

San José State University
Political Science Department
POLS 150, War and Peace, Section 01, 48231, Fall 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Jeremy Abrams
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Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:30am and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00 – 1:15pm
Classroom:	DMH 149A

Course Description (Required)

From the SJSU catalog: Fundamental human questions about causes of war, definitions of peace and approaches toward achieving peace from perspectives of historical and contemporary thinkers, including philosophers, political leaders, military strategists and diplomats. GE Area: V Prerequisite: Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), completion of Core General Education and upper division standing are prerequisites to all SJSU studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended. Not counted as a core course in the international relations subfield

Course Goals (Optional)

The Political Science Program Learning Outcomes are

- **Breadth**
Students should possess a broad knowledge of the theory and methods of the various branches of the discipline.
- **Application**
Students should be able to apply a variety of techniques to identify, understand, and analyze domestic and international political issues and organizations.
- **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.

- **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.

- **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.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

This is an upper-division (SJSU Studies) General Education course in Area V (Culture, Civilization and Global Understanding). Students are strongly encouraged to take courses to satisfy GE Areas R, S, and V from departments other than their major department.

The minimum writing requirement is 3000 words in a language and style appropriate to the discipline.

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

GELO 1: Compare systematically the ideas, values, images, cultural artifacts, economic structures, technological developments, or attitudes of people from different societies

GELO 2: Identify the historical context of ideas and cultural practices and their dynamic relations to other historical contexts

GELO 3: Explain how a culture changes in response to internal and external pressures

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

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

1. Compare definitions of war from a variety of systemic, institutional and other perspectives
2. Consider organizations and institutions that may affect the likelihood of armed conflict in their socio-political contexts
3. Discuss the links between conflict and regime type

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

CLO1. Conduct original research

CLO2. Critique and summarize key texts

CLO3. Debate major social issues in a civil and collaborative manner

CLO4. Reflect on current events, apply theories of war and peace to them, and evaluate such theories

CLO5. Define key terms relating to war and peace that are used in popular and scholarly discussion.

Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no textbook for this course. All readings will be available on the Canvas LMS under the Modules section.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Please purchase three Greenbooks for use in the exams and final. You will also need access to the internet outside classroom to complete readings from Canvas, complete online homework assignments, upload assignments, and access syllabus, announcements, and course updates on Canvas. Computer access is available in the campus library and in Clark Hall 102.

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. More details can be found from [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf> and at Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Your grade will be determined by (1) two midterm exams worth 30 points each; (2) a final exam worth 40 points; (3) a final paper worth 50 points; (4) class participation worth 10 points; (6) a class presentation worth 20 points; and an annotated bibliography worth 20 points. See the section on 'Grading Information and Policy' below for more details on grading.

The exams and final are designed to measure your understanding of basic concepts and Course Learning Outcomes related to the causes of war and peace and political science as listed above. As such, the exams will draw on materials from the books as well as class discussions and additional readings available on Canvas. The writing and annotated bibliography will delve deeper into key concepts that require more thoughtful treatment and reflection on the part of the student to understand some of the core problems and concepts related to war and peace. The deadlines for these assignments are listed in the course schedule below.

Course materials such as assignments and instructions, syllabus, handouts, notes, etc. can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You will need to be familiar with a computer, web navigation, e-mail and the Canvas system since your assignments and a number of readings are online. Your assignments will be submitted to me through Canvas. Do not e-mail me your assignments as an attachment. Due to the potential for computer viruses, I will not open nor accept any assignments sent via e-mail. They will be deleted. Please save your files in Word or PDF format and upload it to Canvas. You are responsible for knowing how to submit assignments through Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking your email and with the messaging system through MySJSU to learn of any updates.

NOTE that University policy F15-12 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf> states that "Students are expected to attend all meetings for the courses in which they are enrolled as they are responsible for material discussed therein, and active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit to all class members. In some cases, attendance is fundamental to course objectives; for example, students may be required to interact with others in the class. Attendance is the responsibility of the student."

In a course that examines international politics discussions are very important. You will be better able to learn from these discussions by having a command of current events. Please keep up-to-date with national and world events by reading daily newspapers and listening to the news. I anticipate spending time in many classes discussing current political events and linking them to theories and ideas discussed in the course.

Final Examination

The final exam is scheduled for **Friday, December 14 from 9:45am-12:00pm** in our classroom. Final exams may not be taken early. Please plan your travels accordingly. The final exam in this course will be cumulative and will cover course readings, lectures, activities, and discussions for the entire term. It will consist of short answer, and essay questions.

