

**PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS: WATER AND CONFLICT**  
**030:369/POLI 7550, Spring 2013**  
**TH 11:00 AM – 1:50 PM, 177 SH**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

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307 SH

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 10-11:30am; Wednesday, 1:30-3:00pm

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Despite the fact that more than two thirds of our “blue planet” is covered with water, only 2.5% is fresh water. As populations have grown and nations populated, the demand on freshwater has increased at an unsustainable rate. Climate change is projected to aggregate the shortage of freshwater already water stressed regions. The effects have resulted in warnings of increasing potential for conflict over international basins or potential “water wars”. A recent U.S. intelligence assessment notes an increased possibility that water will be used as a weapon between or within states or to further terrorist aims in the future. Competition over maritime areas has intensified as well, as global fishing stocks have experienced dramatic losses and as states vie for resources in previously uncontested areas, such as Antarctica. This class examines the management of water resources including cross-border rivers and maritime areas. Topics include common property resources, piracy, maritime security, peaceful and militarized conflict management of water-based conflicts, environmental/climate issues, natural disasters, and cooperative and institutional strategies design to promote interstate cooperation over water issues, such as the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention.

**REQUIRED TEXTS (please purchase independently through online book sellers, such as Amazon or Barnes and Noble):**

- 1) Feldman, David Lewis. 2012. *Water*. Cambridge, UK: Polity.
- 2) Klare, Michael T. 2002. *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict*. New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company.
- 3) Klein, Natalie. 2011. *Maritime Security and the Law of the Sea*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- 4) Murphy, Martin N. 2010. *Small Boats, Weak States, Dirty Money: Piracy and Maritime Terrorism in the Modern World*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.
- 5) Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- 6) Rothwell, Donald R. and Tim Stephens. 2010. *The International Law of the Sea*. Oxford, UK: Hart Publishing.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Your final grade will be determined based on your performance on class participation (25%), weekly papers (25%), and a research paper (50%). The final grading curve will include +/- grades.

### 1) Class Participation (25%)

The quality of a graduate level seminar depends to a large extent on the efforts of the students. I expect that you will come to class each week prepared to discuss the required readings. Obviously it is impossible to participate in a seminar discussion if you are not in attendance. I expect no absences in the course, and I encourage you to discuss any circumstances with me that will preclude you from attending class.

To prepare for class discussions, keep in mind the following points:

- a) What is the research question?
- b) What is the researcher's theoretical argument? What assumptions underlie this theory?
- c) Is the theory interesting? How does the argument fit into the literature? What does it tell us that we don't already know?
- d) Evaluation of the theory:
  - If the theory is tested, what consequences are tested, how are concepts measured, and what methods are used? Do these make sense?
  - Is there any evidence (other than anecdotal) that supports the theory? Is there evidence that falsifies it? What might you expect to see that would make you think the theory might be 'wrong'? Does the author provide you with enough of a structure to say this? In other words, is the theory falsifiable?
- e) What conclusions does the researcher draw? Does the researcher fully examine the implications of the theory? What are the most significant research findings?
- f) To what degree do you think the researcher has answered his/her question? Is this a good example of research? Why or why not? What are the possibilities for related research? How can the research be extended or applied elsewhere?
- g) How do the selections we read this week fit together? How do they fit into the course as a whole? Are we seeing progress in this research area?

### 2) Weekly Papers (25%)

Throughout the semester, you will submit a total of 7 one-page critiques of the weekly readings. You can use single-spacing, one inch margins, and no smaller than 11 point font. If there is a book for the week's readings, your critique should focus on that. If there are several articles and/or book chapters assigned, pick at least two related readings and discuss those in your critique. You will be allowed to drop your lowest paper grade. Students will sign up for the weeks in which they will write weekly papers at the beginning of the semester.

