

## Junior IR Reading

Course website: [HYPERLINK "http://www.omnifoo.info/pages/IRReadingOnline.html"](http://www.omnifoo.info/pages/IRReadingOnline.html) [www.omnifoo.info/pages/IRReadingOnline.html](http://www.omnifoo.info/pages/IRReadingOnline.html)

### Session 1 (9-2-2020) Course Introduction

\*Your instructor: Mr. Julian Lee

\*Online learning: Syllabus & In-class Expectations

Bad connection protocol: be patient, we may need to end class late.

\*Session topics & grades: reading test, oral exam comfortable & confident

Make mistakes = OK

\*Homework assignment for Session 2 & 3: Textual Categorization  
class monitor

\*Why learn English? Tests Vs. Communication

Asking Questions → improve grammar, pronunciation, fluency

\*Complete Sentences: 2 things are necessary...

Subject & Predicate. Noun & Verb.

\*If you can't answer my question, 3 Responses

Please repeat (more clearly, more slowly, more loudly).

\*Western Names – 3 parts

First name = Given Name

Middle name

Last name = Family name = Surname

Full name:

My full name is Julian Tyler Lee.

李小龙 Bruce Xiaolong Lee

Initials = My initials are JTL.

\*Name Song?

\*Who sits...?

Meeeeeezzz

\*Titles: Miss Mrs. Ms. Mr. Dr. Prof. Pres. Sir

Feminism = rights of women & rights of men equal

Maiden Name

### Session 2 (9-4): Names & Student Introductions

\*What's in the news?

\*Review from Session 1

\*Name Signs

BIG LETTERS: ENGLISH NAME, 中文名字 & Pinyin, hometown (city & province), a place I want to travel

\*Location & directions. Who sits...?

On Sb.'s right/left. Next to Sb.

In front of Sb. Behind Sb.

Nobody sits in front of me or behind me because I am

all alone :-(

Pinyin = Romanization of Chinese Characters

Pinyin was preceded by the Wade-Giles system

Examples of the old system still used:

KMT = Kuomintang

清华大学 = Tsinghua Vs. Qinghua

\*Line up alphabetically (from A to Z) by...

\_\_\_\_ comes before \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ comes after \_\_\_\_\_.

\*What do Western names mean?

\*Geographic Place Names (Cities, rivers, lakes, mountains etc.): China & USA

geopolitics = competition for land & territory

named after Sth./Sb. Vs. named by Sb.

Sun Yat-sen founded the RoC, he is the father of modern China.

### Session 3 (9-9): \*What's in the news? \*Review

\*Results of topic survey: (1-4pts. For first-fourth choices, -2pts. For the "but not \_\_\_\_" choice)

1. Non-traditional security (41), 2. Traditional security (34), 3. Terrorism (20), 4. Environmental Polt. (18)

Least Popular: 1. IPE (1), 2. USFP under Obama (-2), 3.

English grammar (-7)

safety Vs. security

\*Introducing yourself in English (finish handout)

\*Your major: specialization, focus, concentration

I specialize in... I focus on...

My concentration...

My field of study is IR.

Two "subfields" of IR (which is itself a subfield of political science) = 1. Security → war & peace, NATO & military alliances, military relations, 2. IPE (Int'l Political Economy) → globalization, trade, int'l development

\*Introduce your "new friend" to the class.

"This is my new friend..."

S/he is from CITY, PROVINCE and lives in the \_\_\_\_\_ part of the city, near \_\_\_\_\_.

She goes to school at NENU and majors in int'l polt., focusing on...

FAMILY

Hobbies

\*Textual Categorization: What is a text? What kinds of texts will we read in this course?

Documentary film = 纪录片

Categories & Sources (explain each)

Categorize the 12 Text Samples (excerpts), What are their topics?

Reading for next sessions: Goldstein & Pevehouse textbook Ch. 1 (on course website).

Session 4 (9/11): \*News \*Review

Wildfires/forest fires in CA

Bob Woodward's new book about Pres. Trump, "Rage": Scandal? Trump downplayed the severity/danger of Covid-19 early this year. Why did he downplay it? "I didn't want to cause a panic."

