



Syllabus

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| COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION |
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| Course Prefix, Number & Name: | 21585 PS5302 W01 – Int. Relations and Public Policy |
| Semester: | Spring 2020 |
| Credit Hours: | 3.000 Credit Hours Seminar |
| Class Meeting Day & Time: | On-Line/Seminar |
| Mode of Delivery: | On-Line |
| Instructor Name: | John J. Smietana, Jr. |
| Office Location: | LH 202 |
| Office Telephone Number: | 432-837-8464 |
| Campus Email Address: | jsmi3241@sulross.edu |
| Alternative Contact Information: | By Appointment |

Office Hours

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 930a-1030a and 1200p – 100p | | 930a – 1030a and 1200p -100p | | 930a-1030a 1200p-100p |

Course Description

A seminar in International Relations and Public Policy. A look at how and why foreign relations policy is formed, the balance of power and what leads nations to war. Why do nations act the way they do? How is national power projected in foreign relations? How and why do nations act on the international stage?

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify and explain different theories of international relations.
2. Understand and analyze how nations decide to act in the international arena.
3. Explain and analyze why a nation may decide to go to war.
4. Theorize and discuss the balance of power
5. Theorize on whether the United Nations is relevant to world peace.

Program Learning Outcomes (political science)

The graduating student will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of significant theoretical approaches of political science through written work and oral communication.
2. Demonstrate the ability to analyze domestic and international political processes in written work.
3. Demonstrate the ability to develop arguments about global equity and equality issues in politics through written work and oral communication.

Marketable Skills

- Students can organize and execute verbal and written presentations of complex social issues
- o Students can tackle social and political problems by acquiring relevant data and using insight and technical skills to analyze data and develop logical solutions
- Students understand the roles and responsibilities of institutional authority within local, state, national, and international communities.
- Students understand and can execute a policy analysis.

Core Competencies

1. Personal Responsibility: Students will develop principles of personal responsibility for living in a diverse world; to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.
2. Social Responsibility: Students will develop principles of social responsibility for living in a diverse world, to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Required Course Materials

Required Textbook or Textbooks

Textbook Title: War, Peace and International Relations. An introduction to Strategic History, 2nd Edition

Textbook Author: Colin S. Gray

Textbook Publisher: Routledge, London and New York

Textbook Edition/Year: 2012

Textbook ISBN#: 978-0-415-59487-5

Textbook Title: Man, the State and War: A Theoretical Analysis
Textbook Author: Kenneth N. Waltz
Textbook Publisher: Columbia University Press
Textbook Edition/Year: 1959
Textbook ISBN#: 0-231-08564-8

Required Publisher Resources

None

Other Required Materials

None

Communications

Generally communications in this class will be online. My email address is jsmi3241@sulross.edu. My office telephone number is 432-837-8464.

Students should expect a timely response to email questions and prompt grading and posting of assignments. Unless an announcement is posted indicating my lack of availability, you should receive a response to your email within 24-36 hours. If you haven't received a response within 36 hours, please email again just in case I overlooked it.

Since we will not be meeting face to face you can visit me at my office located at Lawrence Hall 202 if you are in the Alpine area. My office hours are posted above or by appointment.

Grading Policy/Course Measurements

You should expect to spend as much time in this class as you would for a face-to-face class. Face-to-face classes meet for three hours a week, and that amount of time does not include the time devoted to outside assignments. You should expect to spend six to nine hours per week, maybe more, working on assignments for this course.

Discussions will be posted in Blackboard on Friday at 4p. Your response to the discussion question will be due, for full credit, the following Monday by 1130p. 5 Points will be deducted each day until Thursday at 1130p. For Discussion you will be expected to comment on the initial response of three other student posts. 5 points will be deducted for each failure to respond. 0 credits will be given for anything turned in after Thursday. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your responses. Sometimes Blackboard is down due to regular maintenance or other issue, which means it may not be available during the time you want it to be. In addition, your computer or internet connection may not be working when you need them to be. Give yourself plenty of time to submit your assignments.

There will be eight (8) discussion learning questions. Discussions will be in Discussions Boxes. The discussions will each be worth 40 points. For the eight (8) discussions your initial answer will comprise

of at least 4 paragraphs and include proper citations. Students are required to comment on the initial response of three fellow students for each of the eight (8) discussions. Responses are required to be in complete sentences and be more than “I agree with your statement; good point or similar statement.” There is a deduction of five points for each missed response and responses that are not complete. Follow up discussion is encouraged. All assignments will be graded on grammar, spelling, content, completeness and participation. Failure to answer and reply to a test or discussions will result in a 0 assigned for that particular assignment.

There will also be a term paper on International Relations. This paper will be between 17 and 20 pages at a minimum. You will use APA style with proper citations to support your topic. You will provide your research question (topic) to me by week 4. The paper itself will be due by Friday 5/01/2020. It will be submitted in Blackboard in assignments. The paper will be worth 200 points. You will be provided specifics on how the paper will be formatted and grading criteria.

Grading Scale:

| GRADE | PERCENTAGE | POINTS |
|-------|------------|---------|
| A | 90% - 100% | 468-520 |
| B | 80% - 89% | 416-467 |
| C | 70% - 79% | 364-415 |
| D | 60% - 69% | 312-363 |
| F | Below 60% | ≤311 |
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Course Measurements:

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|-------------|--|-------------------------|
| Discussions | 320 points (8 Discussions at 40 points each) | Submitted in Blackboard |
| Term Paper | 200 points (1 paper 200 points) | Submitted on Line |

Total 520 points

Late Work

Assignments are due when they are due. Assignment due dates will be clearly stated in the Course Schedule. To receive full credit for an assignment, you must turn it in when it is due. If there are extenuating circumstances (car accident, death in the family, bear attack, etc.) that prevent you from submitting an assignment on time, please let me know at least two hours before the assignment is due via email. Understand that since most assignments are due by 11:30p on Thursday night, I may not respond immediately to your email. You might not receive a response until the following day.