### 3) Research Paper (50%)

Choose a research question that falls in the topical areas covered in this class and write a research paper addressing this question. The final product should take the form of a conference paper or journal article. Your paper cannot reproduce (in whole or in part) any of your previous work in a substantive course. The paper should be about 20-30 pages in length and be written in the professional style of the American Political Science Association. Your research paper should a)

clearly identify your research question, b) review and synthesize the relevant literature, c) develop a theoretical argument and derive testable hypotheses, d) develop a research design to evaluate the hypotheses empirically, and e) present an empirical evaluation of the hypotheses (using either statistical analysis of existing data sets or qualitative analysis of a few cases). You may use whatever methodology you feel is most appropriate to the issue and which you feel qualified to implement. I will not be impressed by incompetent quantitative analysis, nor will I penalize competent historical or case-study approaches.

The paper will be due in several stages:

Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Research Question (5%) (due in class): Submit a one page typed description of your research question, and explain how it fits into the general topical themes for the course. Provide an initial bibliography of at least 15 sources. I recommend searching for publications related to your topic on <<http://scholar.google.com>>.

Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, Research Design (10%) (due by 5:00p.m. in ICON dropbox): Submit five to seven typed pages (with a bibliography) that identify your research question, review the literature relevant to your question, discuss the method of analysis you intend to employ, and describe any data or historical sources you will use to evaluate your hypotheses.

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, First Draft (15%) (due by 5:00p.m. in ICON dropbox): Submit the initial draft of your paper, with all key parts of the paper included (introduction, theory, research design, analysis, references). Each draft will be read by the instructor and two other students in the class (assigned by the instructor). The two papers each student will discuss will be distributed in class on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Reviews (20%) (due by 5:00p.m. in ICON dropbox): Each student will write a typed review commenting on two other students' papers in the class. The reviewers will be assigned "blindly", so that the authors do not know who reviewed their papers. The reviews should take the form of a journal review, where you make specific recommendations about how to improve the paper. More detailed instructions, along with examples of reviews, will be distributed in class later.

Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Final Draft (50%) (due by 5:00p.m. in ICON dropbox): Submit your final paper along with a memo responding to the reviewers' comments in the previous round. I will take into consideration how well you responded to others' criticisms when assigning a final grade. I will not accept any late papers under any circumstances! The final paper grade is based on the weighted component grades for each portion of the paper (research question, research design, first draft, reviews, and final draft).

## **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Most of the course readings are available electronically through Iowa's library resources. If you are on campus or connected to Iowa's library remotely, you can search for the article using <<http://scholar.google.com>>. You can also search for the journal in the library's catalog. I will have copies of book chapters and articles not available electronically posted on ICON.

### **Week #1 (January 24<sup>th</sup>): Introduction to the Course**

- Feldman, David Lewis. 2012. *Water*. Cambridge, UK: Polity.
- Frey, Bruno S. 2003. "Publishing as Prostitution? Choosing Between One's Own Ideas and Academic Success." *Public Choice* 116(1-2): 205-223.
- Zigerell, L.J. 2013. "Rookie Mistakes: Preemptive Comments on Graduate Student Empirical Research Manuscripts." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 46(1): 142-146.

### **Week #2 (January 31<sup>st</sup>): Resource Wars**

- Cooley, John K. 1984. "The War Over Water." *Foreign Policy* 54 (Spring): 3-26.
- Homer-Dixon, Thomas. 1994. "Environmental Scarcity and Violent Conflict: Evidence from Cases." *International Security* 19(1): 5-40.
- Wolf, Aaron. 1998. "Conflict and Cooperation along International Waterways." *Water Policy* 1(2): 251-265.
- Klare, Michael T. 2002. *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict*. New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company.
- Tertrais, Bruno. 2011. "The Climate Wars Myth." *The Washington Quarterly* 34(3): 17-29.

### **Week #3 (February 7<sup>th</sup>): Managing the Commons**

- Hardin, Garrett. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162: 1243-1248.
- Wijkman, Magnus. 1982. "Managing the Global Commons." *International Organization* 36(3): 511-536.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Giordano, Mark. 2003. "The Geography of the Commons: The Role of Scale and Space." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 93(2): 365-375.

### **Week #4 (February 14<sup>th</sup>): River Conflicts, Part I (Theoretical Perspectives)**

#### Overview

- Gleick, Peter H. 1993. "Water and Conflict: Fresh Water Resources and International Security." *International Security* 18(1): 79-112.
- Haftendorn, Helga. 2000. "Water and International Conflict." *Third World Quarterly* 21(1): 51-68.