\*Sources of texts

\*Categorize the 12 Text Samples (excerpts), What are their topics? Who is the intended audience 观众?

Academic Journal = intended for fellow scholars and professionals in the same field, more for graduate students than undergraduates. The most important journals for IR in the West: International Organization (IO), International Security.

How texts are divided/organized: Books are divided into chapters. Articles are divided into sections.

A book of academic articles written by different authors is called an edited volume.

Classification → declassification

Paragraph 段落

official

classified document = confidential, for internal reference (内部的)

FOIA = Freedom of Information Act = a law

When will documents stay classified forever?

If the issue is still sensitive or related to national security, it may never be declassified.

Newspapers = daily Newsmagazines = weekly/monthly (usually more analytical)

NGO = Non-gov't org. (incl. INGO = Greenpeace, The Red Cross)

China is a special case because INGOs must work with a local gov't representative.

GONGOS = Gov't organized non-gov't organization  
"Friends of the Earth"

Partisan = not neutral, favors one party

CCP = The Chinese Communist Party

The People's Daily newspaper is partisan toward the CCP. (or CPC)

A partisan news site in the USA may favor liberals (Democratic Party) or conservatives (Republican Party) i.e. Fox News is partisan towards the Republican Party (pro-Trump).

Traditional (created by professional journalists) Vs. social media (created by the general public)

Traditional (printed, tv, radio) Vs. new media (online, on the internet)

What are the places on the internet called?

Web address → websites

web addresses end in .com or .org usually

End FGM (Female Genital Mutilation)

activist (international social entrepreneur)

Greta Thunberg (young climate change activist)

Is an activist OK with how things are now, or does s/he want to change things?

trade journal = for example the magazines Foreign Policy, Foreign Affairs, The Economist, are trade journals for IR (not research, but intended for professionals rather than the general public)

Twitter is the app/application/website where people tweet things. An individual text is called a tweet.

Users = people who use an app

School shootings in the USA

Reading for next sessions: Goldstein & Pevehouse textbook Ch. 1 (on course website).

Session 5 (9-16):

\*News

\*Review

\*Finish Textual Categorization Exercise

Session 6 (9-18): IR Theory, Units of Analysis, Power, World Concepts

\*News

\*Review

\*As a table, discuss one ideology and present to the class on its norms (of what should be) and its normative judgments... What is the goal of this ideology, and why is it worth pursuing? What does this ideology think is good? What does this ideology think is bad/dangerous? Who or what is the main actor or "unit of analysis"? Choose one student to represent your table and present its ideology.

Market fundamentalism: believed by Libertarians in the USA & "market fundamentalists" b/c they think free markets are the most efficient and best for GDP

growth. Government regulation of the economy "distorts" the market and is bad. The main actors are companies and businessmen, entrepreneurs. The goal is free markets in every country around the world. "The market" should have all the power. "Supply & demand" are most important, and we don't judge things like buying & selling drugs or people. These are just amoral market transactions like any other.

Communism:

Socialism: Embiid's table. Goal is to realize communism? "The ultimate liberation of man": release the people from exploitation. Social equality & public ownership are good. Capitalism and private ownership are bad. The state is the main actor.

Capitalism: Cici's table. Capital belongs to individuals, based on private ownership. The "free economy" is the goal. Gov't intervention is bad. Profit maximization is the goal → "rewards talent and hard-work", promotes GDP growth incentives. Monopolies are good. The rich who control capital should have the power. Taxes are bad.

Individualism: Areina's table, represented by Katelyn. Goal is to empower people with personal rights. Authority and control over people is bad. Promotes democracy. Conformity is bad. Everyone has the right and power to pursue "self-realization".

Social Darwinism: Pruto's table. Survival of the fittest at the national & social level. Competition is good & natural, the ideology encourages competition. Gave birth to and justified imperialism by "fit" and strong nations. Largely discredited today.

\*Continue Presentation: What Is IR? (based on textbook reading)

The different IR theories share the same goal of explaining world politics, but they may have different descriptions, prescriptions (tell actors what their interests are & how to pursue them), and predictions.

