, Thomas J. *Useful adversaries: Grand strategy, domestic mobilization, and Sino-American conflict, 1947-1958*. Princeton University Press, 1996.

Narizny, Kevin. "Both guns and butter, or neither: Class interests in the political economy of rearmament." *American Political Science Review* 97.02 (2003): 203-220.

### **2/4 – Public Opinion and Foreign Policy**

Holsti, Ole. *Public opinion and American foreign policy*. University of Michigan Press, 2009.

Jim Golby, Kyle Dropp, and Peter Feaver, "How the Military Can Influence American Public Opinion" February 2014

<http://www.gspia.pitt.edu/Portals/26/PDF/How%20the%20Military%20Can%20Influence%20American%20Public%20Opinion%20Golby%20Dropp%20Feaver%202014-2-01.pdf>

Baum, Matthew A., and Philip BK Potter. "The relationships between mass media, public opinion, and foreign policy: Toward a theoretical synthesis." *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 11 (2008): 39-65.

### **2/11 – Autocratic Institutions**

Weeks, Jessica. *Dictators at War and Peace*. Cornell University Press, 2014.

Wright, Joseph. "Do authoritarian institutions constrain? How legislatures affect economic growth and investment." *American Journal of Political Science* 52.2 (2008): 322-343.

### **2/18 – Autocratic Conditions**

Weiss, Jessica Chen. *Powerful Patriots: Nationalist Protest in China's Foreign Relations*. Oxford University Press, 2014.

Pickering, Jeffrey, and Emizet F. Kisangani. "Diversionary Despots? Comparing Autocracies' Propensities to Use and to Benefit from Military Force." *American Journal of Political Science* 54.2 (2010): 477-493.

## **2/25 – Media and Foreign Policy**

Baum, Matthew A., and Tim J. Groeling. *War stories: The causes and consequences of public views of war*. Princeton University Press, 2009.

Baum, Matthew A. "Sex, lies, and war: How soft news brings foreign policy to the inattentive public." *American Political Science Review* 96.01 (2002): 91-109.

## **3/4 – Leaders**

Chiozza, Giacomo, and Hein Erich Goemans. *Leaders and International Conflict*. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Horowitz, Michael and Allan Stam "How Prior Military Experience Influences The Future Militarized Behavior of Leaders" *International Organization*. 68:3 (2014), pp. 527-559.

## **3/18 - Domestic Politics and International Bargaining/Agreement Formation**

Martin, Lisa L. 2000. *Democratic Commitments*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, chapters 1 and 2.

Milner, Helen V. 1997. *Interests, Institutions, and Information*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, chapters 1-4.

Garriga, Ana Carolina. 2009. Regime Type and Bilateral Treaty Formalization. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53 (5): 698-726.

## **3/25 – Norms and Human Rights**

Hafner-Burton, Emilie. *Making human rights a reality*. Princeton University Press, 2013.

Tomz, Michael, and Jessica L. Weeks. *Human Rights, Democracy, and International Conflict*. Working Paper, 2012.

## **4/1 - Trade**

Mansfield, Edward D., and Diana C. Mutz. "Support for free trade: Self-interest, sociotropic politics, and out-group anxiety." *International Organization* 63.03 (2009): 425-457.

Hiscox, Michael J. "Class versus industry cleavages: inter-industry factor mobility and the politics of trade." *International Organization* 55.01 (2001): 1-46.

Mansfield, Edward D., Helen V. Milner, and B. Peter Rosendorff. "Free to trade: Democracies, autocracies, and international trade." *American Political Science Review* (2000): 305-321.

Mansfield, Edward D., Helen V. Milner, and Jon C. Pevehouse. "Vetoing co-operation: The impact of veto players on preferential trading arrangements." *British Journal of Political Science* 37.03 (2007): 403-432.

#### **4/8 – IOs**

Chapman, Terrence L. "Audience beliefs and international organization legitimacy." *International Organization* 63.04 (2009): 733-764.

Pevehouse, Jon, and Bruce Russett. "Democratic international governmental organizations promote peace." *International Organization* 60.04 (2006): 969-1000.

Pevehouse, Jon C. "With a little help from my friends? Regional organizations and the consolidation of democracy." *American Journal of Political Science* (2002): 611-626.

Goldstein, Judith. "International law and domestic institutions: reconciling North American 'unfair' trade laws." *International Organization* 50.04 (1996): 541-564.

#### **4/15 – IOs Continued**

Chapman, Terrence L., and Dan Reiter. "The United Nations Security Council and the rally 'round the flag effect." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48.6 (2004): 886-909.

Simmons, Beth A., and Allison Danner. "Credible commitments and the international criminal court." *International Organization* 64.02 (2010): 225-256.

Flynn, Gregory, and Henry Farrell. "Piecing Together the Democratic Peace: The CSCE, Norms, and the 'Construction' of Security in Post-Cold War Europe." *International Organization* 53.03 (1999): 505-535.

#### **4/22 – Mini-Conference – 3:30 to 8PM**