

## Course Syllabus: Rising Powers in World Politics

Spring 2015

Instructor: Andrej Krickovic  
akrickovic@gmail.com

Welcome to "Rising Powers in World Politics"!! We are in the middle of an unprecedented shift in wealth and power away from the West and towards the countries of the developing world. How will this dramatic shift in power affect international relations? Are we headed towards an era of increased instability and great power conflict? Or will the rise of the developing world increase economic equality and political representation at the level of global politics?

This class will explore these and other questions through the lens of international relations theory. We will focus on the five major rising powers: Brazil, Russia, India China (colloquially known as the BRICS), looking at the domestic and international factors that are behind their rise and the impact they have had on major areas of international politics. We will also look at the approaches they take to major 21st Century policy questions, such as terrorism, economic development, climate change, and reform to international financial institutions after the latest economic crisis.

### **Course requirements and grading:**

#### **Participation and attendance: 30%**

This course requires not only attendance but active participation. In addition we will have three classes devoted to in-class activities (one structured debate and two scenario games) that will require students' active engagement.

Each student will be evaluated on their performance in these activities and this will constitute 50% of their participation grade for the course.

#### **In Class Pop Quizzes: 20%**

Over the course of the semester there will be 5 short in-class quizzes that will take no more than 10 minutes each. These will be "pop" quizzes in that they will not be announced beforehand. The quizzes will test whether or not you have been doing the reading and the questions will be relatively easy to answer if you have been keeping up with readings. I will average the best 4 scores out of the 5 quizzes in determining your quiz grade.

#### **Research Paper: 40 %**

A 15-20 page research paper touching on the themes and topics of the course. This is an original piece of research that should incorporate sources outside of the materials which are directly covered. The student is expected to work with the professor to produce a quality piece of academic work. We will also talk about topics and research methods during the course of the semester.

#### **Research Paper proposal: 10%**

A one page proposal (around 500 words) outlining the topic of your research paper and the major theoretical or substantive issues you will examine in the research paper. This will allow the professor to

measure the progress and development, as well as provide feedback and support on the work being produced in the independent study.

### **Readings:**

Readings are in electronic format and will be distributed to students either by email or through an internet drop box.

In addition to the assigned readings, here are a couple of useful websites that can help you keep an eye on international events.

1) The Financial Times' Beyond BRICS blog provides a great source of info on the latest developments in emerging markets.

<http://blogs.ft.com/beyond-brics/>

(You need to register for the Blog but it is free).

2) Foreign Policy's website also gives a nice view into how US elite's and policy makers are thinking about the latest developments.

<http://www.foreignpolicy.com/>

I particularly recommend Steve Walt's Blog:

<http://www.foreignpolicy.com/voices/walt>

### **Part 1:, Week 1 - The Decline of the West and the Rise of the Rest? . Major Power Transitions in the International System**

In this section, we will look at the major theoretical approaches to the study of power transition in the international system and look at some prominent scholars' predictions about the future.

Charles Kuphan, "Nobody's World", Chapter 4 : "The Next Turn: The Rise of the Rest"

G. John Ikenberry, "The Illusion of Geopolitics: The Enduring Power of the Liberal Order" *Foreign Affairs* May-June 2014.

Krickovic A., Suslov D. V. "Introduction: Theoretical Approaches to Studying Changes to the Distribution of Power in the International System", in: США и новые центры силы / Науч. ред.: Д. В. Суслов, М. В. Братерский, А. Крикович. Алетейя, 2015.

Recommended:

Jack Levy, "Power Transition Theory and the Rise of China." In Robert S. Ross and Zhu Feng, eds., *China's Ascent: Power, Security, and the Future of International Politics*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 2008. Pp. 11-33

Naazneen Barma, Ely Ratner and Steven Weber, "A World Without the West", *National Interest*, Number 90 July/August 2007, pp 23-30

## **II. Getting to Know the BRICS – Domestic Politics and Global Ambitions**

We will take a closer look at the individual BRICS, their experiences with economic and political development, the factors behind their rise, and their expanding role in regional and global politics.

### **Week 2: China: The Next Hegemon?**

Hung Fo Hung, China: America's Faithful Servant, *New Left Review*, *New Left Review* 60, November-December 2009

Randall L. Schweller and Xiaoyu Pu, "After Unipolarity: China's Visions of International Order", *International Security*, Vol. 36, No. 1 (Summer 2011)

Recommended:

Arrighi, Giovanni, *Adam Smith in Beijing: Lineages of the Twenty-First Century*, (London: Verso, 2007), Ch 12 "Origins and Dynamic of the Chinese Ascent" (in folder)

Peter Mattis, "China's Right To Speak", *Jamestown China Brief*, Volume XII s Issue 20 s October 19, 2012

Susan Shirk, *China: Fragile Superpower* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007), Ch1

Wang Gungwu, "China and the International Order: Some Historical Perspectives". In Wang Gungwu and Zheng Yongnian (Eds), *China and the New International Order* (London: Routledge, 2008), pp. 21-31

### **Week 3: Organized In Class Debate: Will China be the next superpower?**

### **Week 4: Russia: Fallen Super Power and/or Re-emerging Great Power?**

Dmitry Suslov, "For a Good Long While: Global Aspects of the New Russia-U.S. Confrontation", *Russia in Global Affairs*, December 2014, <http://eng.globalaffairs.ru/number/For-a-Good-Long-While-17211>

