

Political Science 120: Introduction to International Relations (Spring 2008)

Reading guide questions for February 22 class on Studying War

1. Why should we study war?
2. What perspectives do the theoretical approaches of feminism, postmodernism, and constructivism provide for understanding warfare and conflict?
3. What is the difference between conventional war, unconventional war, and warfare with weapons of mass destruction?
4. Which of the three categories of conventional war, unconventional war, and warfare with weapons of mass destruction are you most concerned with in today's international system and why? In relation to considering this question, be sure to review pp. 330-331 on how a nuclear war might start.
5. Be sure to have read Issue 7, "Should All Foreign Troops Soon Leave Iraq?" no later than class on International Security (February 27).
- *Note:* Be sure to be reading closely for any current news on the war in Iraq and international diplomatic efforts in relation to North Korea to be prepared for our discussion of these two pressing international security challenges in class on February 27.