Grading Information (Required)

There is a possible total of 200 points. Your final grade will be determined by your total accumulation of points as follows:

Total Points	Percentage	Grade
194-200	97-100	A+
186-193	93-96.9	A
180-185	90-92.9	A-
174-179	87-89.9	B+
166-173	83-86.9	B
160-165	80-82.9	B-
154-159	77-79.9	C+
146-153	73-76.9	C
140-145	70-72.9	C-
134-139	67-69.9	D+
126-133	63-66.9	D
120-125	60-62.9	D-

Below 120 points is a failing grade. **The will be no extra credit available.** Please note that you must take all exams and turn in all assignments to pass the course. In addition, I will not give make ups for any of the quizzes. It is your responsibility to make sure you are available to take the quizzes. Late papers will be penalized one point per calendar day. **Please retain ALL of your exams, papers, and other assessments until after you have completed the course and received your grade.**

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Classroom Protocol

E-mail: Each student must have an e-mail address which they check regularly. Please make sure you have updated your records in MySJSU. You must monitor your account on a regular basis. When I send out classwide messages it will be to this account. Failure to monitor this account may result in you missing important messages such as class cancellations, change of exam dates, and requests for timely information.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken as part of your class participation grade. Even without the attendance requirement, the 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. It is your

responsibility as a student to be in class on time. Further, it is common sense that by not attending regularly, you will miss important lectures, clarifications, handouts, scintillating discussions and brilliant insights from your instructor and fellow students.

A Note On Green Books: For your exams you will be required to write your answers in the 8.5x11 Greenbooks available at the bookstore. Please ensure that you have one with you for the exam. It is disruptive at the exam to ask other students for a form, or to run out and purchase one and then come back. Greenbooks that are folded, crinkled, bent, or otherwise deformed are not acceptable. These are used to assess your performance and are no different than other documents that you submit in class or outside the university. You would not file a pleading with a court that you had folded in your pocket, nor would you submit a business proposal to another company that had water or food damage on it. You are responsible for submitting answers in a form and manner consistent with higher education and professional standards.

Academic Freedom: Each student is strongly encouraged to participate in class discussions. In any classroom situation that includes discussion and critical writing, particularly about political ideas, there are bound to be many differing viewpoints. Students may not only disagree with each other at times, but the students and the professor may also find that they have conflicting views on sensitive and volatile topics. It is my hope that these differences will enhance class discussion and create an atmosphere in which students and professor alike will be encouraged to think and learn. Therefore, be assured that students' grades will not be adversely affected by any beliefs or ideas expressed in class or in assignments. Rather, we will all respect the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions.

Electronics: I allow the use of computers for taking notes, [though it is not the best way to take notes](http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-don-t-take-notes-with-a-laptop/) <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-don-t-take-notes-with-a-laptop/> . Other electronic devices are not allowed and must be put away. Serious students often complain of the distraction caused by their fellow students' web browsing, IMing (if that is a verb) or who are otherwise preoccupied by electronics in class. We have a limited amount of time together during the semester and we should maximize the utility of that time. Please respect the class and your classmates and do not use these devices during class. **Recording of any portion of the class is prohibited unless permission is received from the instructor prior to class.**

University Policies

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

Other Useful Information

Voter Registration From <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/frequently-asked-questions/>)

Who can register to vote?

To register to vote in California, you must be:

A United States citizen,

A resident of California,

18 years of age or older on Election Day,

Not currently imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and

Not currently found to be mentally incompetent by a court of law.

You may register to vote at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>

U.S. midterm elections: November 6, 2018

Last Day to Register to Vote: October 22, 2018

Political Science Scholarships – see <http://www.sjsu.edu/polisci/scholarships/> for info. From the website: “The Political Science Department is fortunate to be able to award more than 10 scholarships to our students each year–this is an extraordinary level of support that surpasses what any other department on campus can offer. The scholarships were created by generous benefactors–often former faculty, students, and friends of the department–who desired to ease the financial burden on our students as they seek to earn their degrees in Political Science. The department encourages all of our students to apply for one or more of these awards.”

Library information:

liaison for Political Science: Paul Kauppila
University Librarian (Political Science Liaison)
(408) 808 - 2042
Paul.Kauppila@sjsu.edu

Political Science subject guide: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/politicalscience>

