

POLS 150 SP 2016
Introduction to Global Politics

Instructor: Hoyoon Jung (hoyoon@hawaii.edu)
Office: Saunders Hall Room 638
Office Hours: T/R 10:30-11:30am or by appointment

Course Description

This course is designed to navigate the introductory study of global politics for undergraduate students. Global politics is a discipline that explores political patterns and phenomena across the world. With particular emphasis on theoretical, comparative and multicultural approaches, this course addresses the following areas: 1) the emergence of states, 2) political institutions, 3) political economy, 4) international relations and global political themes and 5) student presentation. Based on the learning outcomes, students will have a chance to conduct an individual presentation on a case study. By identifying political phenomena or problems of particular states or regions and suggesting policy advice, students are expected to be equipped with political thinking skills.

Required Course Readings

There is no specific textbook for this class. Reading materials are available online at Laulima (<https://laulima.hawaii.edu/>). Some readings will be provided in class or e-mailed by the instructor.

Student Learning Objectives

This introductory course of global politics will emphasize **historical and theoretical approaches** to understanding global politics. Students are expected to enhance their ability to apply key concepts and theories in global political affairs. On top of that, we will also stress the **comparative approach** and **multicultural perspective** through case studies of particular countries and regions. Additional important student learning objectives are as follows:

(1) Mastery of foundational theories & knowledge in global politics.

It is required for you to comprehend concepts, theories and knowledge in global politics through this class. You should be fully equipped with overall knowledge of this subject that is the basic essential for further studies in political science. A house built on the sand does not survive.

(2) Ability to think politically and critically.

Political thinking signifies comprehending that all social, economic and

cultural phenomena and processes are political in a way. Therefore, I highly recommend you connect any specific social, economic and cultural aspects with a political one. On top of that, critical thinking is one of the most significant learning objectives in this class.

(3) Ability to communicate & argue effectively.

Effective communication and argument skills are essential to the students of political science. This caliber can be achieved only through an unvarying repetitive training and experience. I hope this class can be an excellent training field for you.

(4) Be motivated to study political science.

All learning objectives above are pointless if you do not have motivation to study political science. Through this class, you should find your own reason why you study this field. Also, after this semester, I hope you will have your own research interests and feel eager to study political science.

Course Requirements

(1) Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation are strongly required. Therefore, attendance will be rigorously checked prior to the class. In case of absence, you should inform me of the reason for absence via e-mail before the class.

(2) Readings and Group Discussion

Reading is highly important to catch up with the lecture. Students are expected to read assigned readings carefully and critically. Group discussion is also an important factor. You will have occasional group discussion sessions, and students will report the discussion outcome during class.

(3) In-Class Essay Assignments

In-class writing assignments will be occasional. Students will be required to submit short essays in class. The purpose of in-class writing assignments is for students to organize new knowledge that will be learned through the lecture. Some exceptional students with excellent essays will get extra credit.

(4) Student Presentation

Students will have an opportunity to conduct an individual presentation on a case study. Students can choose one of six regions (the Americas, Asia, Hawaii/Pacific, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) or a particular country. Students are expected to identify political phenomena or problems of

particular states or regions and suggest policy advice. Details on presentation will be announced during the semester.

(5) Exams

There will be one mid-term and one final exam. In the midterm exam, you will be asked to describe particular concepts and theories plus write a short essay. In the final exam, students will write a 6-8 page essay. The final exam will be take-home. Questions will be distributed after the final wrap-up session. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Assessment

In this course, each student is able to get a maximum of 100 possible points comprising the following components:

1. Attendance and Participation: 10% (10 points)
2. Student Presentation: 20% (20 points)
3. In-class writing assignment: 10% (10 points)
4. Mid-term Exam: 20% (20 points)
5. Final Exam: 40% (40 points)

In addition, you will have quizzes during this semester in accordance with the instructor's prior notification. Quizzes will not be reflected in your grade; however, students who get excellent records at quizzes will have extra credit, which will eventually lead to a boost in your final grade.