\*For next session, read two articles on Post-9/11 wars waged by the USA (on the course website). We will begin discussion of int'l security (traditional & non-traditional) in the next session of class. Presentation: State Security under Anarchy.

Session 7 (9-23): Power, World Concepts, Critical Thinking, Post-9/11 Wars

\*News                      \*Review

\*Finish "What Is IR?" Presentation

Session 8 (9-25): Critical Thinking, Post-9/11 War articles

\*News                      \*Review

\*Critical Thinking for Critical Reading: How should we analyze and evaluate what we read as political scientists and IR scholars in training?

Whom should we trust/believe about politics and other

specialized topics?

We should trust trained scholars, experts, and those with credibility & qualifications (i.e. degrees & positions).

How should we read two texts that contradict one another?

\*How are "Post-9/11 wars" different from previous wars? (HINT: What were the two major wars, and how did they fit into the U.S. "War on Terrorism"?)

1. For the War on Terrorism, the U.S. claimed that it could defend itself against terrorists, non-state actors in ANY state in the world.

In "normal" wars, a war is declared by one state against another state, making it a limited war zone.

2. Neoconservatives tried to redefine "self-defense" in pre-emptive and preventive terms.

\*Introduce two texts on Post-9/11 wars. Basic information (category, source, title, author, topic, main idea, authors' credibility and bias)

Interview = at least two people in conversation: interviewer = asks the questions interviewee = answers interview recorded with audio/video results in written form as a transcript

The sources are at opposite ideological extremes.

KEY TERMS: Refugee & IDP (Internally Displaced Person) Vs. "economic migrants"

Migrants are people who migrate: immigrate or emigrate. Refugees are migrants who migrate for their safety, because they have been displaced.

How do wars displace people and create refugees?

Session 9 (9-30): Finish Post-9/11 War articles, Travel English, Basic Political Geography

\*News                      New international war? Turkey shot down an Armenian pilot. Will the conflict with Azerbaijan escalate to a full-scale war?

War (must be declared) Vs. Skirmish (armed conflict smaller than a war...not enough casualties, no declaration of war)

Intervene (get involved/take action) Vs. Interfere (干涉)

Civil (within one country) Vs. Interstate (2 or more states)

Joe Biden is currently debating Pres. Trump. Traditionally the nominees hold 3 debates on TV.

New York Times has reported on Pres. Trump's taxes. They found Trump paid no taxes in the last 10 of 15 years and only \$750 in taxes in other years. The average billionaire pays \$25 million in taxes per year. His companies are losing lots of money, and he is deeply in debt. This goes against his reputation.

We should trust the polls/surveys as IR scholars and political scientists.

\*Review

A trillion dollars: \$1,000,000,000,000

How many billions is that? One thousand billion.

1 billion = 1,000,000,000

\*Questions about the articles:

Why did the U.S. spend trillions of dollars on these wars?

Did the USA benefit from them or not? What were the goals of the neoconservatives who started the two main wars in Afghanistan & Iraq?

The goal was to overthrow the Taliban and Saddam Hussein. In IR, this is called regime change.

Was the removal of Qaddafi in Libya (2011) significantly different? Done with an int'l coalition, with UN approval. Although the wars were conducted differently, they had similar results: it created refugees and long-term instability.

Western countries fought wars to change regimes in the 21st century, but one example of a non-Western country fighting a war of regime change was in 1978 when Vietnam overthrew the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, leading China to declare war on Vietnam.

turnover (change from one job to another) Vs. overthrow (change by force 推翻)

The Kim family regime controls North Korea.

The CCP regime leads the PRC.

South Korea and the USA have liberal/Western democratic regimes.

Discuss with a partner: Who bears responsibility for the deaths in these wars and the displacement of so many people? Mainly the USA? Other countries and the USA equally? Must a state pursuing its security interests take responsibility for its "collateral damage"? Why?

\*Travel English handout  
Spring Festival =

Q: What's the difference between A & B?

holiday Vs. vacation

The RoK & The DPRK?

vocation Vs. vacation

news article Vs. editorial

A: A... B...

Travel safely! Have a good trip!

