

COURSE SYLLABUS: GLOBAL POLITICS

Political Science 145

Autumn 2011

Mon. and Wed., 11:30 a.m. – 1:18 p.m.

Townshend Hall 255

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Course Description

Many people argue that after the end of the Cold War and 9/11, much of what we have come to understand about how the world works no longer makes sense. Others say that international relations, by which they mean relations among sovereign states in anarchy, remain fundamentally unchanged. This course gives students the conceptual tools and helps them develop the analytical skills necessary for thinking about this question and others like it. Our discussions will be grounded in real world problems.

Requirements

Participation. Attendance is expected. Students are expected to read the assigned material prior to class and then to arrive on time, stay for the entire class period, and participate – ask questions, join discussion – in an active, informed, thoughtful manner.

Examinations. There will be **two midterm exams**, which will take place in class on **Monday October 17** and **Wednesday November 9**. Students will be asked to define and explain the significance of core concepts and ideas, and will be asked to write an essay. These essays will require students to contrast and evaluate different ideas, and/or to synthesize and coherently present their own argument. A **final examination** will take place on **Thursday December 8**. It will have the same format as the mid-terms, but it will concentrate primarily on material from the final third of the course.

Grade Schedule

Midterms I and II (25% each): 50%

Final Exam: 50%

Readings

All readings listed on the syllabus are required. Articles are posted on Carmen. The following required book is available for purchase at Barnes and Noble on campus:

Shimko, Keith L. 2010. *International Relations: Perspectives and Controversies*. 3rd edition. NY: Houghton Mifflin.

CALENDAR

Wednesday September 21

Course Introduction

Monday September 26

Change and Continuity in International History

Shimko, Chapter 1.

Wednesday September 28

Movie: *Fog of War*

Monday, October 3

Discussion of Movie

Shimko, Chapter 2.

Wednesday October 5

Power Politics

Shimko, Chapter 3.

Monday October 10

The “China Threat”

Christensen, Thomas J. 2002. “The Contemporary Security Dilemma: Deterring a Taiwan Conflict,” *The Washington Quarterly* 25: 4, pp. 7-21.

Roy, Denny. 2003. “China’s Reaction to American Predominance,” *Survival* 45: 3, pp. 57-78.

Wednesday October 12

War and Democracy

Shimko, Chapter 4.

Monday October 17

MIDTERM I

Wednesday October 19

Movie: *Black Gold*

Monday October 24

Free Trade

Shimko, Chapter 6.

Wednesday October 26 **The IMF, Global Inequality, and Development**

Shimko, Chapter 7.

Monday October 31 **Globalization and Sovereignty**

Shimko, Chapter 8.

Wednesday November 2 **American Empire**

Cox, Michael (2005) – “Empire by Denial: The Strange Case of the United States,” *International Affairs*, 81(1), 15-30.

Lake, David (2010) – “Making America Safe for the World: Multilateralism and the Rehabilitation of US Authority,” *Global Governance*, 16(4), 471-484.

Monday November 7 **The Global Commons**

Shimko, Chapter 13.

Wednesday November 9 **MIDTERM II**

Monday November 14 **Movie: *War Don Don***

Wednesday November 16 **International Law**

Shimko, Chapter 9.

Monday November 21 **The UN and Humanitarian Intervention**

Shimko, Chapter 10.

Wednesday November 23 **NO CLASS**

Monday November 28 **Nuclear Proliferation**

Shimko, Chapter 11.

Wednesday November 30 **International Terrorism**

Shimko, Chapter 12.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 8 FINAL EXAM
11:30-1:18

POLICIES

Midterm and Final Exams

No books, notes, or other aids will be permitted.

A review sheet will be handed out one week in advance.

Exams must be taken when scheduled, except in the case of documented medical or family emergency. Exams must be made up within one week.

Academic Misconduct

I expect all of the work you do in this course to be your own and will report any cases of cheating or plagiarism to the university's Committee on Academic Misconduct. It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of wrongdoing wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).

Disability Services

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. 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. It is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; (<http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu>).

“Goals and Objectives” language to be included in all syllabi of courses useful on the GEC.

Political Science 100, 145, and 245 syllabi must include this language:

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.

Political Science 100, 101, 145, 201, 210 and 245 syllabi must include this language:

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.