



Section Syllabus

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Contact Information

Friday: 2:00-2:50 pm; 3:00-3:50 pm, Locy Hall 109

TA: Alisher Juzgenbayev

Email: alisher.juzgenbayev@law.northwestern.edu

Office Hours

Wednesdays: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm (Scott Hall #214, or Google Meets), or **by appointment**.

- Office hours belong to you. At these times, I will be in my office ready to discuss class (or things pertaining to collegiate life more generally) to the very best of my ability.
- I ask you to schedule an appointment via the QR Code Below. You can request an appointment whenever convenient for you (up to 5 minutes in advance). The appointment system is mostly to avoid overcrowding in the limited space of the Scott Hall, and for you to make effective use of your time, particularly during exam period. It is not required for you to sign up via link: feel free to show up without scheduling during that time. If this time does not work for you, I will try my

absolute best to meet with you during another time. **You can also choose whether to chat in person, or meet via Google Meets.**

- Coming to office hours is a great way to a) help me get to know you better as a student and a person and b) demonstrate effort and engagement with the class.

Key Dates and Times

Monday, February 10—Midterm Exam

Friday, February 28—Communication Project

Monday, March 10—Final Exam

Rules and Guidelines

Attendance and Participation

- Regular attendance is required and factors into your grade along with participation and respectful treatment of others. You are expected to attend all sections - if you must miss one, please notify me in advance.
- Participation takes many forms - from speaking in full-class discussions to engaging in small group activities. While active listening, asking questions, and taking notes are important, regular verbal contributions are necessary for a strong grade. I encourage everyone to aim for at least one thoughtful comment per section to build confidence. Quality matters more than quantity - simply talking frequently does not guarantee a high grade.
- You will receive a mid-term participation grade to help you gauge where you stand. Here's how participation is evaluated:

Assessment	Exemplary (A)	Adequate (B)	Minimal (C)	Unacceptable (D/F)
Participation	Almost always contributes to class discussion and activities in insightful and meaningful ways, often with clear indication of engagement with course materials. Asks thoughtful, helpful questions. Engages with TA and fellow classmates with curiosity and respect.	Sometimes contributes to class discussion and activities in insightful or meaningful ways, often with some indication of engagement with course material. Asks questions. Engages with TA and fellow classmates with respect.	Infrequently contributes to class discussion and activities in insightful or meaningful ways, with unclear indication of engagement with course materials. Rarely asks questions. Responds to TA and fellow classmates with respect.	Rarely to never contributes to class discussion in insightful or meaningful ways, with little to no indication of engagement with course material. Does not ask clarifying questions. Fails to treat TA or classmates with respect.

As noted on the lecture syllabus, mere attendance is an insufficient proxy for participation: If you do not regularly contribute to discussion and activities in a constructive way, you can expect to receive a grade of “minimal” or “unacceptable.”

Discussion Leadership

Each student will lead discussion once during the quarter. Your role is to kick off our conversation about key course concepts and spark engaging discussion with your classmates. This involves:

- 5-6 minute presentation on at least one reading/podcast
- 2-3 discussion questions that either:
 - Address points you found puzzling while reading, or
 - Seek your classmates' perspectives on the material
- Submitting a brief outline (maximum one page) by **noon Thursday** before your presentation
 - The outline should be concise but clear about which concepts you'll focus on.

You'll need to coordinate with your co-discussants ahead of time to divide up the week's materials. In your outline, clearly indicate which reading(s) or material you'll cover. While not all materials can be split perfectly evenly, try to balance the workload among presenters so everyone has a substantive piece to discuss. Together, your group should cover all assigned materials for that week.



Sign-up sheet will be sent out at 7 pm on Friday, January 10th via Canvas.

Classroom Conduct

- International politics can spark passionate debate. Often, we discuss relationships between different countries, cultures, as well as legacies and the present realities of violent conflict. While disagreement is welcome and expected, all discussions must remain respectful. Our section brings together diverse perspectives and backgrounds - engaging thoughtfully with different viewpoints creates the most productive discussions.
- Activities that will lower your grade include: interrupting others, hostile behavior, off-topic comments, and device use unrelated to class. Laptops and phones should only be used for course materials and notes. If online distractions are a challenge, consider turning off your Wi-Fi during section.

Correspondence

The best way to contact me outside of office hours is via email. I will do my absolute best to respond to each email within a working day. However, if you have a substantive question, I would strongly recommend you come during office hours. If you are unable to make office hours for the week, I will do my best to accommodate that by scheduling a meeting at another time.

Using the QR Code below, you may also access the **feedback form**.



You may use the feedback form to provide a reflection and show engagement with the course material. More importantly, you can use it to ask **any questions** about the class at **any time** in the class.

You are not required to provide your name in the form, and questions like "I really don't get the bargaining model of war. Could you elaborate?" are absolutely appropriate. Please send in those

questions before the relevant discussion section, so we may cover any points of confusion. My goal is to be as helpful as possible in clarifying class concepts and theories, and applying these to real-world events.

Accommodations

Any students with a mental or physical condition requiring special accommodations should speak with me, Prof. Gilbert, and the Office of Student Assistance and Support Services (AccessibleNU) at 847-467-5530 as soon as possible. All discussions of this will remain confidential.

Title IX Statement

Northwestern University is committed to fostering an environment where students are safe and free from sexual misconduct. [Confidential resources](#) are available to those who have experienced sexual misconduct. Faculty, instructors, and TAs are not confidential resources and *are required* to report incidents of sexual misconduct, whether discussed in your assignments or in person, to the Office of Equity, which can provide information about resources and options. I encourage students who have experienced sexual misconduct to talk with someone to get support. For more information, including how to request supportive measures or file a report, see the [Get Help page](#).