#### Geography (Upstream/Downstream Factors)

- Toset, Hans Petter Wollebaek, Nils Petter Gleditsch, and Håvard Hegre. 2000. "Shared Rivers and Interstate Conflict." *Political Geography* 19: 971-996.
- Gleditsch, Nils Petter, Kathryn Furlong, Håvard Hegre, Bethany Lacina, and Taylor Owen. 2006. "Conflicts over Shared Rivers: Resource Scarcity or Fuzzy Boundaries?" *Political Geography* 25(4): 361-382.
- Brochmann, Marit and Nils Petter Gleditsch. 2012. "Shared Rivers and Conflict: A Reconsideration." *Political Geography* 31(8): 519-527.

#### Issue Salience

- Hensel, Paul R., Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, Thomas E. Sowers II, and Clayton L. Thyne. 2008. "Bones of Contention: Comparing Territorial, Maritime, and River Issues." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 52(1): 117-143.
- Brochmann, Marit and Paul R. Hensel. 2009. "Peaceful Management of International River Claims." *International Negotiation* 14(2): 391-416.

## **Week #5 (February 21<sup>st</sup>): River Conflicts, Part II (Theoretical Perspectives)**

### Basin Characteristics/Scarcity

- Giordano, Mark F., Meredith A. Giordano, and Aaron T. Wolf. 2005. "International Resource Conflict and Mitigation." *Journal of Peace Research* 42(1): 47-65.
- Tir, Jaroslav and John T. Ackerman. 2009. "Politics of Formalized River Cooperation." *Journal of Peace Research* 46(5): 623-640.
- Dinar, Shlomi. 2009. "Scarcity and Cooperation along International Rivers." *Global Environmental Politics* 9(1): 109-135.
- Brochmann, Marit. 2012. "Basin Asymmetries and the Risk of Conflict in International River Basins." Chapter 4 in *Bridge Over Troubled Water: Interaction in International River Basins*. Dissertation, University of Oslo (on ICON).

### Hydro-Hegemony

- Zeitoun, Mark and Jeroen Warner. 2006. "Hydro-Hegemony: A Framework for Analysis of Trans-Boundary Water Conflicts." *Water Policy* 8(5): 435-460.
- Dinar, Shlomi. 2009. "Power Asymmetry and Negotiations in International River Basins." *International Negotiation* 14: 329-360.

### Economics/Population Growth

- Rogers, Peter. 1993. "The Value of Cooperation in Resolving International River Basin Disputes." *Natural Resources Forum* 17(2): 117-131.
- Wolf, Aaron T. 1999. "Criteria for Equitable Allocations: The Heart of International Water Conflict." *Natural Resources Forum* 23: 3-30.

## **Week #6 (February 28<sup>th</sup>): River Conflicts, Part III (Case Studies)**

### Ganges

- Crow, Ben and Nirvikar Singh. 2000. "Impediments and Innovations in International Rivers: The Waters of South Asia." *World Development* 28(11): 1907-1925.

### Jordan

- Lowi, Miriam R. 1993. "Bridging the Divide: Transboundary Resource Disputes and the Case of West Bank Water." *International Security* 18(1): 113-138.
- Fishchhendler, Itay. 2008. "Ambiguity in Transboundary Environmental Dispute Resolution: The Israeli-Jordanian Water Agreement." *Journal of Peace Research* 45(1): 79-97.

### La Plata

- Gilman, Patrick, Victor Pochat, and Ariel Dinar. 2008. "Whither La Plata? Assessing the State of Transboundary Water Resource Cooperation in the Basin." *Natural Resources Forum* 32: 203-214.
- Kempkey, Natalie, Margaret Pinard, Victor Pochat, and Ariel Dinar. 2009. "Negotiations over Water and other Natural Resources in the La Plata River Basin: A Model for Other Transboundary Basins?" *International Negotiation* 14(2): 253-279.