Extra Credit

No extra assignments will be given at any time during the semester to “bring up your grade!” Work diligently from the beginning and complete every assignment as if *it* is worth extra points that will raise your grade!

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity

Faculty expects students to demonstrate integrity in their academic work. Sul Ross State University does not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or collusion. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. We will use SafeAssign plagiarism software for your term paper.

I expect you to do your own work. If you are caught cheating or fail to credit others with work you will be given a 0 grade on the topic for the first offense. A 2nd offense is a failure in the course.

Attendance Policy

You are required to attend and participate in class. You can be dropped from the class for 5 unexcused absences. Participation can be determined by when and how often you log on to the system. You should be checking in at a minimum of several times a week to participate in the discussions.

Classroom Policies

Netiquette

Netiquette, or internet etiquette, are guidelines for maintaining civil and professional communication in an online environment, which includes participation in coursework and email exchanges. Written communication will be conducted using appropriate netiquette and using standard business English. Here are a few basic guidelines:

- Be polite and respectful
- Do not use ALL CAPS in the online environment as this is considered “shouting.”
- Keep comments and questions relevant to the discussion. Do not reply to comments or questions that are inappropriate or off topic.
- Model the same manners online as you would when speaking to someone in person
- **Failure to follow these rules will result in a grade of 0 for the particular week that the incident occurs.**

SUPPORT SERVICES

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator.

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832, Telephone Number 432-837-8203.

TECHNOLOGY

Course Technology Requirements

This is an on-line class and requires you access to the online learning management system (Blackboard). You are responsible for having access to a computer and to a reliable Internet source. Microsoft Word is the program to be used for written papers and documents in this class. If you do not have Microsoft Word please contact Sul Ross IT who will assist you in obtaining the program. **You are required to use Microsoft Word!**

COURSE CALENDAR

COURSE SCHEDULE*

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

- 1. Identify and explain different theories of international relations.**
- 2. Understand and analyze how nations decide to act in the international arena.**
- 3. Explain and analyze why a nation may decide to go to war.**
- 4. Theorize and discuss the balance of power**
- 5. Theorize on whether the United Nations is relevant to world peace.**

COURSE SCHEDULE*

| DATE | TOPICS COVERED | CLASS PREPARATION | ASSIGNMENT | DATE DUE |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--------------|
| Week 1 01/12 – 01/18 | International Conflict and Human Behavior | Read: Waltz pp 1- 41 Idealism and Realism | Intro discussions Discussion 1 opens 01/17 | |
| Week 2 01/19 – 01/25 | Behavioral Science and Interstate Conflict | Read: Waltz pp 42-79 The Clash of Civilizations | Discussion 1 due 01/23 Discussion 2 opens 01/24 | 01/23 |
| Week 3 01/26 – 02/01 | International Conflict and Internal Structure | Read: Waltz pp 80-123 Diplomacy and Domestic politics | Discussion 2 due 01/30 | 01/30 |
| Week 4 02/02 – 02/08 | Socialism and WWI | Read: Waltz pp. 124 – 158 | Term Paper topic and outline due. | 02/06 |
| Week 5 02/09 – 02/15 | International Conflict | Read: Waltz pp 159 – 238 Power Transition Theory and Balance of Power | Discussion 3 opens 02/14 | |
| Week 6 02/16 – 02/22 | Van Clausewitz and Theory of war | Read: Gray Chap. 2 & 3 | Discussion 3 due 02/20 Discussion 4 opens 02/21 | 02/20 |
| Week 7 02/23 – 02/29 | 19 th Century tech, warfare and international order | Read: Gray Chap 4 & 5 | Discussion 4 due 02/27 Discussion 5 opens 02/28 | 02/27 |
| Week 8 03/01 – 03/07 | WWI and twenty year armistice | Read: Gray Chap 6,7, & 8 | Discussion 5 due 03/05 | 03/05 |
| Week 9 03/08 – 03/14 | Spring Break | | Spring Break | |
| Week 10 03/15 – 03/21 | WWII | Read: Gray Chap 10,11, & 12 | Discussion 6 opens 03/20 | |
| Week 11 03/22 – 03/28 | The Cold War | Read: Gray Chap 14 & 15 | Discussion 6 Due 03/26 Discussion 7 opens 03/27 | 03/26 |
| Week 12 03/29 – 04/04 | War, Peace and the age of Terror | Read: Gray Chap 16 & 17 | Discussion 7 Due 04/02 | 04/02 |
| Week 13 04/05 – 04/11 | Irregular war, geography and strategic history | Read: Gray Chap 18 & 19 | Discussion 8 opens 04/10 | |
| Week 14 04/12 – 04/18 | International Order and the future | Read: Gray Chap 20 & 21 | Discussion 8 due 04/16 | 04/16 |
| Week 15 04/19 – 04/25 | Term Paper | Term Paper | | |
| Week 16 – 04/26 – 05/02 | | Term Paper | Due 5/1 | 05/01 |

- The instructor reserves the right to alter this calendar in any way during the semester with full disclosure to the student.