

Political Science 145
The Politics of Global Problems
Winter 2006
Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-4:18
Townshend Hall (TO) 248

Instructor: Paul Fritz
Office: 2012 Derby Hall
Office Phone: 292-9492
Email: fritz.60@osu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 – 2:15
and by appointment

Course Description

This is an introductory course to the study of international politics. There are two broad goals for this course. The first is to provide the analytical tools necessary for understanding and explaining international politics. The second is to increase familiarity with some of the most pressing political problems and challenges of the current international system. The class will engage issues such as the importance of power in the international system; the challenges of the new global economy; the changing nature of security in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century; and the implications of these trends for the United States in the coming era.

Required Texts (available at SBX)

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse. *International Relations, Brief Third Edition*. New York: Longman, 2005.

Annual Editions: Global Issues 05/06, 21th edition. Robert Jackson, ed. Guilford, Connecticut: McGraw-Hill / Dushkin, 2005.

*Additionally there may be short readings placed on reserve at the library. These would be announced well in advance so that all students will have the opportunity to obtain them.

Recommended Reading

I strongly recommend that each student follow current events on a daily basis, focusing on international politics. Reading the *New York Times* is likely to be the best way to do this. You can subscribe to the *New York Times* through the university, buy the paper daily at the bookstore or other locations, or read the on-line version of the paper located at www.nytimes.com (this is free). Other major papers with substantial international coverage may also be appropriate (e.g., *Washington Post*, *L.A. Times*, *London Times* – all have web-versions available).

Course Requirements

The course will combine lecture with class discussion. As such, students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in class discussion. Students should complete the assigned readings by the dates listed below in the course outline. Additionally, students should make an effort to be informed of current international political events.

The grade for the course will have four components as listed below:

- 10% - Map Quiz (Tuesday 10 January)
- 30% - Exam I (Thursday 26 January)
- 30% - Exam II (Thursday 16 February)
- 30% - Exam III (Thursday 16 March)

Late assignments: Make-up exams will not be granted except under extraordinary conditions and with written documentation (medical or family emergency).

Academic Honesty

All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own. Absolutely **NO** cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas without proper citation) will be tolerated. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the university committee on academic misconduct and handled according to university policy.

Disability

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office For Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so.

GEC Goals, Rationale, and Learning Objectives

Diversity: International Issues

Goals/ Rationale:

Diversity: International Issues courses help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture.

Social Science

Goals/Rationale:

Courses in social science help students understand human behavior and cognition, and the structures of human societies, cultures and institutions.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students understand the theories and methods of scientific inquiry as they are applied to the studies of individuals, groups, organizations, and societies.
2. Students comprehend human differences and similarities in various psychological, social, cultural, economic, geographic, and political contexts.
3. Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and social values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

*Course Outline**

January 3,5 *Why and How to Study International Politics*

Required IR: 1-44 (Chapter 1: Introduction)

January 10 – MAP QUIZ

January 10,12 *Power Politics*

Required IR: 45-51 (Realism) 59-75 (Int'l System; Balance of Power; Great Powers; Alliances)

Required AE: GI: #2 (*America's Sticky Power*)

Recommended: # 30 (*Changing Course of China*)

January 17, 19, 24 *Conflict and Security*

Required IR: 51-58 (Bargaining; Reciprocity, Deterrence, Arms Races)
121-145 (Conflict and War; Causes and Types)
169-1751(Nuclear Strategy)

Recommended: 149-160

Required AE: GI: # 31 (*The Korea Crisis*)

Exam I – January 26

January 31 *Alternatives to Power Politics*

February 2

Required IR: 77-84 (Liberalism)
100-102 (Democracy and Conflict)

Recommended: 84-100, 102-119

Required AE: GI: #32 (*Strategies for World Peace*)
#33 (*Peace in Our Time*)

February 7, 9, 14 *Transformation of World Politics and New Security Issues*

Required IR: 145-148 (Terrorism)
160-169 (Revolution in Military Affairs; WMD)
296-318 (Population and Development)
350-371 (Environment)

Required AE: GI: #1 (*A Special Moment in History*)
6 (*Scary Strains*)
#10 (*Water Scarcity...*)

- #26 (*The Transformation of National Security*)
- #27 (*Nuclear Nightmares*)
- #28 (*Lifting the Veil*)
- #29 (*The Great War on Militant Islam*)

Recommended:

- # 5 (*The Big Crunch*)
- #11 (*Vanishing Alaska*)
- #31 (*The New Containment...*)

Exam II – February 16

February 21, 23 *International Political Economy*

Required IR: 174-202 (IPE perspectives; Trade; Strategies and Regimes)

Recommended: 202-227

February 28 *Problems of Interdependence and Globalization*
March 2

Required IR: 284-296 (North-South Relations)
 330-346 (North-South Business)
 371-381 (Information)

Required AE: GI: #3 (*Five Meta-Trends...*)
 #13 (*The Five Wars of Globalization*)
 #39 (*The Grameen Bank*)

Recommended:

- # 4 (*Holy Orders*)
- #12 (*Complexities & Contradictions*)
- #16 (*Soccer vs. McWorld*)
- #22 (*30 Years of Petro-Politics*)

March 7,9 *International Cooperation, International Law, and Human Rights*

Required IR: 231-250 (Int'l Organizations)
 263-280 (Int'l Law; Human Rights)
 389-391 (Conclusion)

Recommended: 250-263 (EU)

Required AE: GI: # 38 (*Are Human Rights Universal?*)

MARCH 16 (THURSDAY) – EXAM III (FINAL) 1:30-3:18

*Note that the course outline may be altered, including reading assignments and exam dates. Any changes will be announced in class.