How much time off do students get for summer/winter vacation in China/the USA?

10-1 = Chinese National Day

Mid-Autumn Festival is also on Oct. 1st this year. What do people do for this holiday?

Ask your neighbor what his/her travel plans are for National Week/Golden Week. If going nowhere, this may be called a "staycation."

Present on what your neighbor plans to do.

Looking forward to Sth.

Can't wait to/for...

If you haven't voted yet on what we'll do in future class sessions, please vote.

10-7: Session format vote results: 3 to 6 in favor of asking fewer individual questions, Critical Thinking exercise, Security texts & presentation

\*News

\*Review

\*Critical Thinking Homework:

Think of an example of a time in your life when you were wrong about something or you changed your opinion. What was your opinion or thought? What made you change your mind? We will share examples on Wed.

Can politicians admit they are wrong or change their minds about political issues? This may have serious consequences, such as going to prison or losing power. Flip-flopers change their minds all the time and have no principles, are easily persuaded or may only follow popular opinion. The opposite kind of person is stubborn or what is called a bigot. It may best to be "reasonable" (adjusting one's opinion when presented with new evidence or strong arguments).

Trump caught Covid-19, and many people thought/hoped that it would make him take the disease more seriously and encourage people to wear masks. On Twitter, he tweeted, "Don't let Covid-19 dominate you. Don't be afraid of it?" His plan may always have been for "herd immunity," thinking everyone will eventually get the disease.

\*Handout: Vocabulary for war & peace

\*State Security under Anarchy Presentation

Next session: Two texts on defining national security (mostly in the U.S. context) in traditional and non-traditional terms (on course website)

10-9: Finish State Security under Anarchy Presentation, Traditional Vs. Non-Traditional Security

\*News Poll Results: near-universal support for discussion of news, some support for assigning individuals to be responsible for every class. Try to keep it under 10 minutes.

\*News :

Kyrgyzstan's president's location is unknown. Belarus is also experiencing social unrest. Some in the West suggest that these incidents show that Russia's influence on these countries is becoming less. Is Putin's power being reduced?

U.S. presidential debate #2 will be held online, but Trump refused to participate, saying it would favor Biden. Is it harder to yell at someone online? Interrupting someone/intimidating someone is only effective face to face?

\*Review

\*Finish State Security under Anarchy Presentation

10-14: Traditional Vs. Non-Traditional Security

\*News from Embiid & Elin, assign Fri. news pair: Pruto & Pollen 10-16

2nd Presidential debate has been canceled (was to be held in Florida, then online, but Trump refused to participate online → no "virtual debate")

China was elected to the HRC of the UN General Assembly

Vaccine human trials in the USA were paused by the pharmaceutical giant, Johnson & Johnson

\*Review

\*Really finish State Security under Anarchy Presentation

\*Introduce two articles on national security

The first is by The Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank in the USA.

A think tank is an NGO made up of scholars and intellectuals that publishes articles and editorials and reports with the goal of influencing policy.

HOMEWORK: Practice comprehension quiz on Patrick's article... I want your individual answers. Do not work in groups, do not ask your classmates for help or copy their answers. This quiz will not affect your grade. I want to know if your English reading comprehension skills are better or worse than your speaking ability. Send me your answers on DingTalk before Friday's session of class. (My answers: ABCDE)

Next session: Discuss the two articles and how/whether Covid-19 and climate change will change the concept of security in IR.

10-16: Defining security

\*News: USFDA approved treatment for Covid-19 Africa also struggling with viruses as well as its colonial history. NGOs remain very active there.

The Israeli government continues to make progress normalizing relations with the UAE.

10-21: Areina & Frank will give the news

\*Review

\*Power Poll results: Japan Vs. Russia  
Potential power Vs. use of power

\*Correct Patrick article comprehension quiz

\*Discuss the articles and the definition of national security in the USA.

\*Discuss with a partner: which article do you agree with more about the need and danger to redefine national security away from a state-centric, military focus?

Next session: basic political geography (using handout on course website)

10-21: Basic Political Geography

\*Areina & Frank will give the news  
10-23: Binnie & Christian present the news  
Debate rules change: muting of the microphone of the other candidate.

