

Section 1: Course Overview

Bellevue College

Social Science Division

Political Science and International Studies Program

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(POLS& 203), *Item No. 5375 OAS*

Spring 2012 (April 2-June 15)

Credits: 5

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Note: The instructor will be on line periodically each weekday. You may send messages overnight or on weekends; however, a response may not be forthcoming until the next business day. EXCEPT FOR QUIZZES, PLEASE SUBMIT ALL WORK AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM WITHIN THE COURSE ITSELF.

Pre-requisite: None; however, Introduction to Political Science (POLS& 101) and/or or similar introductory Social Science course would be an advantage.

Course Description

This introductory course seeks to identify and analyze the patterns and processes that arise from the interactions of states, international organizations, and the several other actors which comprise our complex and interdependent world. Many of the concerns of this course--from war and peace to currency fluctuations and economic recessions, terrorism to global warming, and the North-South gap to human trafficking--are being shaped by the far-reaching processes of globalization, a theme that runs throughout the course. Although the Cold War is long past, the environment of world politics continues to show both conflict and cooperation, a duality that can only be understood through the lenses of theory and the historical experience. We will treat both these aspects as we tease out the processes that are at work in contemporary IR and treat the specific challenges that we face as a global community in the twenty-first century. Chief among these challenges are international peace and security--including environmental security--global welfare and justice, and resource scarcity.

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

- War, global warming, human trafficking, hunger, etc. affect us all, and we must all understand their causes and sources to remedy them.
- Understanding more fully humankind's most challenging issues will make you a more informed global citizen.
- Many of you will be leaders and assume positions of responsibility in various fields; and the more aware and knowledgeable you are about our major problems, the more likely you are to be an agent of change or the betterment of your community and the world.
- IR will help you in your career by teaching you to write, think, and speak more clearly and persuasively.
- Critical thinking, presenting a good argument, and writing effectively are part of any career, and this course provides ample opportunities to develop these competencies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this course students should:

- Demonstrate good understanding of the key concepts and approaches that form the core of the sub-field of international relations.
- Use the core concepts and approaches of international relations to make sense of global developments and discern patterns.
- Understand how global governance occurs in the international system and the role of institutions and processes in fostering global order.
- Understand the challenges, opportunities, and constraints that states and other global actors face in the international system.
- Think critically and make informed judgments about the salient issues in the contemporary world politics.
- Demonstrate improved research, writing, conceptual, and analytical skills
- Demonstrate, through pertinent examples, the application of IR to daily life.
- Demonstrate global competencies, such as the contribution of other cultures and civilizations to human progress and security.

Success Tips

Read the course Syllabus and the other resource materials from the Distance Education Office carefully first, contribute meaningfully to all the weekly discussions, submit assignments according to the Calendar, keep up with current affairs through the recommended supplemental sources below, take full advantage of the teaching and learning resources at the Interactive Student Resource site, and be sure to check frequently for any announcements.

Required Text

Please purchase this text at the [BCC Bookshop](#): (Note: Discussions draw on this and other instructor resources.)

Kegley, Charles W. Jr. & Gregory A. Raymond. *The Global Future: A Brief Introduction to World Politics*, Fourth Ed., With Passcode. Wadsworth Cengage), 2012. ISBN: ISBN is 9781111627737.

Supplemental Reading

Students are encouraged to follow current affairs issues in at least one off these sources on a regular basis:

The Monitor (online), [The Guardian Weekly](#), [The New York Times](#), [The Washington Post](#), [The Economist](#), [Far Eastern Economic Review](#), and [The Financial Times](#) (London) Also highly recommended: PRI's "The World" (<http://www.theworld.org/>), BBC (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/>), and Yale Global Online (<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/>).

These resources will help round out understanding and connect the concepts and theories introduced in the course to real-world situations of power, interests, conflict and cooperation. Give special attention to the current global economic and financial crises, international trade issues, institutions such as the WTO, NAFTA, IMF, and World Bank, IOs (UN and EU), NGOs (Greenpeace and Human Rights Watch, etc.), "commons" issues, incl. global warming, human rights, and terrorism, "hot-spots" such as the Middle East and South Asia, and the Peninsula, the G-8 and G-20, and, of course, great-power politics.

