

PS 0500: International Relations

William Spaniel

williamspaniel.com/classes/IR2019/

Evaluation

- Two exams: 25% each
- Two problem sets: 10% each
- Two data analyses: 5% each
- Recitation attendance and participation: 20%

Exams

- Identification of key terms
- Knowledge of the readings
- Application of abstract concepts to relevant policy issues

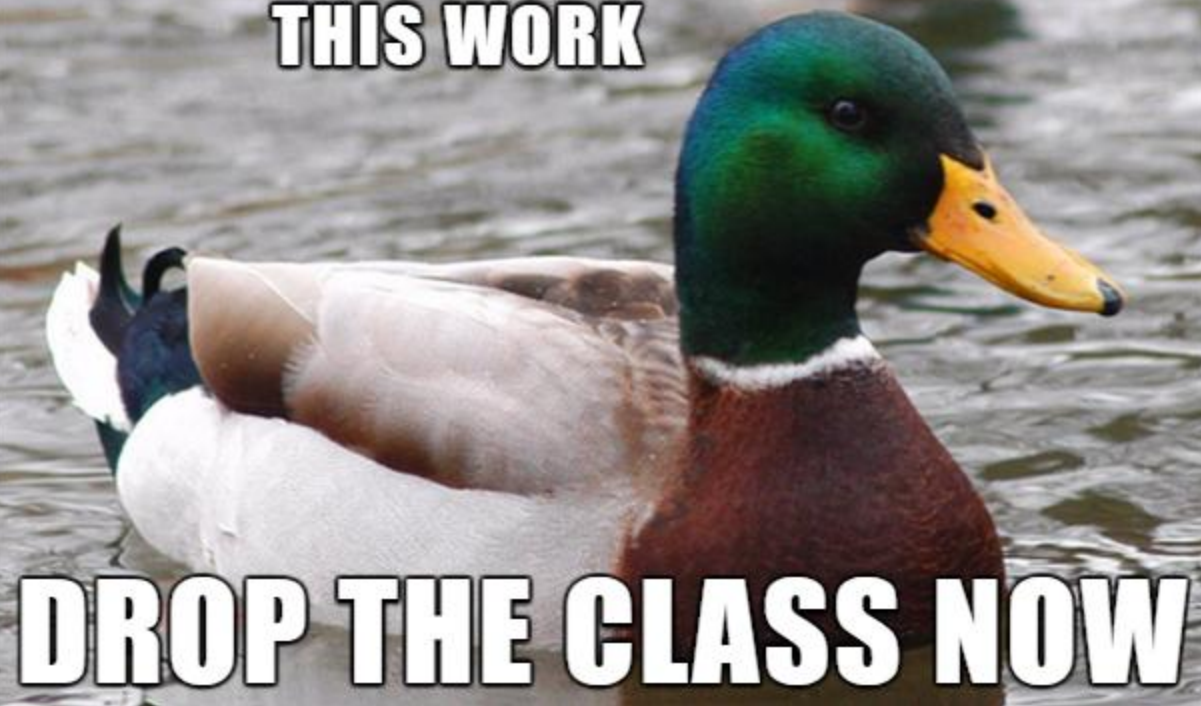
Problem Sets

- Yes, there are problem sets
- Most of the work will involve comparing numbers
- You might have to solve for x a few times

Problem Sets

- Analytical skills are a mandated part of the political science curriculum
- It is also how research is done
- By staying in this class, you agree that this is okay and waive your right to complain

**IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DO
THIS WORK**



DROP THE CLASS NOW

**IF YOU START THE PROBLEM SETS
THE DAY BEFORE THEY ARE DUE**



YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A BAD TIME

Data Analyses

- You will download some of the major datasets that international relations scholars use
- Goal are to get familiar with them, think about implications of coding rules, and do some light interpretation

Recitation

- Meets weekly
- TA: Kelly Morrison
- Recitation attendance and participation expectations will be discussed at first meeting
- If you don't attend recitation, your maximum grade is a B-

Readings

- No required textbook
- Links to articles available on the syllabus and website
- General rule: complete readings before week's recitation

Contact Information

- Email: williamspaniel@gmail.com
- Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:00-3:00, Posvar 4446
- I usually linger after class

Communication Guide

- Make sure the answer is not on the syllabus
- If the question is something others would like to know, ask during recitation
- If the response requires fewer than three sentences, send me an email
- If the response requires more, talk to me in person (office hours or after class)

The Internet

- Blackboard is garbage, so everything will be done on my website (williamspaniel.com)
- Condensed versions of all lectures are on YouTube (search “international relations 101”) – The videos are not a substitute for lecture

Why are you here?

The media offer hot takes.
Actual analysis is hard.

