

San José State University
Political Science Department
Political Science 04 (01): Introduction to International Relations
Fall 2017

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Danijela Dudley
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Office Hours:	Monday & Wednesday 12:30-2:00pm and by appointment
Class Day/Time:	Monday & Wednesday 9:00-10:15am
Classroom:	DMH 149A
GE/SJSU Studies Category	GE Area D3

Course Description

This course introduces students to major topics in international relations, including global, national, and individual causes of war and peace, international cooperation, north-south relations, and political economy. It provides a framework for analyzing political phenomena in world politics and its objective is to familiarize students both with major developments in the evolution of the international system, and with some of the central concepts and methods used to study it.

The class will begin with a review of major theoretical approaches and will then use those approaches to explain some important issues in contemporary international politics such as human rights, the occurrence of wars and terrorism, the role of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, and global economic relations.

Required Readings

Mingst, Karen A., & Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft. (2017). *Essentials of International Relations*. (7th edition) London & New York: W.W. Norton & Company. ISBN13: 978-0-393-28340-2.

The book is available for purchase in the Spartan Bookstore or from various online retailers.

General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs)

Social Science courses should increase the student's understanding of human behavior and social interaction in the context of value systems, economic structures, political institutions, social groups, and natural environments. This course is designed to fulfill the Social Issues general education requirement (area D3). As established by the University, upon successful completion of this course, students shall be able to identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a

context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation. Specifically, students will be able to:

GELO 1: place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts;

GELO 2: identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them;

GELO 3: evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues; and

GELO 4: apply multidisciplinary material to a topic relevant to policy and social action at the local, national, and/or international levels

Additionally, there is a writing requirement of at least 1500 words over the course of the semester.

These learning outcomes will be fulfilled through various reading and writing assignments, exams, presentations, and in-class discussions and activities. GELO 1 will be satisfied through an overview and analysis of the historical context of contemporary international relations, such as the development of the Westphalian System, origins and consequences of two World Wars, the Cold War, as well as post-Cold War developments. GELO 2 will be satisfied through the study of theories of international relations including realism, liberalism, constructivism, and radicalism, and through an analysis of the role and influence of different actors in world politics, such as states, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, individuals, and transnational networks. GELOs 3 and 4 will be addressed through specific issues of world politics, such as the causes of war and terrorism, elements and nature of the global economic relations, human rights, and global environmental problems.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1: demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical approaches to the study international relations and their use in explaining historical and contemporary international political behavior;

CLO 2: identify and explain the role of different actors in international politics, including individuals, states and international organizations;

CLO 3: demonstrate knowledge of major international political issues such as international political economy, causes of war, human rights, and global issues such as terrorism and global environmental problems;

CLO 4: conduct original research, critically analyze the literature, and propose original solutions to contemporary problems in international relations; and

CLO 5: discuss and debate major international relations issues in a collaborative manner.

Political Science Program Learning Outcomes (PSPLO)

Upon completion of the Political Science major program, students should be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

PSPLO 1 Breadth: Students should possess a broad knowledge of the theory and methods of the various branches of the discipline.

PSPLO 2 Application: Students should be able to apply a variety of techniques to identify, understand, and analyze domestic and international political issues and organizations.

PSPLO 3 Disciplinary methods: Student should be able to formulate research questions, engage in systematic literature searches using primary and secondary sources, have competence in systematic data gathering using library sources, government documents, and data available through electronic sources, should be able to evaluate research studies, and should be able to critically analyze and interpret influential political texts.

PSPLO 4 Communication Skills: Students should master basic competencies in oral and written communication skills and be able to apply these skills in the context of political science. This means communicating effectively about politics and/or public administration, public policy, and law.

PSPLO 5 Citizenship: Students should acquire an understanding of the role of the citizen in local, state, national, and global contexts and appreciate the importance of lifelong participation in political processes.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Midterm exams: There will be two midterm exams. They will vary in format and will include multiple-choice, short-answer, map test, and essay questions. Additional details will be provided a week before each exam. Exam 1 will cover readings, lectures, discussions, and videos from weeks 1-4, and exam 2 will cover the material from weeks 6-9.

