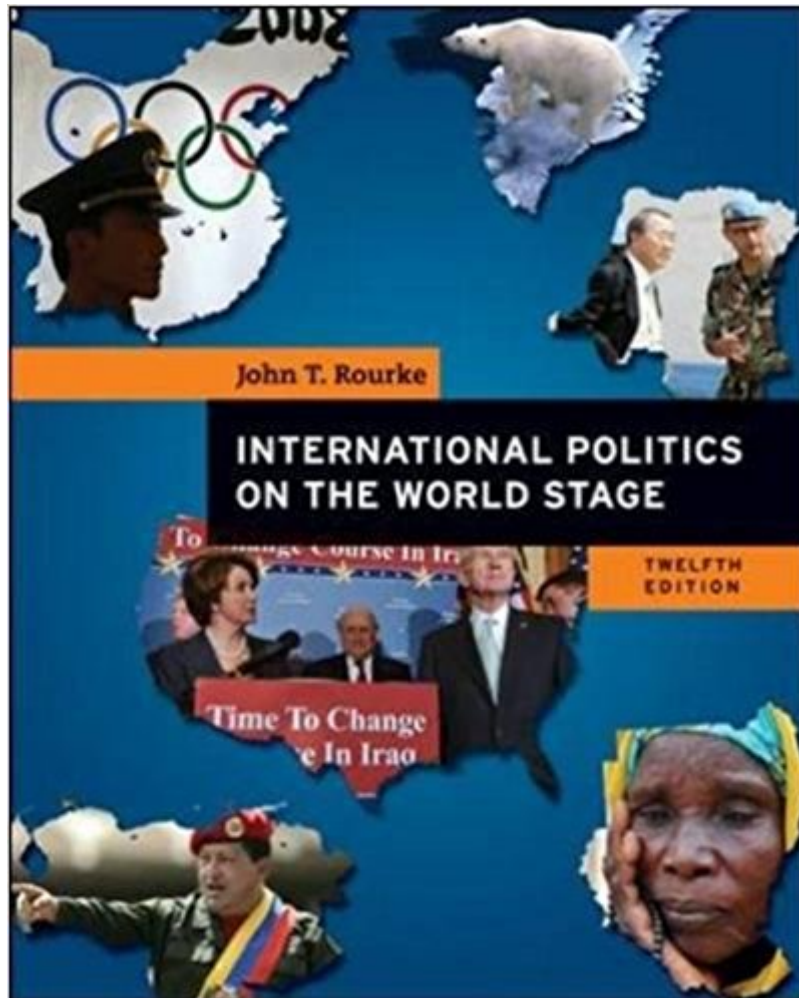




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# International Politics On The World Stage



## Synopsis

One of the leading texts on the IR market, John Rourke's *International Politics on the World Stage* provides a balanced and comprehensive study of international relations that combines theory, history, and current trends and events. The modern international system, a background history of how it evolved in its present form, as well as transformations that are shaping the 21st century are presented in a straightforward, accessible discussion, without undermining the complexity of world political issues. The text lives up to its reputation of including the latest events and developments of the world stage. Rourke discusses political theory, including contemporary approaches such as constructivism and postmodernism, in the opening chapter. He brings theoretical concepts to life with illustrative examples taken from major current world events, so students see how theory plays out in the real world. The text covers major issues of the twenty-first century, such as the structure of the modern state in the international system, globalisation and the political economy, global security, the rise of intergovernmental and nongovernmental organisations, human rights, and the environment. These topics linked through the chapters in the text give students a grasp of the underlying patterns in world politics, so that they can interpret events they see on the evening news or on the Internet. As in previous editions, the text shows students how politics affects our everyday lives and emphasizes the importance of being politically aware, making informed decisions, and taking responsible action.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

John T. Rourke, Ph.D., professor emeritus, is former head of the Department of Political Science at The University of Connecticut. He is author of *International Politics on the World Stage*, Eleventh Edition (McGraw-Hill, 2007); the author of *Presidential Wars and American Democracy: Rally 'Round the Chief* (Paragon House, 1993); a coauthor of *Direct Democracy and International Politics: Deciding International Issues through Referendums* (Lynn Rienner, 1992); the editor of *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics*, Twelfth Edition, expanded (McGraw-Hill, 2007) and *You Decide: Current Debates in American Politics* (Longman, 2005); the author of *Making Foreign Policy: United States, Soviet Union, China* (Brooks Cole, 1990), *Congress and the Presidency in U.S. Foreign Policymaking* (Westview, 1985), and numerous articles and papers. He continues to teach and especially enjoys introductory classes. His regard for the students has molded his approach to writing—he conveys scholarship in a language and within a frame of reference that undergraduates can appreciate. Rourke believes, as the theme of this book reflects, that politics affect us all and we can affect politics. Rourke practices what he propounds; his career long involved the university's internship program and advising one of its political clubs. Additionally, he has served as a staff member of Connecticut's legislature, and has been involved in political campaigns on the local, state, and national levels.

This has been a great textbook so far. I didn't know anything about international politics and it has done a really good job explaining everything. It's easy to read and gives very good explanations and provides real life examples for everything. What makes it a good textbook above and beyond so many others is that it is actually enjoyable to read. The stories are interesting and well-written, the style is friendly, and it provides many interesting and funny anecdotes. It also provides websites that connect to what is being discussed, and the websites have so far turned out to be interesting. Some of the websites are more serious and some are more fun. For instance, when the book was mentioning a theory about comparing humans to animals, the website was Jane Goodall's website and it told how to get to the part that makes comparisons between chimps and humans. There is also a great website in connection to the book that provides quizzes and activities to help in understanding the main points.

I bought this for my Polisci class and enjoyed it. It was everything you could expect a textbook to be, plus it had some historical snippets that I would read in my spare time. You could do worse for class.

Assigned reading for college-level politics class. Easy to read and not too wordy. Gets complicated points across well. Current, real-life examples are helpful, too. Of the numerous books I had to buy this semester, this is one of the most best. And I probably won't try to sell it off after Finals, either. It's a keeper.

Fantastic overview of international politics. Easy to understand, and very informative. Among the best out there.

Book came in good conditions!

This is a great tome if your class requires it. Well written with current facts and data. Understandably so most texts are obsolete as soon as they are printed but, get this book if your class requires it. It proves to be a great reference book later on as well.

I had to have this textbook for an online class I'm taking. It is a pretty good textbook. Easy to read, good examples, easy to understand, and not too boring as textbooks go. About 8 years old now though, so not really as current as it could be - newer editions are out there, but my professor required this one. But overall, not a bad textbook.

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