### Nile

- Swain, Ashok. 1997. "Ethiopia, the Sudan, and Egypt: The Nile River Dispute." *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 35(4): 675-694.

### Rio Grande

- Fishchhendler, Itay. 2004. "Legal and Institutional Adaptation to Climate Uncertainty: A Study of International Rivers." *Water Policy* 6: 281-302.

### Tigris/Euphrates

- Kibaroglu, Aysegul and I.H. Olcay Unver. 2000. "An Institutional Framework for Facilitating Cooperation in the Euphrates-Tigris River Basin." *International Negotiation* 5: 311-330.
- Daoudy, Marwa. 2009. "Asymmetric Power: Negotiating Water in the Euphrates and Tigris." *International Negotiation* 14(2): 361-391.

### **Week #7 (March 7<sup>th</sup>): River Conflicts, Part IV (Treaties)**

- Hamner, Jesse H. and Aaron T. Wolf. 1998. "Patterns in International Water Resource Treaties: The Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database." *Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy* 9: 157-177.
- Bernauer, Thomas. 2002. "Explaining Success and Failure in International River Management." *Aquatic Sciences* 64(1): 1-19.
- Espey, Molly and Basman Towfique. 2004. "International Bilateral Water Treaty Formation." *Water Resources Research* 40(5): W05S05, 1-8.
- Song, Jennifer and Dale Whittington. 2004. "Why Have Some Countries on International Rivers Been Successful Negotiating Treaties?" *Water Resources Research*, 40(5).
- Hensel, Paul R. Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, and Thomas E. Sowers II. 2006. "Conflict Management of Riparian Disputes: A Regional Comparison of Dispute Resolution." *Political Geography* 25(4): 383-411.
- Conca, Ken, Fengshi Wu, and Ciqi Mei. 2006. "Global Regime Formation or Complex Institution Building?" *International Studies Quarterly* 50(2): 263-285.
- Tir, Jaroslav and Douglas Stinnett. 2011. "The Institutional Design of Riparian Treaties." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 55(4): 606-631.
- Brochmann, Marit and Paul R. Hensel. 2011. "The Effectiveness of Negotiations over International River Claims." *International Studies Quarterly* 55(3): 859-882.
- Zawahri, Neda A. and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2011. "Fragmented Governance of International Rivers: Negotiating Bilateral versus Multilateral Treaties." *International Studies Quarterly* 55(3): 835-858.
- Tir, Jaroslav and Douglas M Stinnett. 2012. "Weathering Climate Change: Can Institutions Mitigate International Water Conflict?" *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1): 211-225.

### **Week #8 (March 14<sup>th</sup>): Maritime Conflicts, Part I (Issues/Case Studies)**

#### General Issues

- Bailey, Jennifer L. 1996. "Hot Fish and Bargaining Chips." *Journal of Peace Research* 33(3): 257-262.
- Asgeirsdottir, Aslaug. 2007. Oceans of Trouble: Domestic Influence on International Fisheries Cooperation in the North Atlantic and Barents Sea. *Global Environmental Politics* 7(1): 120-144.
- Borgerson, Scott G. 2008. "Arctic Meltdown: The Economic and Security Implications of Global Warming." *Foreign Affairs* 87(2): 63-77.
- DeSombre, Elizabeth R. and J. Samuel Barkin. 2011. *Fish*. Cambridge, UK: Polity. Chapter 2, pp. 24-49 (on ICON).
- Srinivasan, U. Thara, Reg Watson, and U. Rashid Sumaila. 2012. "Global Fisheries Losses at the Exclusive Economic Zone Level, 1950 to Present." *Marine Policy* 36: 544-549.

### Case Studies

- Teece, David R. 1997. "Global Overfishing and the Spanish-Canadian Turbot War: Can International Law Protect the High-Sea Environment?" *Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law & Policy* 8: 89-126.
- Gallagher, Michael G. 1994. "China's Illusory Threat to the South China Sea." *International Security* 19(1): 169-194.
- Fravel, M. Taylor. 2010. "Explaining Stability in the Senkaku (Diaoyu) Dispute," pp. 144-164 in Gerald Curtis, Ryosei Kokubun and Wang Jisi (eds.), *Getting the Triangle Straight: Managing China-Japan-US Relations*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution Press. (Available through Scholar Google)
- Buszynski, Leszek. 2012. "The South China Sea: Oil, Maritime Claims, and U.S.–China Strategic Rivalry." *The Washington Quarterly* 35(2): 139-156.