Research Paper: You will write a 1,500-word research paper on one of three topics that will be provided to you. The goal of this assignment will be to develop your ability to conduct research, synthesize and analyze readings, and develop a clear and persuasive original argument. To assist with your research, you will attend an in-person library instruction session and complete an online plagiarism tutorial and test at <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism>. Additionally, a draft of the paper will be due two weeks before the final deadline, when we will have an in-class paper review session. Plagiarism tutorial, paper draft, and in-class review are graded on a credit/no credit basis. A "no credit" grade on the draft or plagiarism test or a failure to participate in the paper review session will lower your research paper grade by 10% for each. Additional details on paper requirements will be provided in a separate handout available on Canvas.

Research Paper Presentation: In a 3-4 minute presentation, you will present your topic, your argument, and any conclusions drawn from your research. You will also answer any questions raised by the instructor and/or classmates. Note: missed presentations cannot be made up.

Participation: Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and ready to discuss them. Contributing to class discussions and participating in class activities demonstrates your desire to understand the material; it also helps your learning process and material retention. Your participation grade will be based on both frequency and quality of your contributions to class discussions and in-class activities. Students may be called by name to address concepts from the readings. As participation evaluates your contribution to class discussions, any disruptive behavior such as using cell phones, talking to your classmates, interrupting others' statements, arriving to class late or leaving early, and similar, counts as negative contribution to class discussion and will adversely affect your participation grade.

Final Exam: University Policy S17-1 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) states "Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment." Final exam in this course will be cumulative and will cover course readings, lectures, and discussions for the entire term. Students will not be allowed to take the final exam early.

Assignment weight and tentative dates (dates subject to change with fair notice):

Assignment	% of Course Grade	Date	GELO
Midterm 1	15%	September 27	1-2
Midterm 2	15%	November 1	2-3
Research Paper	20%	November 27	3-4
	Plagiarism tutorial	October 11	
	Paper draft	November 13	
Presentation	10%		3-4
Participation	10%	Recorded each day	3-4
Final Exam	30%	December 18	1-4

Grading Policy

All assignments are graded based upon a percentage system, which can be converted to letter grades. For example, if an assignment is out of 100 points, 97-100 is an A+, 93-96.9 is an A, 90-92.9 is an A-, and so on. All assignments and exams total 100% of the course grade. The same letter grade distribution applies to the final course grade as it does for each assignment.

A+ = 97-100%	B+ = 87-89.9%	C+ = 77-79.9%	D+ = 67-69.9%
A = 93-96.9%	B = 83-86.9%	C = 73-76.9%	D = 63-66.9%
A- = 90-92.9%	B- = 80-82.9%	C- = 70-72.9%	D- = 60-62.9%

Late Work

Late assignments and exam make-ups will be allowed only in cases of medical or family emergency for which proper documentation is provided. If you miss an exam, you must contact me immediately to schedule a make-up. **Missed participation and paper presentations cannot be made up.** Late papers will be penalized 10% for each 24-hour period for the first 5 days. After 5 days, the paper will receive 0. Final exam will be held on the day scheduled by the University (Dec. 18). Final exam make-up for which proper documentation is provided will be held on the final make-up day, as determined by the University. **Final exam will not be given early** under any circumstances, so plan accordingly.

Use of Electronic Devices

Please **turn off cell phones** before entering the classroom. **Absolutely no use of computers, phones, or any other electronic devices during class except for medical reasons.** While technology can be very useful in our daily lives it can also cause unnecessary distraction during class both to those using it and to those around them. Thus, bring a pen and a notebook for taking notes. Exceptions to this policy will only be made for medical reasons. Please bring proper documentation before class if you need an approval to use electronic devices.