GRADING CRITERIA AND STANDARDS

Weighted Distribution

Weekly Discussions	25%
One-page Essays	25%
Tutorial Quizzes	20%
Final Exam (M.C.)	30%

Grade Points

90-100	A	(4.0)
87-89	A-	(3.7)
84-86	B+	(3.3)
80-83	B	(3.0)
76-79	B-	(2.7)
72-75	C+	(2.3)
68-71	C	(2.0)
64-67	C-	(1.7)
60-63	D+	(1.3)
50-59	D	(1.0)
< 50	F	(0.0)

COURSE POLICIES (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!)

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

All provisions of the BC regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism will apply-see also Social Science Division statement. Basic Rules for all written work: If you get an idea from someone else, you must acknowledge it by citing the source, whether or not it is a direct quotation. The Modern Language Association (MLA) or American Psychological Association (APA) style is recommended for footnotes, endnotes, and Works Cited.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you require accommodation based on a documented disability or have vital emergency medical information to share, please inform the instructor right away. To register as a special-needs student, contact the [Disability Resource Center](#) in B-132, Tel.: 425.564-2498/TTY Line: 425. 564-4110).

CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES

If feasible, please sign up for a Library Media Center (LMC) tour to discover how to find collections, books, journals, abstracts, A-V materials, and to use its other rich resources. The [LMC](#) is also a handy gateway to other Washington libraries and resources. Also of interest to you may be the [Academic Success Center](#). Further information about the academic calendar, enrollment, examination schedules, etc. may be found in the Winter 2012 Credit Class Schedule, available on the [BC](#) web page.

<p>Notes: In-person <u>Last Day to Withdraw</u> and avoid a "W" posted on your transcript is: 4/13/12 by 4:00 PM; and by remote access: 4/13/12 by midnight. <u>Holiday:</u> May 28; <u>Final Exam Days:</u> 6/13- 6/15/12 (Check Calendar and Announcement for specific times); Grades accessible to students starting 6/15/12.</p>

Section 2: **COURSE CALENDAR AND READING GUIDE**

(Note: This course will normally comprise a discussion series, text-related assignments, essays, quizzes, and other exercises, in addition to the usual PowerPoint presentations and chapter summaries—all of which will enrich the learning experience and meet the course objectives. Course content and schedule may change, depending on the needs of the class, unforeseen events, and other considerations.)

PART I: TREND & TRANSFORMATION IN WORLD POLITICS

Week 1 (4/2-6): Ch. 1 -- Analyzing World Politics 3

Week 2 (4/9-13): Ch. 2 -- Theories of World Politics 25

PART II: THE ACTORS IN WORLD POLITICS

No Chapter 3

Week 3 (4/16-20): Ch. 4 -- Great-Power Politics in Historical Perspective 76

Week 4 (4/23-27): Ch. 5 -- The Global South in a World of Powers 102

PART III: THE POLITICS OF GLOBAL SECURITY

Week 5 (4/30; 5/1-4): Ch. 6 -- Non-state Actors and the Challenge of Global Governance 135

No Chapter 7

Week 6 (5/7-11): Ch. 8 -- Military Power and the Use of Force 197

No Chapter 9

Week 7 (5/14-18): Ch. 10 -- International Law and Organization: Alternative Paths to Peace 247

PART IV: GLOBAL WELFARE—TRANSNATIONAL ISSUES

Week 8 (5/21-25): Ch. 11 -- The Globalization of World Politics 280

MON., MAY 28 IS A HOLIDAY

Week 9 (5/29-31; 6/01): Ch. 12 -- The Political Economy of Trade and Monetary Relations 300

Week 10 (3/5-9): Ch. 13: International Human Rights 328

Week 11: (3/12-16, 19): Ch. 14 -- Global Environmental Politics 350 / Ch. 15 -- Alternative World Futures 378

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Political Science/Int'l. Studies
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