### **Week #9 (March 21<sup>st</sup>): NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**

#### **Week #10 (March 28<sup>th</sup>): Maritime Conflicts, Part II (UNCLOS)**

- Rothwell, Donald R. and Tim Stephens. 2010. *The International Law of the Sea*. Oxford, UK: Hart Publishing.
- Charney, Jonathan I. 1994. "Central East Asian Maritime Boundaries and the Law of the Sea." *American Journal of International Law* 89(4): 724-749.
- Nemeth, Stephen C., Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, Elizabeth A. Nyman, and Paul R. Hensel. 2012. "Ruling the Sea: Managing Maritime Conflicts through UNCLOS and Exclusive Economic Zones." Working paper (on ICON).

### **Week #11 (April 4<sup>th</sup>): NO CLASS, ISA CONFERENCE**

#### **Week #12 (April 11<sup>th</sup>): Maritime Conflicts, Part III (Maritime Security)**

- Klein, Natalie. 2011. *Maritime Security and the Law of the Sea*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Fravel, M. Taylor. 2011. "China's Strategy in the South China Sea." *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 33(3): 292-319.

#### **Week #13 (April 18<sup>th</sup>): Piracy**

- Hastings, Justin V. 2009. "Geographies of State Failure and Sophistication in Maritime Piracy Hijackings." *Political Geography* 28: 214–223.
- Murphy, Martin N. 2010. *Small Boats, Weak States, Dirty Money: Piracy and Maritime Terrorism in the Modern World*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.
- Daxecker, Ursula and Brandon Prins. 2012. "Insurgents of the Sea: Institutional and Economic Opportunities for Maritime Piracy." Forthcoming, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

#### **Week #14 (April 25<sup>th</sup>): Climate Change and Conflict**

- Nordas, Ragnhild and Nils Petter Gleditsch. 2007. "Climate Change and Conflict." *Political Geography* 26: 627-638.
- Barnett, Jon and W. Neil Adger. 2007. "Climate Change, Human Security, and Violent Conflict." *Political Geography* 26: 639-655.

- Reuveny, Rafael. 2007. "Climate Change-Induced Migration and Violent Conflict." *Political Geography* 26: 656-673.
- Raleigh, Clionadh and Hendrik Urdal. 2007. "Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Armed Conflict." *Political Geography* 26: 674-694.
- Hendrix, Cullen S. and Sarah M. Glaser. 2007. "Trends and Triggers: Climate, Climate Change and Civil Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Political Geography* 26: 695-715.
- Burke M.B., E. Miguel, S. Satyanath, J.A. Dykema, and D.B. Lobell. 2009. "Warming Increases the Risk of Civil War in Africa." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in the United States of America* 106: 20670-20674.
- Buhaug, Halvard. 2010. "Climate Not to Blame for African Civil Wars." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in the United States of America* 107(88): 16477-16482.
- Theisen, Ole Magnus, Helge Holtermann and Halvard Buhaug. 2011-12. "Climate Wars? Assessing the Claim that Drought Breeds Conflict." *International Security* 36(3): 79-106.
- Hendrix, Cullen S. and Idean Salehyan. 2012. "Climate Change, Rainfall, and Social Conflict in Africa." *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1): 35-50.
- De Stefano, Lucia, James Duncan, Shlomi Dinar, Kerstin Stahl, Kenneth M Strzepek and Aaron T. Wolf. 2012. "Climate Change and the Institutional Resilience of International River Basins." *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1): 193-209.