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion. Any changes will be announced in class and on Canvas. It is your responsibility to sign into Canvas regularly and check for any important announcements and updates.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Tue, Aug 21, 2018	Course Introduction
1	Thu, Aug 23, 2018	War is . . . A survey
2	Tue, Aug 28, 2018	Realism 1: Thucydides “The Melian Dialogue” at https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/melian.htm ; Hobbes, Leviathan, Chapter XIII “Of the Natural Condition of Mankind as Concerning Their Felicity and Misery”
2	Thu, Aug 30, 2018	Realism 2: Van Evera, S. (1998). Offense, Defense, and the Causes of War. <i>International Security</i> , 22(4), 5-43.
3	Tue, Sep 4, 2018	Realism 3: Tuchman, B. (1962). <i>The Guns of August</i> . New York: Macmillan. Chapters 2-4
3	Thu, Sep 6, 2018	Liberalism 1 (state): Doyle, M. (1986). Liberalism and World Politics. <i>The American Political Science Review</i> , 80(4), 1151-1169.
4	Tue, Sep 11, 2018	Liberalism 2 (state): “Paradise is a Bazaar” in Blainey, G. (1988). <i>The causes of war</i> (3rd ed., 1st American ed.). New York: Free Press.
4	Thu, Sep 13, 2018	Liberalism 3 (state): “Germany and the Pattern of Late Development” in Snyder, Jack L, & Snyder, Jack L. (1991). <i>Myths of empire: Domestic politics and international ambition</i> (Cornell studies in security affairs). Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press.
5	Tue, Sep 18, 2018	Liberalism 1a (individuals): “Perception and the Level of Analysis Problem” and “Deterrence, the Spiral Model, and Intentions of the Adversary” (partial) in Jervis, R. (1976). <i>Perception and misperception in international politics</i> .
5	Thu, Sep 20, 2018	Liberalism 2a (individuals): Calculation, Miscalculation and Conventional Deterrence II: The View from Jerusalem” in Jervis, R., Lebow, R. N., & Stein, J. G. (1989). <i>Psychology and deterrence</i> . Baltimore, Md: Johns Hopkins University Press.
6	Tue, Sep 25, 2018	Constructivism 1: Wendt, A. (1992). Anarchy is what states make of it: The social construction of power politics. <i>International Organization</i> , 46(2), 391-425.
6	Thu, Sep 27, 2018	Constructivism 2: Finnemore, M., & Sikkink, K. (2001). TAKING STOCK : The Constructivist Research Program in International Relations and Comparative Politics. <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> , 4(1), 391-416.
7	Tue, Oct 2, 2018	Constructivism 3: “Ancient Greece” in Reus-Smit, C. (1999). <i>The moral purpose of the state: Culture, social identity, and institutional rationality in international relations</i> (Princeton studies in international history and politics). Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
7	Thu, Oct 4, 2018	Wrap up and Review
8	Tue, Oct 9, 2018	Exam 1
8	Thu, Oct 11, 2018	Terrorism and Counterterrorism 1: chapters 1&2 in Crenshaw, M. (2016). <i>Countering terrorism: No simple solutions</i> . Washington, D.C.: Brookings

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Institution Pr. See also the online Global Terrorism Database at https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/
9	Tue, Oct 16, 2018	Terrorism and Counterterrorism 2: Movie: The Battle of Algiers
9	Thu, Oct 18, 2018	Terrorism and Counterterrorism 3: Movie: The Battle of Algiers
10	Tue, Oct 23, 2018	Ethnic Conflict 1: Collier, P., & Hoeffler, A. (2004). Greed and grievance in civil war. <i>Oxford Economic Papers</i> , 56(4), 563-595.
10	Thu, Oct 25, 2018	Ethnic Conflict 2: Michael Brown, "Ethnic and Internal Conflicts," in <i>Turbulent Peace</i> , ch. 13, pp. 209-26
11	Tue, Oct 30, 2018	Ethnic Conflict 3: Articles on Kenya; V.P. Gagnon, "Serbia's Road to War", in Diamond, Larry Jay. & Plattner, Marc F. (1994). <i>Nationalism, ethnic conflict, and democracy</i> . Baltimore : Johns Hopkins University Press
11	Thu, Nov 1, 2018	Ethnic Conflict 4: Chapters 4 & 5 in Gourevitch, P. (1998). <i>We wish to inform you that tomorrow we will be killed with our families: Stories from Rwanda</i> . New York: Picador.
12	Tue, Nov 6, 2018	Peace 1: Kupchan, Charles, & Kupchan, Clifford A. (1995). <i>The Promise of Collective Security</i> . <i>International Security</i> , 20(1), 52-61.
12	Thu, Nov 8, 2018	Peace 2: chapters 4-5 in Iklé, F. (1911). <i>Every war must end</i> . Revised ed. (Columbia paperback ; no. 116). New York: Columbia University Press.
13	Tue, Nov 13, 2018	Peace 3: chapter 1 in McGarry, J., & O'Leary, B. (1993). <i>The politics of ethnic conflict regulation: Case studies of protracted ethnic conflicts</i> . London ; New York: Routledge.
13	Thu, Nov 15, 2018	Wrap up and review
14	Tue, Nov 20, 2018	Exam 2
14	Thu, Nov 22, 2018	Thanksgiving
15	Tue, Nov 27, 2018	Presentations
15	Thu, Nov 29, 2018	Presentations
16	Tue, Dec 4, 2018	Presentations
16	Thu, Dec 6, 2018	Presentations, wrap up, review.
Final Exam		December 14 from 9:45am-12:00pm