Brexit...The EU is prepared to continue, negotiations on terms and conditions continue. FTA is the topic. The EU Headquarters is located in Brussels, Belgium.

Demonstrations in France, Thailand, Nigeria, etc. are growing for different reasons.

\*Review

\*Your conclusions on the (re-)definition of security & national security of the USA. Poll results: not enough votes?

\*Read the handout = an easier text?

Concludes Vs. includes

\*Next session: Discuss article on the effects of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan on Afghan women. (Read it for homework!)

10-23: Finish Global Geography, Introduce Afghan Women article

\*News from Binnie & Christian. News on Wed. from C.J. & Rachel.

Obama is campaigning for his former VP, criticizing Pres. Trump. Maybe this will help w/ minority & youth turnout. Trump was revealed to have a secret Chinese bank account.

Russian & Iran have U.S. voter information and are sending threatening emails to U.S. citizens. Many countries seek to interfere in the election.

\*Security Poll results

\*Review

\*Finish handout: world concepts & other vocabulary

\*NY Times article on U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, probable return of the Taliban, effects on Afghan women

\*Background: Why did the U.S. invade Afghanistan and overthrow the Taliban in 2001? (War of "regime change") Why is the country called "the graveyard of empire"? Why is it so difficult for the U.S. to withdraw?

Pakistan's border with Afghanistan is called "The Tribal Areas"

\*Next session: discuss NYT article in more detail, Discuss USFP hegemon. in general. HOMEWORK: Read handout on USFP and Karabell's article in Foreign Policy. (Wade Davis Covid-19 article is optional)

10-28: NYT on Afghanistan, FP on the End of the U.S.-Led Order

\*News: Western museums & colonial history... French museum had an artifact taken by an activist. Are there more "reasonable" & diplomatic ways to reclaim cultural artifacts.

Discovery & treatment of water in craters on the moon?

Mike Pompeo, the U.S. Sec. of State, is under investigation for violation of the Hatch Act.

\*Ciel & Diana are newscasters for 10-29

\*Review

\*Final "background" question: Why is it so difficult for the U.S. to withdraw from Afghanistan since invading in late 2001? Preventing terrorism from retaking hold in Tribal areas. It is difficult to admit defeat. We don't know what "victory" would be.

\*NYT Article: Important terms 1. patriarchy (men > women, men control women and have power over them, and this is right & good) 2. feminism & "career-minded women". Returning to our earlier articles on refugees & the costs of "Post-9/11" wars, are these women's gains a benefit worth the costs?

\*What responsibilities does the USA have to the women of Afghanistan after putting a new gov't in place? What is China's policy position on the return of the Taliban to power? Will/should the USA ever promote democracy in non-Western, developing countries (as has been a major foreign policy goal)? Promoting democracy = democratization by force?

\*Important concepts in USFP related to America's self-image & identity:  
American exceptionalism = The USA is special, different from other countries. (The USA sees itself as a force for good against "evil" and does not colonize for its own power like others in history.)  
The USA as "the indispensable nation" = The world needs U.S. leadership. Without it, the world is a worse place. Nothing would get done. Problems would not get solved; they would get worse. No other country is willing to lead. The U.S. is the most powerful country, a liberal and benevolent

\*Next session: Assign groups & times for Small Conversation Groups. Discuss articles on conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh (between Azerbaijan & Armenia), Anton's defense of Trump foreign policy in "The Trump Doctrine," the open letter by U.S. scholars calling it "a failure."

10-30: So Many Articles!

\*News from Ciel & Deana. Next Wed. from Zoie & Troy

2nd wave of Covid-19 in Europe, Macron of France and Merkel of Germany began a new lockdown, along with several other policies to retake control of the spread of the disease. Didn't Europe do a better job than the USA? So why is a second lockdown necessary? Why are most Asian countries

safer?

S. Korea gives former Pres. Lee Myeung-Bak to many years in prison and fined for corruption. Embezzlement, bribery, and abuse of power are the charges. Korea has a history of prosecuting its former presidents.

