Study Questions to Help You Prepare for Exam #2
PSCI 12000-01 Introduction to International Relations

Sept. 19
• What is a refugee? How is this different from a migrant or internally displaced person?
• Why has the international community had difficulty managing the refugee crisis?

Sept. 24
• What are some of the tools and approaches that states can use in bargaining and diplomacy?
• What is the Prisoner’s Dilemma? How does it illustrate the difficulty of achieving cooperation?
• What are some potential solutions to the Prisoner’s Dilemma?

Sept. 26
• What is the chicken game? How does it relate to the way actors interact in the international system?
• Describe the territorial dispute involving the Kurdish people.

Sept. 28
• What is the difference between a state and a nation?
• Describe the issues that make resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict difficult.
• What are the various categories of weapons (small arms, conventional weapons, weapons of mass destruction)? How easy or difficult are each category to control by the international system?

Oct. 1
• What is proliferation? What is the difference between horizontal and vertical proliferation?
• What is an arms race? Why do they begin? How might they be a result of the security dilemma?
• How has the international system tried to control weapons proliferation?
• What are some reasons that states pursue weapon of mass destruction? What issues does this present for both individual countries and the international system?

Oct. 3
• What is war? What factors impact the likelihood of a war arising?
• How are asymmetrical wars different than symmetrical wars?
• In what ways has warfare changed in recent years?

Oct. 5
• What is the current trend in the type, frequency, and severity of armed conflicts?
• What are the differences among types of internal conflicts?
• What factors make civil wars more likely? How do they end?
• What are some reasons that states slaughter their own people?

Oct. 15 – Oct. 17
• Why is the Syrian Civil War so difficult to resolve?
• In what ways are the conflicts in Yemen and South Sudan similar to the one in Syria? Different?
• What is terrorism? How does terrorism work? Is it effective?
• How does terrorism differ from state terrorism and state-sponsored terrorism?
• Why do states have difficulty responding to terrorism?

NOTE: Your textbooks have useful study questions and key terms at the end of each chapter.