

## **Political Science 145 – The Politics of Global Problems**

Autumn Quarter 2005

M W F 9:30-10:48

Instructor: Ms. Amanda[DJL1] K. Metskas

Office Hours: M W 11:00-12:00 and by appointment in 2086 Derby Hall

Contact me: Metskas.1@osu.edu

### **Objectives**

We all hear about and are impacted in some way by international relations. Maybe you have a friend stationed in Iraq. Maybe you are an international student. Maybe your car was assembled in another country. Maybe you have traveled abroad. Maybe you hear about civil wars, elections, and peacekeeping on TV and are curious about what is happening. The purpose of this course is both to discuss international events, and to provide theories and concepts to help explain them. Current and historical events will be used as examples to help explain theories. The theories then become tools to help understand and explain other events.

### **Readings**

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

Snow, Donald M. *Cases in International Relations: Portraits of the Future*. New York: Longman. 2003.

These have been ordered as a shrink-wrapped package, which provides you with a 10% discount on each book. They are available at SBX, the OSU Barnes and Noble, the campus bookstore in Central Classroom, among other campus area bookstores that carry textbooks.

### **Grading**

30% - Final Exam

20% - Midterm Exam

10% each x 4 small papers

10% - Discussion attendance and participation.

### **Requirements**

This course has a midterm, a final, and several short writing assignments. In addition to completing these assignments, students are expected to attend and participate in discussions and lectures having completed the reading assignments for the week.

#### *Exams*

The midterm covers material from the first half of the course and contains multiple choice questions and short answer essays. The final exam contains multiple choice and short answer

essays covering the second half of the course, as well as 1 long essay that integrates material from the first and second half of the course.

### *Writing Assignments*

Every week I will hand out two possible paper topics. They ask [DJL2]you to take material from the reading and analyze it [DJL3], or relate it to either a historical or current event that we read about. The papers only need to be 2 double-spaced pages. Over the course of the quarter you need to write 4 of these short papers. You may choose to write one extra paper to replace your lowest paper grade. There are only 8 paper topic weeks in the quarter. It is to your advantage to get an early start on these so they don't all pile up at the end of the quarter.

### *Class Structure*

In normal weeks we will have lecture on Monday and Wednesday. On Friday the class period will be mostly discussion. Monday and Wednesday classes will focus on getting the ideas for the week on the table and will be based on readings from the textbook. Friday classes will focus on applying those ideas. For Friday classes I might alert you to a few articles from the *New York Times* online ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)) that we will be discussing in class along with the case study.

### *Class [DJL4] Attendance and Participation*

There are 10 sessions during the quarter that will be discussion format for at least half of the class period. They are labeled in bold on the syllabus. This is where the 10% participation grade comes from. Each of those days is worth 1 point – ½ for attendance, and ½ for contributing a thought to the discussion. If you are terrified of speaking in class you are encouraged to discuss the material with me in office hours to make up participation points.

## **Course Policies and Pet Peeves**

### *Late Work*

Papers are due in class on the day listed on the syllabus. I will accept papers up to one class period after they are due. On weeks that papers are due in class on Friday this means I will accept late papers until the following Monday. Papers turned in by 5:00pm Friday will lose 1/3 of a letter grade. Papers turned in at class time Monday will lose a full letter grade. Late papers will not be accepted after class time Monday.

On weeks that papers are due in class on Wednesday papers turned in by 5:00pm on Wednesday will lose 1/3 of a letter grade. Papers turned in during business hours on Thursday will lose 2/3 of a letter grade. Papers turned in at class time on Friday will lose a full letter grade.

Papers that are not turned in to me in class should be put in my mailbox at Derby Hall. My mailbox is labeled “Metskaskas” and can be found in room 2140 Derby Hall.

Make-up exams will only be available with written documentation of medical or family emergency.

### *Academic Misconduct*

This may sound like common sense, in fact, I hope it does: All students are expected to follow the rules on academic misconduct in the Student Handbook. Specifically, work that students turn in is expected to be their own. Sources used in writing assignments must be cited appropriately. More detailed citation and paper writing guidelines will be handed out with the first paper assignment. Any cases of plagiarism on a paper or cheating on an exam will be reported to the committee on Academic Misconduct. I take this very seriously. Basically, if you aren't doing your own work you are not getting the education you are paying for, and are wasting your time as well as mine.

