

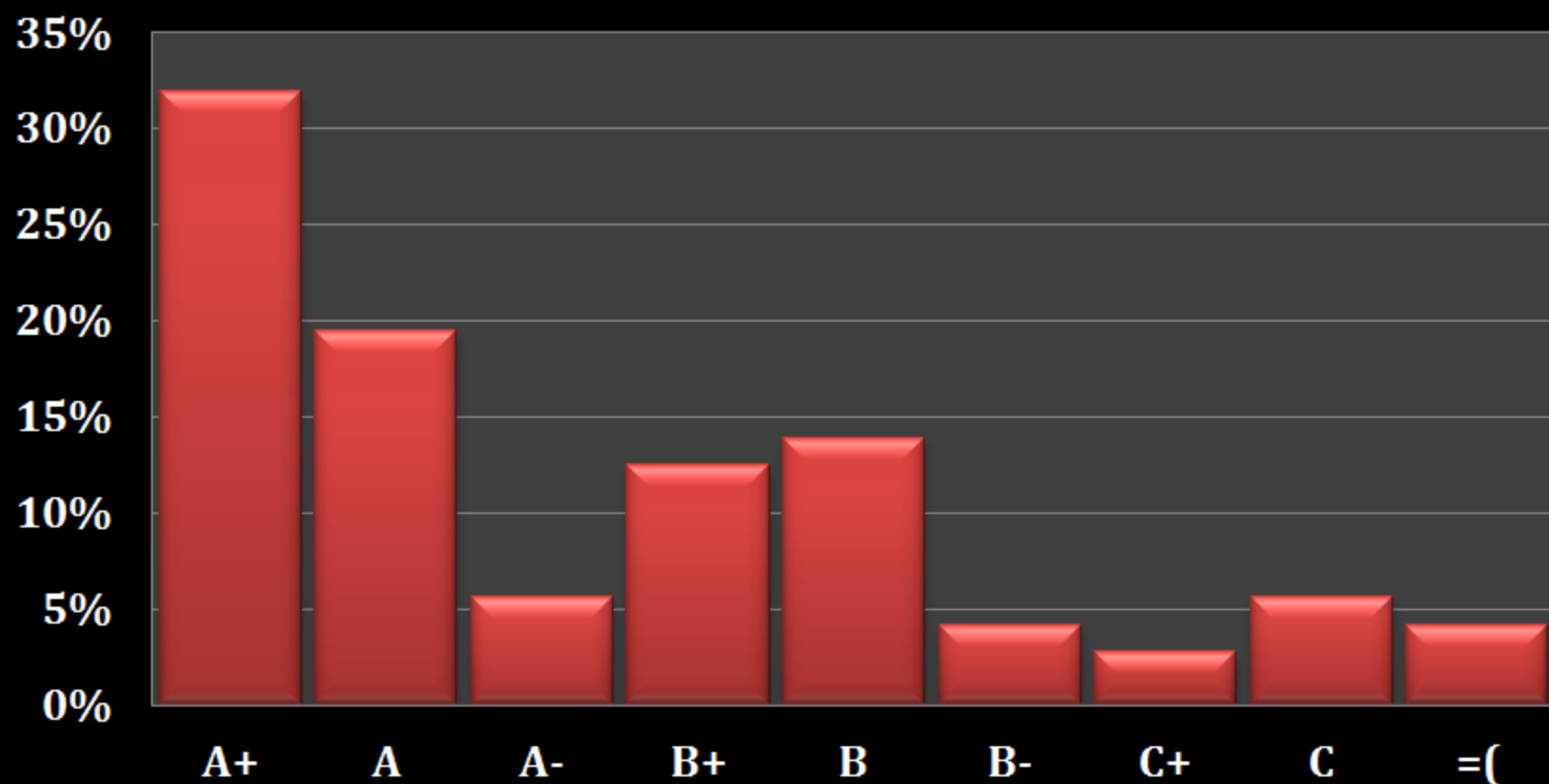
# International Relations 101: Midterm

William Spaniel

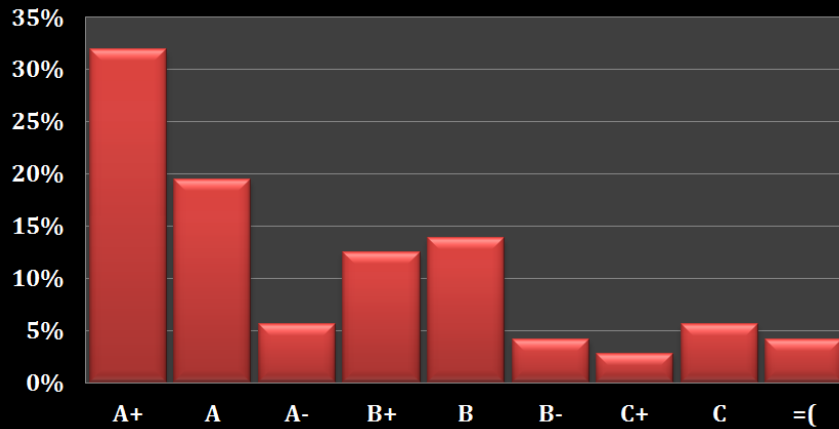
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## Grade Distribution (Spring 2013)