\*Review

\*Discuss Karabell's article in FP, "The Anti-American Century" Why was the 20th century "The American Century?" Leading the world = being the most powerful state? Is it all about power, and the USA now lacks the power to lead? Prestige & reputation also matter.

3 "pillars" of American power: 1. military 2. economic 3. democratic (Trump showed that it wasn't best for Covid-19 & social stability) U.S. GDP grew 33% this past month.

The Washington Consensus (at the IMF & World Bank): \*Privatize SOEs, \*Reduce social spending & deficits, \*Open up to FDI & currency speculation Did China follow the WC? Not fully. Some say there was a competing "Beijing Consensus" or China Model that was more successful in developing economically.

The self-image & identity of the USA Under the "American Century," the USA build, led, and supported "the liberal world order." The liberal world order includes: 1. Institutions of global governance: IGOs, int'l law, etc. 2. globalization (=multilateralism?) (=free trade & global capitalism?) (=Westernization?) 3. U.S. "benevolent" global hegemony 4. More peace and prosperity than previous centuries under the "Pax Americana" (similar to the Pax Romana) 5. Promotion of democracy & HR

\*Nagorno-Karabakh: How does the article suggest US foreign policy is (not) involved? What is the editorial position of The Economist, a weekly newsmagazine published in Britain? It is the voice of the British Empire's legacy & the Western elite.

\*Anton defends Trump's foreign policy & suggests what a "Trump Doctrine" might be.

\*Scholars' open letter

\*Next session: Finish discussion of articles, present foreign policy platforms of U.S. presidential candidates. Small conversation groups on Fri., Nov. 6th, according to schedule to be distributed.

11-4: Finish articles, Introduce 2020 Presidential Candidates' Foreign Policy Proposals

\*News from Zoie & Troy.

Protests continue in France, memorials held for the beheaded teacher. "Islam is a religion in crisis." Some say Macron's speech

was inflammatory. Is there a connection to the killings in Vienna, Austria?

British relationship with the U.S. and Pres. Trump and PM Johnson remains strong.

\*News next Wed. from Wendy & Cici

\*Review

\*Anton defends Trump's foreign policy & suggests what a "Trump Doctrine" might be.

\*Scholars' open letter

\*Presentation on 2020 presidential candidates' foreign policy proposals & positions on China

\*Homework: voting systems 1. direct election (no majority requirement...plurality OK) by Ding-Talk poll, 2. single round ranked choice (text me your ranking of the four candidates from 1-4, using the first letter of the party. Your #4 choice will lose points= you really don't want this candidate to win)

EXAMPLE OF 2.: LRDG or 1. G 2. D 3. L 4. R

Fri.: Small Conversation Groups according to schedule & colored groups. Try to be in the same room and use one phone or computer's camera & microphone if possible.

11-13: Midterm Review Game

\*Written Exam plans

\*Oral exam schedule

\*Midterm Review Game: Your team is your table (3 teams?). Choose a "team captain" to represent your team. The winning team gets a fabulous prize when I return to Changchun.

-Reading Excerpt (NYT on Afghan women):

Take five to ten minutes to discuss w/ your table. Send me the names of your team. Each team captain should send me your answers on DingTalk.

-Give an Example

-Oral exam instructions & questions

-Rhyme Battle (if time permits)

-Dictation

\*Example oral exam

11-25: Midterm Debriefing, Begin Discussion Terrorism

\*News: Rocket attack in Kabul kills four, injures many, as Taliban's return is being negotiated  
S.Korea: 300 new cases  
RCEP : Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership trading pact was signed in the middle of this month between many Asian, SE Asian nations, excluding the USA  
Assign newscasters for Fri.: Penny & Cassie

\*Midterm Results: Total Average (mean) = 79.6  
Total High = 95                      Total Low = 48  
Oral Average = 41 (83%)  
Oral High = 48                      Oral Low = 29  
Written Average = 38 (77%)  
Written High = 47                      Written Low = 19

\*Read the whole written exam

\*Next Session (or the end of this one): Terrorism, Drone Strikes as the primary U.S. counter-terrorism tactic.