Classroom Courtesy

The purpose of discussion in this course is to provide a forum in which students can safely and supportively ask questions, present and debate their ideas, receive and interpret new information and perspectives, and develop and clarify their thinking. While you will likely be passionate about some issues discussed in class, it is essential to be **respectful** to others and their opinions. Offensive remarks or attacks of personal nature will not be tolerated.

Please **come to class on time and stay for the entire period.** Late arrivals and/or early departures are disruptive and as such will affect your participation grade.

Attendance

Attendance, in and of itself, will not be graded. However, regular attendance is crucial to your success in this course. Lectures will address some themes presented in the course readings, **as well as additional information** that you will not find in the readings, but which **you will be expected to know** for exams. Additionally, although attendance is not graded, participation makes a significant portion of your grade. If you are not present, you cannot participate.

Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>) requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course. Recording in this class is allowed **only with my written permission**, and is granted only on a class by class basis if the student justifies the need to record lectures. Students must obtain a written permission of any guest speaker and every class member in order to record presentations or class discussions. "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Political Science Departmental Writing Policy

Students of political science should develop the ability to write in clear, grammatical English. Spelling and grammar count! Students must take care that appropriate citations are used. Direct quotations must be so indicated with quotation marks and a specific reference to the page in the source from which it was taken. Failure to cite your sources constitutes academic misconduct which carries with it serious sanctions. A tutorial on citations is available at the library website at http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/literacy/info_comp/citing.htm. For assistance with writing, please see me or visit the SJSU Writing Center located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. are available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

The Fine Print

Information in this syllabus can be changed with fair notice. Any changes will be announced in class and/or via announcements through Canvas (<http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/>). **It is your responsibility to sign into Canvas regularly and check for any important announcements and updates.**

Pols 04 Section 01 Fall 2017 Course Schedule Subject to change with fair notice		
Week/Date	Topic	Assignment
August 23	Course introduction	Read course syllabus
WEEK 1 August 28-30	The historical context of contemporary IR	Chapter 2
WEEK 2 September 4	Labor Day, no class September 4	
September 6	Theories of international relations: Realism & Liberalism	Chapter 3, pp. 72-89
WEEK 3 September 11-13	Library instruction session Theories of international relations: Realism & Liberalism (cont.)	Meet at the library September 11 Chapter 4, pp. 106-118

Pols 04 Section 01 Fall 2017 Course Schedule (continued)
Subject to change with fair notice

Week/Date	Topic	Assignment
WEEK 4 September 18-20	Theories of international relations: Constructivism & Radicalism	Chapter 3, pp. 89-95 Chapter 4, pp. 118-130
WEEK 5 September 25-27	Midterm 1 review Midterm 1 September 27	
WEEK 6 October 2-4	International organizations and international law	Chapter 7: pp. 209-228 & 240-258
WEEK 7 October 9-11	War & terrorism	Chapter 8 Plagiarism tutorial due October 11
WEEK 8 October 16-18	Human rights	Chapter 10
WEEK 9 Oct. 23-25	International political economy	Chapter 9
WEEK 10 October 30- November 1	Midterm 2 review Midterm 2 November 1	
WEEK 11 November 6-8	Transnational issues: the environment & global health	Chapter 11, pp. 396-426
WEEK 12 November 13-15	Paper review Transnational issues: crime	Draft of the paper due November 13 Chapter 11, pp. 426-440
WEEK 13 November 20 November 22	Transnational issues: cybersecurity Thanksgiving holiday, no class	Chapter 11, pp. 426-440
WEEK 14 November 27-29	Student presentations	Research paper due November 27
WEEK 15 December 4-6	Student presentations	
WEEK 16 December 11	Concluding thoughts and review	
Monday December 18	Final exam 7:15am	

Final Notes

If you have any questions or need help with class don't hesitate to talk to me. For quick inquiries it is best to email me at danijela.dudley@sjsu.edu. For any substantive issues it is best to stop by my office in Clark Hall 404F. If you can't make it during my office hours, I will gladly work with you on finding other time to meet. I hope you enjoy the class!