

POL315 Global Politics/International Relations

Tue/Thur 09:00-10:15 am (Webster 112)

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University Catalog

POL315 Global Politics/International Relations (3) Introduction to global politics with emphasis on concepts and theories developed from an international relations perspective. Pre: sophomore standing or higher, or consent. DS

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to major theories and approaches to the study of international relations and then to apply them to issues of contemporary global politics. The first part of the course is a brief survey of current states of IR researches in terms of perspectives, theories, and methods. The second part of the course consists of in-depth studies on various perspectives of IR and application of IR theory to contemporary problems of global politics.

In this class, students are encouraged to think critically and share their own ideas and opinions with other members. Therefore, each week is organized to allow the student to gather information through reading and critical thinking during the week and present your ideas at the class. Students are required to write two essays on IR theory and specific issue in International Relations. Moreover, students should write an independent research designs on a single topic from International Relations by applying IR theories we have learned.

Course Objectives

1. Master foundational concepts, theories & knowledge of International Relations: It is required for you to comprehend concepts and knowledge of International Relations through this class. Students need to study a thorough knowledge of the principal approaches to the study of international relations.

2. Understand political issues, and think critically: Political thinking signifies that comprehending all social, economic and cultural phenomena and processes are political in a way. This course encourages you to ask and answer what, why, when and how politics and international relations occur. You need to develop the ability to analyze issues in International Relations from multiple theoretical perspectives.

3. Develop academic skills and effective communication: Effective communication and argument skills are essential to the students. You should develop the ability to form their own arguments with strong evidence regarding issues in global politics and international relations. This can be achieved only through a repetitive training and experience.

Course Textbook

There is no required textbook for this class.

All required reading materials are available at Laulima. (<http://laulima.hawaii.edu/>).

Please remember that you are expected to do the readings prior to class.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance and class participation (20%)

Attendance and participation is highly required to complete this class.

2. Midterm Exam (Take-home): Reaction Paper (30%)

Students are required to write one review essay about the reading and specific issues in the syllabus. This reaction paper should be 5 pages in length.

3. Group Presentation and Peer-Assessment (35%)

Students will spend the last few weeks of the course preparing group presentations. Students should conduct in-depth research with colleagues on contemporary global politics issues. Throughout the presentation, students need to clearly provide historical backgrounds, theoretical perspectives, and practical solutions related to the issue you selected. Prior to this project, each group will send an email or submit the plan to the instructor to go over the issue and the form of the presentation. Each project will take around 30 to 45 minutes, including a comprehensive introduction to the subject and the discussion topics. Each group will be assessed by the instructor and other group members (peer-evaluation).

4. Final Paper (15%)

Students are required to write the 3-page individual paper on your group presentation topic. You should show your own perspectives, opinions, and impressions on the issue you presented.

Extra Credit: I will assign extra writing assignments or quizzes occasionally and you can get extra credit if you complete them. It will not be weighted more than 10% of your final grade.

Grading Scale

97-100% = A+	84-86% = B	70-73% = C-
94-96% = A	80-83% = B-	67-69% = D+
90-93% = A-	77-79% = C+	64-66% = D
87-89% = B+	74-76% = C	

Important Note:

1. Your regular work is a key to successfully pass this course. Please keep this in mind, and understand that skipping readings and failing to turn in assignments on time will hurt your final grade.
2. Your active involvement in the class as well as general communication with your instructor is critical. If you have any concerns regarding your performance in this course, please email me as soon as possible. Communicating with your instructor is the best way to solve your problems.
3. All writing assignments should be double-spaced, with 1–inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right), and in a font of Times New Roman 12 point. They should follow the general rules of academic writing including the rules of grammar and spelling.
4. Please have a look at this citation guide and contact me if you have any questions about references: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>. You can follow any of styles as long as you consistently follow it.
5. Students are expected to submit all assignments by the due dates. Unless accompanied by a legitimate and documented excuse (A problem with your computer or with the internet access is not a valid excuse for late submission.), your grade will be docked.

Course Reading

■ Week 1. Introduction / Methods and Theories in IR

Maliniak, Daniel, Amy Oakes, Susan Peterson, and Michael J. Tierney. 2011. "International Relations in the US Academy." *International Studies Quarterly* 55: 437-464.