11-27: Terrorism & Drones/UAVs (Handouts)

\*News from Cassie & Penny: Diego Maradona, Argentinian soccer superstar, died of a heart attack at 60  
Biden called for Americans to unite on Thanksgiving. "We are fighting the coronavirus, not each other." Trump has still not conceded his election loss, but the transition to the administration of the president-elect has begun. Pres. Xi has congratulated Biden.

Newscaster for Wed., Dec. 2nd: Katelyn & Embiid

\*Terrorism Handout  
"state sponsors of terrorism" "harbor terrorists"  
George W. Bush said that the U.S. will kill and remove terrorists from states that are unwilling or unable to do so themselves. Is this a violation of sovereignty? How does the USA justify this?

\*Drones/UAVs as the primary counter-terror weapon:  
"Measures short of war"  
Q: What does \_(acronym/abbrev.)\_ stand for? A: \_\_\_\_ stands for...

\*Introduce the two articles from NYT

\*Next session: Discuss the two articles on drones

12-2: Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism  
If the connection is strong, we should end a little later to make up for our previous, shortened session.

\*News from Katelyn & Embiid  
Stolen horse artifact from the Summer Palace from 1860 has been returned to China by a Chinese businessman.

Australian soldiers' misbehavior in Afghanistan continues to

receive criticism from China. Are the photos real? Have war crimes been committed and covered up?

Friday's newscasters will be Elin & Pollen

\*Finish terrorism handout

\*Handout on Drones/UAVs

\*Two articles from NYT from 2018 & 2016

Discuss: Should Artificial Intelligence (AI) be allowed to kill? Will it?

\*Next session: An INGO article on humanitarian concerns about drone strikes, posted on the course website

12-4: Humanitarian Concerns about Drone Strikes

\*News: UK foreign secretary says its judges may be removed due to events in Hong Kong.

Newscasters for Wed. will be Pluto & Areina.

\*Review

\*Article from Geneva Call

\*Comprehension Quiz

\*Discussion of the advantages & disadvantages of drone strikes as a counter-terror tactic

\* "The rules" for fighting a war...jus in bello (the rules of battle). Applicable for any use of force and all warfare.  
1. Discrimination, 2. Proportionality

\*Law & Morality with regard to war. Western & Chinese philosophies...

\*Moral positions on war: 1. Realism, 2. Pacifism, 3. Just War (Tradition & Theory)

\*Next session: Just War and Humanitarian Intervention (based on handout on course website)

12-9: Just War Tradition & Just War Theory

\*News from Pluto & Areina: U.S. Congress has approved sanctions on officials in HK. China expressed indignation & condemnation.

Biden has outlined his plan for Covid-19 in his first 100 days, including some changes from the Trump Admin. like requiring masks.

National Defense bill was passed.

\*Friday's news anchors will be Frank & Binnie

\*Finish discussion of humanitarian issues related to drone strikes...(also based on handout)

\*Advantages & disadvantages of drone strikes as a counter-terror tactic

ADVANTAGES: lower manufacturing cost (than manned aircraft), precise attacks & terrorists have no counter-measures, does not require "boots on the ground" (no soldiers), advances high-tech weaponry

DISADVANTAGES: lack of transparency (very secretive) makes abuse possible, assassinations may increase, proliferation to irresponsible states and terrorists, high costs to civilian populations, use of deadly force becomes more likely. Legality is questionable.

Should the Biden Admin. continue using drone strikes to kill suspected terrorists or not?

\* "The rules" for fighting a war...jus in bello (the rules of battle). Applicable for any use of force and all warfare. 1. Discrimination (between civilian and military targets), 2. Proportionality (balanced between sides in attack and defense tactics in terms of damage/potential damage)

\*Law & Morality with regard to war. Western & Chinese philosophies...

\*Moral positions on war: 1. Realism = war is amoral (does not involve morality, like a market based on supply and demand, based on conflicts of interest), 2. Pacifism (a presumption against, ALL war is immoral, includes self-defense), 3. Just War (Tradition & Theory) (SOME wars are justified, good, or at least better than the alternative, if 3 requirements are met)

\*For Friday, read the article in The New Yorker about Samantha Power and Humanitarian Intervention

12-11: Humanitarian Intervention

\*News from Frank (on leave) & Binnie: Post-Brexit trade deal is to be announced soon between Britain & the EU. Wed. news anchors will be Christian & CJ

\*Review (especially your moral positions on war)

\*The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) passed by the UN World Summit in 2005 opened the door to...

