

POL202 – Introduction to International Relations
Syllabus
Department of Political Science
University of Arizona
Summer I - 2007

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(The preferred method of contact is email.)

Class Schedule

Chavez 109
9:00am – 10:45am

Office Hours

Tuesday 11:00am – 12:30pm
Thursday 11:00am – 12:30pm

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to international relations. The course is designed to present students with an overview of the theories, issues and economic interactions that underlie all international relations. The goal of the course is not only to provide an introduction to the ever more salient area of international relations but to also provide students with some semblance of international literacy. The last major goal is to provide the concepts and approaches that are necessary for one to understand the rapidly changing and often confusing events that take place in the international system.

Text

The text for this course is Kegley, C. 2007. *World Politics: Trend and Transformation*, 11th edition. It is available at the Student Union Bookstore; however, it may be found for a cheaper price at online book-sellers such as Amazon.com, Half.com, and Abebooks.com.

Exams

The exams in the class emphasize understanding of the language of international relations and the use of concepts and theories. Students are required to take all exams. There are no make-up exams. If you have a valid medical or other excuse the test will be excused and your grade will be figured without it. Documentation is required for excuses to be valid. Without a valid excuse your test grade is a zero. The exam dates are given below in the course outline.

Presentations and Quizzes

Every Friday there will be current event presentations by several students on one international event that has happened that week. It will be approximately 5 to 7 minutes long. The class will discuss these events, and then following discussion there will be a quiz over these current events. As the students giving the presentations will not be taking the quiz they will need to email me by 6pm on Thursday a 2 page essay on what event they are discussing, what they intend to focus on and the sources used so that I may make up the quiz. I will return your essays to you the following Friday graded and you will have the option to correct your essays based on my critique for added credit if you wish.

There will be one quiz encompassing all of the presentations that day. The quiz will consist of a mixture of short answer and multiple choice questions. Each quiz is worth 3% of your grade. The sources used for your presentations should be from any reputable news sources, examples include the BBC World News, NY Times, The Globe and Mail (Canadian version of the NY Times), if you have any doubts about how reputable your source is ask me or better yet use one you are sure about.

Participation

Attendance is not taken regularly, but participation is a portion of your overall grade. That means attend class regularly and participate in discussions. Interaction and discussion is integral for you to get the most out of this class. So, feel free to ask me a question at any time. Also, if discussion is not flowing, be prepared for me to call on you at random to try getting things moving. That means it would be very beneficial for you to have read the material.

Grading

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \text{ exams} \times 25\% = 75\% \\ 4 \text{ quizzes} \times 3.75\% = 15\% \\ \underline{\text{Participation} \times 10\% = 10\%} \\ \text{Total grade} = 100\% \end{array}$$

Housekeeping Chores

Attendance: Attendance is highly recommended. If you show up late regularly your participation grade will reflect this.

Cell Phones: I expect you to have your cell phones off at all times. If your cell phone goes off once you will be warned. If it goes off again you will be docked 2% of your participation grade. As I hold myself to a similar standard, if my cell phone ever goes off I will give everyone present that day a 2% addition to their participation scores.

Extra Credit: There is **no** extra credit option in this course, without exception.

Academic Integrity: All students are expected to be familiar with and to abide by the rules and principles specified in the University Of Arizona Code Of Academic Integrity, <http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies>. In the context of this course, this applies to the examinations, quizzes, and the paper. When it comes to copying, take the advice from someone who knows: **Don't!**

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities should meet with the instructor within the first few days so that proper accommodations can be made. All conversations are confidential.

Threatening Behavior: University of Arizona policy will be followed concerning any threatening behavior to the instructor or fellow students, <http://policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml>.

Course Outline

Date	Topic	Reading
June 4 th	Class introduction and IR overview	Syllabus & Chapter 1
Section 1: The International System and the Actors Involved		
June 5 th	Theories and their importance	Chapter 2
June 6 th	Foreign Policy and Decision Making	Chapter 3
June 7 th	Great Power Rivalries	Chapter 4
June 8 th	Current Event Presentations & Quiz 1	News Sources
June 11 th	The Global South	Chapter 5
June 12 th	Non-State Actors and their role	Chapter 6
<i>June 13th</i>	<i>Test 1</i>	<i>Chapters 2 - 6</i>

Section 2: Globalization, Political Economy and Global Welfare

June 14 th	Human Rights and Intervention	Chapter 7
June 15 th	Current Event Presentations & Quiz 2	News Sources
June 18 th	Globalization	Chapter 8
June 19 th	International Political Economy	Chapter 9
June 20 th	Population, Resources and the Environment	Chapter 10
June 21st	Test 2	Chapters 7 - 10
June 22 nd	Current Event Presentations & Quiz 3	News Sources

Section 3: Managing Global Conflict

June 25 th	Transformation of Armed Conflict	Chapter 11
June 26 th	Power, Diplomacy and Security	Chapter 12
June 27 th	Alliances and Balance of Power	Chapter 13
June 28 th	Liberal Institutionalism	Chapter 14
June 29 th	Current Event Presentations & Quiz 4	News Sources
July 2 nd	Social Constructivism	To be determined
July 3rd	Test 3	Chapters 11 - 14
July 4 th	HOLIDAY – NO CLASS	None
July 5 th	Class Wrap up and Turn in re-writes	None

I reserve the right to change the class schedule if needed.