

Syllabus

POLS1600 International Relations

2013

Committee Members:

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Date Reviewed: _____

NCCA Council of Instructional Officers

Chair: Mary Goodenough

Date Approved: 3-15-13

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

POLS1600

International Relations

Prerequisite: None

An introductory survey of the actors, institutions, processes, and theories of international relations including a study of contemporary global issues.

4.5 quarter credit hours

3.0 semester credit hours

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES

Course Will:

1. Acquaint students with various theories of, and approaches to, the study of international politics.
2. Develop student awareness of the history and evolving characteristics of sovereignty, the nation-state, nationalism, and national interest.
3. Develop Student awareness of the rival political, religious, economic and other belief systems in global context.
4. Develop student awareness of power, security, and the tools and dynamics of cooperation and conflict in international politics.
5. Develop student awareness of the role of economic interdependence in international relations.
6. Develop student awareness of the sources and characteristics of international law.
7. Have students Explain the role of global and regional organizations including government and non-governmental bodies.
8. Have students differentiate the emerging issues such as terrorism, the drug trade, migration, and the environment.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will:

For Objective 1

- (a) Discuss various theories of, and approaches to, the study of international politics.

For Objective 2

- (a) Understand the history and evolving characteristics of sovereignty, the nation-state, nationalism, and national interest.

For Objective 3

- (a) Identify and discuss rival political, religious, economic and other belief systems in global context.

For Objective 4

- (a) Discuss power, security, and tools and dynamics of cooperation and conflict in international politics.

For Objective 5

- (a) Assess the role of economic interdependence in international relations

For Objective 6

- (a) Describe the sources and characteristics of international law.

For Objective 7

- (a) Explain the role of global and regional organizations including government and non-government bodies.

For Objective 8

- (a) Identify emerging issues such as terrorism, the drug trade, migration and the environment.

IV. COURSE CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE

- A. The origins and evolution of the international system
- B. The state and nationalism
- C. Foreign policy-making and levels of analysis in international relations
- D. A survey of competing transnational values and competing ideologies
- E. International political economy
- F. The use power, force and conflict resolution in global politics
- G. International organizations and law

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Required Text(s) – Select one or more of the following:

1. International Politics on the World Stage
ORourke, John
2. International Relations: Conflict and Cooperation at the Turn of the 21st Century
Henderson (McGraw-Hill)
3. International Relations
Goldstein (Longman)
4. International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs, Brief Edition, 1st Edition

VI. METHOD OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

Instructors should make use of varied pedagogical techniques, including several of the following: lectures, small and large discussion groups, collaborative projects, research, essays, computer-assisted instruction, multimedia and field trips.

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Course grades, at the determination of instructor, will be based on class and group presentation, daily work, exams, presentations, projects, papers, and/or a portfolio. Instructor will distribute and discuss evaluation and her/his grading policies with students at the beginning of each term.

VIII. INSTITUTIONAL DEFINED SECTION

- A. It is important for students to check requirements at the transfer institution they plan to attend.
- B. Other requirements as determined by instructor/college.