\*Humanitarian Intervention...to prevent or stop: genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes, crimes against humanity

\*Finish handout...

\*New Yorker article on Samantha Power. Who is she? How has the concept of HI been applied in practice?

Next Session: Climate Change & Global Environmental Politics (Read the two articles on the course website.)

12-16: Global Warming & Climate Change

\*News from Frank, Christian, CJ. Israel and Morocco have agreed to diplomatic relations, with Israel recognizing Moroccan sovereignty over Western Sahara.

Hungary's anti-LGBT law bans same-sex couples from adopting children and defines a marriage as between a man and a woman.

Germany Chancellor Angela Merkel will enforce a general lockdown, including schools and public events.

News anchors for Fri. will be Rachel & Ciel

Academic articles sessions will begin the course next semester (there aren't enough sessions left before the final exam).

\*Review (try to understand article on Samantha Power & HI)

2nd Iraq War (2003-2011, but followed by ISIS war) NATO no-fly zone & bombing aid overthrow of Qaddafi in Libya (Feb. 2011) an example of "mission creep" Syrian civil war (Mar. 2011-present, Obama's "red line" on chemical weapons in summer 2012)

I'll post a recommended reading on "The Obama Doctrine" on the course website, but it's very long.

\*Briefly explain article on Obama in Libya.

\*Handout on Global Warming & Climate Change

\*Sign up for presentations on climate change articles from different angles. Use the "Oral Examinations" spreadsheet on DingTalk.

Next session: Plan for presentations on Wed., Dec. 23rd.

12-18: Climate Change Presentations Preparation

\*News from Rachel & Ciel: The Syrian crisis is nearly a decade old, with 400k killed and nearly 5 million refugees, nearly 6 million IDPs.

Coronavirus tests are getting faster, including "sniffer dogs". Vaccines for Covid-19 are being rolled out, and there is debate about when prisoners should receive them in the USA. At least a quarter of the population don't even want one.

We'll take a break from news on Wed. to leave time for questions about presentations.

\*Review

\*Opening discussion question: In your opinion, [to prevent catastrophic global warming and an existential threat to humanity] does the Paris Accord on Climate Change: 1. Do more than is necessary, 2. do enough, 3. not do enough, but it's the best we can do right now without more countries not signing or dropping out (like Turkey, Iran, the USA under Trump), 4. Not do nearly enough, and we can and must do more? Why?

\*This will be put to a vote on DingTalk.

\*Dec. 2020 chart on temperature projections to 2100

\*Meet in your presentation groups to prepare to present on Wed., Dec. 23rd (choose a format, a time to meet outside of class, themes & content, etc.)

Next session: present on your global warming & climate change topic

12-23: Student Presentations

12-22: Student Presentations

No news or review today. Groups will present in the order on the sign-up sheet.

If we don't finish all the presentations today, it may be necessary for the last group(s) to record a video of their presentation and share it with us on DingTalk.

Next session: Vocabulary Game (need an extra laptop computer)

12-25: Vocabulary Game

\*Note the poll on our plan for the final day of class Wed. (if we have no class on Fri., Jan. 1st).

\*Divide into two teams & set up extra laptop computer for the game.

\*Round 1: Say as much as you need to get your team to guess the word on the card (but no gestures). Round 2: Gestures only (no speaking).

\*Next session: Review game or Small Conversation Groups (same groups & times as before...I'll resend the group list.), depending on your vote.

12-30: Final Review Game

Sign up for an oral exam appointment.

Sit with your team from the Midterm Review Game.

\*Give an example

\*Oral exam questions

\*Reading Comprehension Quiz

\*Pacifist, Just War, or Realist?

\*Dictation

This is our last session together this semester. Thanks for your cooperation and patience, and good luck on your exams!