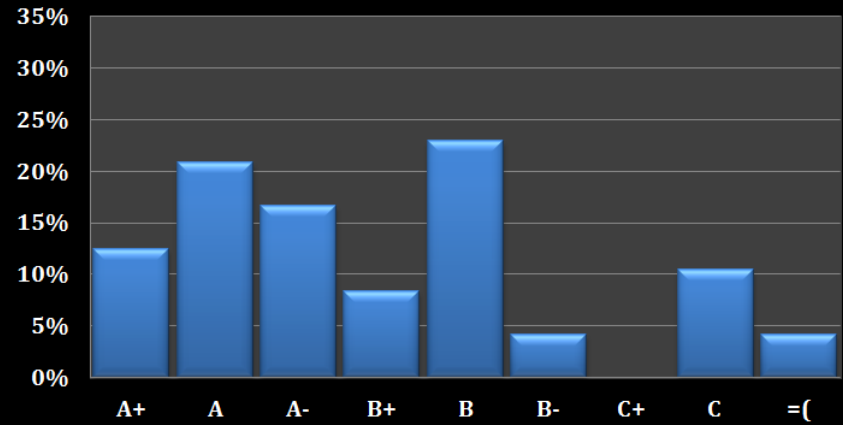


**Grade Distribution (Spring 2013)**



**Average: 89%**

**Grade Distribution (Spring 2012)**



**Average: 87%**



**Bruce Bueno de Mesquita**



Giacomo Chiozza

What Is Bipolarity?

vs.

What Was Bipolarity?

# Comparative Advantage

- When one country is better at making one product and a different country is better at making a different product. Under these conditions, there exist gains from trade.

# Absolute Advantage

- When one country is better at making one product and a different country is better at making a different product. Under these conditions, there exist gains from trade.



# Comparative Advantage

- When one country has a lower **opportunity cost** for making one product and a different country a lower **opportunity cost** for making a different product. Under these conditions, there exist gains from trade.

# Sucking Up

- “Professor Goemans is a handsome man.”



# Sucking Up

- “Professor Goemans is a handsome man.”
  - True!
  - But he wasn’t grading your midterms...



# Iran-Israel War

- Spring 2012 Midterms: is very likely to happen!

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- Spring 2012 Midterms: is very likely to happen!



USA and/or Israel to execute an overt Air Strike against Iran  
before midnight ET 31 Dec 2012

Event: [US/Israeli Overt Air Strike against Iran](#)

**39.5%**  
CHANCE

Predict

# Iran-Israel War

- Spring 2013 Midterms: is very likely to happen!



USA and/or Israel to execute an overt Air Strike against Iran before midnight ET 31 Dec 2013

Expiry value: \$3.49 / share

Expiry date: Mar 11, 2013 15:59 GMT

Contract Type: 0-100 ?

34.9%

CHANCE



# Barriers to Preventive War

1. Scope of nuclear program
2. Distance
3. Fortified facilities

# OPERATION OPERA 1981





# Iran's nuclear facilities

*Iran has revealed to the U.N. nuclear watchdog the existence of a second uranium enrichment plant.*



*Nuclear facility sites are approximate*

**Possible new enrichment site built inside a mountain**

**Uranium enrichment plant**













# Rationalist Explanations for War

- What is a rationalist explanation for war?

# Rationalist Explanations for War

- What is a rationalist explanation for war?
  - An explanation for war that answers war's inefficiency puzzle.
  - Way too many essay answers gave explanations that completely ignored the puzzle.

# Rationalist Explanations for War

- Is private information a rationalist explanation for war?

# Rationalist Explanations for War

- Is incentives to misrepresent a rationalist explanation for war?



# Rationalist Explanations for War

- Is private information and incentives to misrepresent a rationalist explanation for war?

# Commitment Problem

- Israel and Iran will go to war this year because they will make an agreement but then they won't have any reason to commit to it and therefore start a war.

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  - Sure they do. War is costly.

# Commitment Problem

- Israel and Iran will go to war this year because they will make an agreement but then they won't have any reason to commit to it and therefore start a war.
  - Sure they do. War is costly.
  - If a commitment problem exists, it must be because something about the bargaining environment is changing, i.e., shifting power.

# Stag Hunt

Player 2

Stag

Hare

Player 1

Stag

Hare

3, 3

0, 2

2, 0

1, 1

Commitment  
Problem?

Player 2

Stag

Hare

Player 1

Stag

Hare

3, 3

0, 2

2, 0

1, 1