### *Disability Statement*

Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss his or her specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at (614) 292-3307, or visit 150 Pomerene Hall, to document a disability and coordinate reasonable accommodations.

### *Email*

Unless you tell me otherwise, I am going to assume that your [name.#@osu.edu](mailto:name.#@osu.edu) email address listed on the class roster is an email address that is functional and that you check. Periodically I may send things out to the class via email. If that is not a functional address for you, please give me an email address that will work for you. Also, please ensure that you remove me from any spam filters that you may have set up on your email.

### *Pet Peeves*

Please turn off your cell phone ringer. I understand we all forget from time to time, but try to remember. Above all, do not answer your phone in class. If you are expecting an emergency call (i.e. a loved one is in surgery at the hospital) leave your phone on vibrate, and take it outside of the classroom to answer.

Do not read the newspaper during class. If you aren't going to pay attention, for my peace of mind at least make it less obvious.

Food and drink is acceptable as long as it is not out of hand and distracting to those around you. Example: a muffin – okay. Eggplant parmesan – out of hand<sub>[DJL5]</sub>.

### *GEC Objectives*

Ohio State University has several objectives for students taking GEC courses. The objectives for this course according to the University are:

## **5. 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.

## 7. 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.

## Schedule

### **Week 0 – Introduction to International Relations and Course Organization**

September 21 – Introduction to the Course

September 23 – What is International Relations?

- Goldstein Chapter 1 pgs. 1-43

### **Week 1 – Realism and Power Politics**

September 26 and 28

- Goldstein Chapter 2 pgs. 45-75

September 30 – **Discussion** of the Rise of China

- Snow Chapter 1 pgs. 3-17.
- **1<sup>st</sup> paper option due**

### **Week 2 – Conflict and Weapons of Mass Destruction**

October 3 and 5

- Goldstein Chapter 4 pgs. 121-171

October 7 – **Discussion** of Kashmir

- Snow Chapter 12 pgs. 203-218.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> paper option due**

**Week 3 – Liberalism and Foreign Policy Decision Making**

October 10 and 12

- Goldstein Chapter 3 pgs. 77 -118

October 14 – **Discussion** of Camp David I and II

- Snow Chapter 6 pgs. 89-106
- **3<sup>rd</sup> paper option due**

**Week 4 – Feminism, Constructivism and Post-Modernism**

October 17

- No Reading! Study for your Midterm!
- No paper option this week

October 19 – **MIDTERM EXAM**

October 21 – **NO CLASS – Enjoy a well Earned Break**

**Week 5 – Trade and Political Economy**

October 24 and 26

- Goldstein Chapter 5 pgs. 174-227.

October 28 – **Discussion** of Globalization’s Impact on Indonesia

- Snow Chapter 9 pgs. 154-169.
- **4<sup>th</sup> paper option due**

**Week 6 – North-South Relations**

October 31 and November 2 (Daylight savings time ends Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>. Don’t forget!)

- Goldstein Chapter 7 pgs. 284-315 (stop at Revolution heading)

November 4 – **Discussion** of the African AIDS pandemic

- Snow Chapter 15 pgs. 272-286
- **5<sup>th</sup> paper option due**

**Week 7 – More North-South Relations**

November 7

- Goldstein Chapter 7 pgs. 315-346

November 9 – **Discussion** of NGOs

- Snow Chapter 2 pgs 19-33
- **6<sup>th</sup> paper option due**

November 11 – **NO CLASS – Veterans’ Day**

**Week 8 – International Law and the United Nations**

November 14 and 16

- Goldstein Chapter 6 pgs. 231-280.

November 18 – **Discussion** of War Crimes Tribunals

- Snow Chapter 4 pgs. 53-70
- **7<sup>th</sup> paper option due**

**Week 9 – Environment and Technology**

November 21

- Goldstein Chapter 8 pgs. 350-383

November 23 – **Discussion** of Global Warming

- Snow Chapter 13 pgs. 223-237
- **8<sup>th</sup> paper option due**

November 25 – **NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Weekend**

**Week 10 – Terrorism and New Security Threats**

November 28 – **Discussion** of Resource Conflicts

- Snow Chapter 14 pgs 239-255

November 30 – **Discussion** of Terrorism and New Security Threats since 9/11

- Snow Chapter 16 pgs. 289-315

December 2 – Review for Final Exam

**FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 7 from 7:30-9:18 a.m.**

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