■ Week 2. Theory: Realism

Barnett, Michael and Raymond Duvall. 2005. "Power in International Politics," *International*

Organization, 59 (1): 39- 75

Snyder, Glenn. 2002. "Mearsheimer's World: Offensive Realism and the Struggle for Security," *International Security* 27 (1): 149-173.

■ Week 3. Theory: Liberalism

Sepilkenberry, G. John. 2009. "Liberal Internationalism 3.0: America and the Dilemmas of Liberal World Order". *Perspectives on Politics* 7 (1): 71-87.

Moravcsik, Andrew. 1997. "Taking Preferences Seriously: A Liberal Theory of International Politics" *International Organization* 51 (4): 513–53.

■ Week 4. Theory: Constructivism

Hirsch, Michal Ben-Josef. 2013. "Ideational Change and the Emergence of the International Norm of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions," *European Journal of International Relations*, 12: 2-17.

Owen, John. 1994. "How Liberalism Produces Democratic Peace," *International Security* 19 (2): 87-125.

■ Week 5. Theory: Marxism / Post-structuralism / Post-colonialism

Teschke, Benno. 2008, "Marxism" in Christian Reus-Smit and Duncan Snidal (eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of International Relations*. New York: Oxford University Press

Krishna, Sankaran "Decolonizing International Relations" *E-International Relations*, Oct 8, 2012 (<http://www.e-ir.info/2012/10/08/decolonizing-international-relations/>)

■ Week 6. The Application of IR theories

Ikenberry, John. 2008. "The Rise of China and the Future of the West: Can the Liberal System Survive?" *Foreign Affairs* 87 (1): 23-37.

■ Week 7. War and Peace

Glaser, Charles. L. 1997. "The Security Dilemma Revisited," *World Politics*, 50 (1): 171-201.

■ Week 8. Mid-term period

※ **Due: am 09:00, Sunday, October 20. Late Papers will NOT be accepted.**

■ Week 9. International Cooperation/ International Organization

Fearon, James D. 1998. "Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation." *International Organization*, 52 (2): 269-305

Barnett, Michael N. and Martha Finnemore. 1999. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations" *International Organization*, 53 (4): 699-732.

■ Week 10. Globalization

Keohane, Robert and Joseph Nye. 2000. Globalization: What's New? What's Not? *Foreign Policy* 118: 104-119.

Schattle, Hans. 2012. "A Dual Dynamic between Globalization and Citizenship." in *Globalization & Citizenship*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

■ Week 11. Terror and Human Rights

Kydd, Andrew and Barbara Walter. 2006. "The Strategies of Terrorism." *International Security* 31(1): 49-80.

Onora O'Neill. 2005. "the Dark Side of Human Rights" *International Affairs*, 81 (2): 427-39.

■ Week 12. Nationalism and Ethnic Conflicts

Bernard Lewis. Revolt of Islam, *The New Yorker* Nov. 21, 2001.
<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2001/11/19/the-revolt-of-islam>

Varshney, Ashutosh. 2001. Ethnic Conflict and Civil Society: India and Beyond. *World Politics*, 53 (3): 362-98.

■ Week 13. Gender and Feminism

Enloe, Cynthia. 1990. *Bananas, Beaches & Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Excerpts

Sjoberg, "Gender Lenses look at War," *Gendering International Conflict* (24)

■ Week 14. Group Presentation / Thanksgiving Holidays**■ Week 15. Group Presentation**

■ Week 16. Group Presentation / Wrap-up the course

※ **Final Paper Due: am 9:00, Moday, Dec 16. Late papers will NOT be accepted.**

Plagiarism

Plagiarism includes copying some or all of your work from a book, a website, or another student's paper. Penalties range from a failing grade for the assignment to permanent expulsion from the University. As an instructor, I am obligated to report all suspected violations to the Dean and s/he then will make recommendations. Please refer to the UHM website.

<http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/students/conduct/impermissible_behavior.html>

Students with Disabilities

If you feel you need reasonable accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please (1) contact the KOKUA Program at 956-7511 or 956-7612 in room 013 of the QLCSS; (2) speak with me privately to discuss your specific needs. I will be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program to meet your access needs related to your documented disability.

※ Schedules, reading lists, and the due date of papers can be changed.