

# **Review Paper Guidelines**

## **International Political Economy**

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## **1 Introduction**

During the course of the semester, students will be expected to write review papers. There are 5 weeks in the semester, and students will be expected to write 2 separate reviews in those 5 weeks, and may choose any of those weeks to write the review. The only exception is that students may not write 2 reviews in the same week. Students may write on any of the readings from the week, but will be expected to write an elaborate review with respect to the material and readings presented in the course. In other words, don't just write a summary of all the readings. Also, if the reading is one of the assigned books, feel free to review a chapter or two, rather than the entire book. The purpose of these reviews is to have students begin to critically assess the merit of the material presented in the course. Also, the hope is that these assignments will help students develop critical thinking skills that can be used in writing the final paper (which rests on making an argument and deriving hypotheses).

### **1.1 Format Guidelines**

Students will format their review papers in the following way:

- 2 pages or less, typed
- Times New Roman font, 12 pt
- 1 inch margins, double spaced

## **2 Contents**

Students will be assessed on the thoughtfulness of their critical reviews, but it is important to understand what constitutes a “thoughtful” review.

- Begin by briefly summarizing the reading, spend about 1/2 – 3/4 page on this, and no more. Do not let the entire review tell me what the author said. But I do want to know what you’ve taken from the reading. Note, this skill will help you write the literature review section for the final paper. Finish this portion by writing something about what you will be arguing at the end of the paper. For example, “While this reading presents a sound argument, I find it reasonable to argue that...”
- Briefly discuss the main hypotheses and findings that the author presents to the reader. Again, spend no more than 1/2 – 3/4 page. Doing this will help you find the important material in the readings, and will help you understand what constitutes a testable hypothesis (useful for the final paper).
- Evaluate the reading with respect to what you have learned and read for this course (and any other international relations course if applicable). Spend the remainder of the paper on this, but remember to keep it *concise* to keep the entire review within 2 pages. Evaluating the reading will help you develop an argument that will be helpful for the theoretical argument in your final paper
- Lastly, because you will be evaluating readings, you will be expected to cite when necessary. In-text citations and a reference section are required (see below for a guideline for citations).

### 3 Grading

Students will be graded on the following criteria, out of 10 points (note, I will give half points, e.g. 2.5 points):

Criteria	Points
Brief summary of reading(s)	3
Discuss hypotheses and findings	2
Critical evaluation	5
<b>Total</b>	10

### 4 Citations

Students will be expected to cite sources when taking material from other readings. Plagiarism will receive severe punishments, and will result in *at least* a grade of **0** for the paper, if not worse (see the syllabus). You will be expected to use in-text citations and have a references page that follows the style described below. I will give examples for articles, books, and chapters in what follows (please ask me for further citation styles if necessary):

#### 4.1 In-Text Citation

- **Article:** (Hiscox 1999) or Hiscox (1999)

- **Book:** (Tomz 2007) or Tomz (2007)
- **Chapter in Edited Book:** (Frieden & Lake 2000) or Frieden & Lake (2000)

## References

- Frieden, Jeffrey A. & David A. Lake. 2000. "Introduction: International Politics and International Economics." In *International Political Economy: Perspectives on Global Power*, ed. Jeffrey A. Frieden & David A. Lake. 4th ed. New York: W.W. Norton and Company Chapter 1, pp. 1–16.
- Hiscox, Michael J. 1999. "The Magic Bullet? The RTAA, Institutional Reform, and Trade Liberalization." *International Organization* 53(4):669–698.
- Tomz, Michael. 2007. *Reputation and International Cooperation: Sovereign Debt across Three Centuries*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.