**Week #15 (May 2<sup>nd</sup>): Environmental Resources and Conflict**

- Kahl, Colin H. 1998. "Population Growth, Environmental Degradation, and State-Sponsored Violence: The Case of Kenya, 1991-93." *International Security* 23(2): 80-119.
- le Billon, Philippe. 2001. "The Political Ecology of War: Natural Resources and Armed Conflicts." *Political Geography* 20: 561-584.
- de Soysa, Indra. 2002. "Ecoviolence: Shrinking Pie or Honey Pot?" *Global Environmental Politics* 2(3): 1-34.
- Stalley, Paul. 2003. "Environmental Scarcity and International Conflict." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 20: 33-58.
- Ross, Michael. 2004. "What Do We Know About Natural Resources and Civil War?" *Journal of Peace Research* 41(3): 337-356.
- Theisen, Ole Magnus. 2008. "Blood and Soil? Resource Scarcity and Internal Armed Conflict Revisited." *Journal of Peace Research* 45(6): 801-818.
- Lujala, Päivi. 2009. "Deadly Combat over Natural Resources: Gems, Petroleum, Drugs, and the Severity of Armed Civil Conflict." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53(1): 50-71.
- Colgan, Jeff D. 2010. "Oil and Revolutionary Governments: Fuel for International Conflict." *International Organization* 64: 661-694.
- Lujala, Päivi. 2010. "The Spoils of Nature: Armed Civil Conflict and Rebel Access to Natural Resources." *Journal of Peace Research* 48(6): 15-28.
- Hendrix, Cullen S. and Sarah M. Glaser. 2011. "Civil Conflict and World Fisheries, 1952-2004." *Journal of Peace Research* 48(4): 481-495.
- Mitchell, Sara McLaughlin and Cameron G. Thies. 2012. "Resource Curse in Reverse: How Civil Wars Influence Natural Resource Production." *International Interactions* 38(2): 218-242.



**Week #16 (May 9<sup>th</sup>): Natural Disasters and Conflict**

- Drury, A. Cooper & Richard Stuart Olson. 1998. "Disaster and Political Unrest: An Empirical Investigation." *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management* 6(3):153–161.
- Brancati, Dawn. 2007. "Political Aftershocks: The Impact of Earthquakes on Intrastate Conflict." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 51(5): 715–743.
- Nel, Philip and Marjolein Righarts. 2008. "Natural Disasters and the Risk of Violent Civil Conflict." *International Studies Quarterly* 52(1): 159–185.
- Omelicheva, Mariya Y. 2011. "Natural Disasters: Triggers of Political Instability?" *International Interactions* 37(4): 441-465.
- Slettebak, Rune T. 2012. "Don't Blame the Weather! Climate-related Natural Disasters and Civil Conflict." *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1): 163-176.
- Bergholt, Drago and Päivi Lujala. 2012. "Climate-Related Natural Disasters, Economic Growth, and Armed Civil Conflict." *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1): 147-162.
- Choudhury, Zahid. 2012. "Effects of Disasters on Government Legitimacy: An Aggregate Level Large-N Analysis." Paper presented at the ISA Midwest Conference, St. Louis, MO (on ICON).

## Teaching Policies & Procedures

### Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS [Student Academic Handbook](#).

### Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences. (*Operations Manual*, [III.15.2](#), k.11.)

### Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See [www.uiowa.edu/~sds/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~sds/) for more information.

### Academic Honesty

All CLAS students have, in essence, agreed to the College's [Code of Academic Honesty](#): "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the [IOWA Challenge](#). I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

### CLAS Final Examination Policies

The final examination schedule for each class is announced around the fifth week of the semester by the Registrar. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. **No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes.** All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the dates and times of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site.

### Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO (Political Science: Professor Cameron Thies; [cameron-thies@uiowa.edu](mailto:cameron-thies@uiowa.edu)). Complaints must be made within six months of the incident ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

### Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI [Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment](#) for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

**Reacting Safely to Severe Weather**

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the [Department of Public Safety website](#).

**Student Resources:** The Writing Center [www.uiowa.edu/~writingc/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~writingc/) and the Campus Information Center's Tutor Referral Services <http://imu.uiowa.edu/cic/> at the IMU.

\*These CLAS policy and procedural statements have been summarized from the web pages of the [College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#) and The University of Iowa [Operations Manual](#).