Student achievement is designated by A, A- (high achievement), B+, B, B- (meets expectations), C+, C, C- (below expectations), D+, D, D- (inadequate performance), F (failure). The grading scale is as follows:

A: 95%	B+: 87%	C+: 77%	D+: 67%	F: 0 – 59%
A-: 90%	B : 83%	C: 73%	D: 63%	
	B-: 80%	C-: 70%	D-: 60%	

Additional UH Policies & Services

There are various UH academic policies with regard to Academic Rights and Freedoms of Students, Academic Integrity, Student Conduct, Class Attendance, Nondiscrimination Policy, Gender Equity and so on. Please refer to the website on these issues at:

<<http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/about-uh/campus-policies1.htm>>

There is the UH Kokua Program related to disability issues as well. You can also refer to the website at: <<http://www.hawaii.edu/kokua/>>

If you would like to discuss these issues, please feel free to contact me or visit my office.

Course Schedule

Part I. Introduction and the Emergence of States

Introduction

Tuesday, Jan. 12 – Introduction, Syllabus and Course Description

States and State Formation

Thursday, Jan. 14 – Before class, read Diamond (1998).

States in Europe and Elsewhere

Tuesday, Jan. 19 – Before class, read Tilly (1985).

Part II. Political Institutions

Legitimacy and Politics

Thursday, Jan. 21 – Before class, read Weber (1919).

Absolutism: Divine Right of Kings (Europe) and Mandate of Heaven (China)

Tuesday, Jan. 26 – Before class, read “Divine Right of Kings” and “Mandate of Heaven.”

Democratic Rule

Thursday, Jan. 28 – Before class, read Oneil_Democracy (2012).

Non-Democratic Rule

Tuesday, Feb. 2 – Before class, read Oneil_Authoritarianism (2012).

Non-Democratic Rule vs. Democratic Rule

Thursday, Feb. 4 – Before class, read Lee Kuan Yew (1994) and Kim Dae Jung (1994).

Part III. Political Economy

What is Political Economy?

Tuesday, Feb. 9 – Before class, read Staniland (1985).

Colonialism and Post Colonialism

Thursday, Feb. 11 – Before class, read Butt (2013).

Capitalism and the Marxist Critique

Tuesday, Feb. 16 – Before class, read Friedman (1962) and Marx (1848).

Modernization Theory

Thursday, Feb. 18 – Before class, read Rostow (1968).

Dependency/World Systems Theory

Tuesday, Feb. 23 – Before class, read Wallerstein (1974).

Mid-term Wrap up

Thursday, Feb. 25 – No Readings

Mid-term Exam

Tuesday, Mar. 1 – Good Luck!

Part IV. International Relations / Global Political Themes**Introduction to International Relations**

Thursday, Mar. 3 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

Theories of International Relations: Realism

Tuesday, Mar. 8 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

Theories of International Relations: Liberalism

Thursday, Mar. 10 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

Theories of International Relations: Constructivism

Tuesday, Mar. 15 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

Foreign Policy

Thursday, Mar. 17 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

No Class: Spring Break

Monday, Mar. 21 – Friday, Mar. 25

Globalization

Tuesday, Mar. 29 – Before class, read Steger (2015).

The Rise of the Global South and BRICS

Thursday, Mar. 31 – Before class, read Almeida (2009).

Human Rights

Tuesday, April. 5 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

Global Health Issues

Thursday, April. 7 – Reading material for this topic will be provided in class or via e-mail.

Part V. Student Presentation**Student Presentation 1: The Americas**

Tuesday, Apr. 12

Student Presentation 2: Asia

Thursday, Apr. 14

Student Presentation 3: Hawaii/Pacific

Tuesday, Apr. 19

Student Presentation 4: Middle East

Thursday, Apr. 21

Student Presentation 5: Europe

Tuesday, Apr. 26

Student Presentation 6: Africa

Thursday, Apr. 28

Final Wrap up Session

Tuesday, May. 3 – Final exam questions will be distributed in this class.

Final Exam Due

Tuesday, May. 10, 10am (send it to hoyoon@hawaii.edu). Late submissions will not be accepted.