Sergei Karaganov, "Russia's Asian Strategy" *Russia in Global Affairs*, July 2011, <http://eng.globalaffairs.ru/pubcol/Russias-Asian-Strategy-15254>

Recommended:

Dmitri Trenin, "Russia's Breakout From the Post-Cold War System: The Drivers of Putin's Course"

Andrei Tsygankov, "Contested Identity and Foreign Policy: Interpreting Russia's International Choices", *International Studies Perspectives*, Vol. 14, No. 1, March, 2013

### **Week 5: India: The "Other" Asian Rising Power**

R. Basur, "India: A Major Power in the Making," in T. Volgy ed, *Major Powers and the Quest for Status in International Politics* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011), pp. 181-202

"India has every chance to outstrip China if it tries", *Financial Times*, January 16, 2014.

Recommended:

Gucharan Das, "The India Model," *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 85, no. 4 (July-August 2006)

Stephen B. Cohen, *India : Emerging Power*, Chapter 4

## **Week 6: Brazil: New Power in the Western Hemisphere**

Joao Augusto De Castro Neves, "Brazil as an Emerging Power in the 21st Century" in Nadkarni and Noonan

Larry Rohter, Brazil on the Rise; "The Story of a Country Transformed", Ch 6 and 7

Optional:

Leslie Elliott Armijo and Sean W. Burges, "Brazil, the Entrepreneurial and Democratic BRIC", *Polity* Volume 42, Number 1 . January 2010

Maria Regina Soares de Lima and Monica Hirst, "Brazil as an Intermediate State and Regional Power: Action, Choice, and Responsibilities", *International Affairs* 82:10, 2006, pp 21-40.

## **Week 7: In Class Scenario Game – Crisis in Eurasia**

### **Part III. The BRICS' Impact on Major International Issues:**

In this section we will look at the impact the BRICS are having on major issue areas and on the ways that they are adjusting to the challenges of globalization.

### **Week 8: Security**

Andrej Krickovic, "Catalyzing Conflict: The Internal Dimension of the Security Dilemma", *Journal of Global Security Studies* (forthcoming)

Avery Goldstein, "China's Real and Present Danger", *Foreign Affairs* (September 2013/October 2013)

T.V. Paul, "Soft Balancing in the Age of U.S. Primacy," *International Security*, Vol30, No1, Summer 2005, 46-71

Recommended:

Aris, Stephen, "The Shanghai Cooperation Organization: 'Tackling the Three Evils' A Regional Response to Non-traditional Security Challenges or an Anti-Western Bloc?", *Europe-Asia Studies*, 2009, 61: 3,

William Walker, *A Perpetual menace: Nuclear Weapons and International Order* (Routledge: New York, 2012), Ch 8 "Heading for the Rocks", pg 181-194, 216-218

### **Week 9: Economics and the Environment**

Ruchin Sharma, "Broken BRICS: Why the Rest Stopped Rising", *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2012

Gideon Rachman , "The future still belongs to the emerging markets", *Financial Times*, February 3, 2014.

Carl Dahlman, "The World Under Pressure", pg 154-182

Recommended:

Philip S Golub, "From the New International Economic Order to the G20: How the 'Global South' is Restructuring World Capitalism from Within", *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 34, No. 6, 2013

Ian Bremmer, "Every Nation For Itself: Winners and Losers in a G-Zero World", Ch 1

Joshua Cooper Ramo, "The Beijing Consensus"

### **Week 10: Democracy, Human Rights and Soft Power**

Azar Gat , Daniel Deudney and G. John Ikenberry , and Ronald Inglehart and Christian Welzel, "Which Way Is History Marching? Debating the Authoritarian Revival", *Foreign Affairs*, July August 2009

Ruan Zongze, "Responsible Protection: Building a Safer World", *China International Studies*, Volume 34, May/June 2012)

Joseph Nye, "What China and Russia Don't Get About Soft Power", *Foreign Policy* , April 2013

Recommended:

Kevin Narizny, "Anglo-American Primacy and the Global Spread of Democracy: An International Genealogy", *World Politics*, Volume 64, Number 2, April 2012, pp. 341-373

Amartya Sen, "Human Rights and Asian Values", *New Republic*, Vol. 217 Issue 2/3, July 14-21, 1997, pp 33-40

Azar Gat, "The Return of Authoritarian Great Powers", *Foreign Affairs*, Vol86:No4, July-August 2007

### **Week 11: In Class Scenario: World Financial Crisis Redux**

### **Week 12: Beyond BRICS**

While the BRICS have garnered most of our attention, other developing countries are also rising to geopolitical prominence -- some because of their strengths and others because of their weakness. In the concluding section we will take a look at a few of these and examine the impact that they are having on regional and global politics.

Mohammed Ayoob, "Beyond the Democratic Wave in the Arab World: The Middle East's Turko-Persian Future", *Middle East Policy*, Summer 2011, Vol. 18 Issue 2, p110-119

"Indonesia: The Komodo Economy", *Economist*, Feb 18, 2012

"Nigeria" Africa's New Number One", *Economist*, April 14, 2014.

"South Africa: Where will the rainbow end?", *Economist*, May 3, 2014