

**Genesis of Three Major World Issues:
Russia, Israeli-Arab Dispute, China,
Since 1948
Political Science 113**

**Spring, 2018
Syllabus**

**Read this syllabus carefully before you decide to
remain in this course.**

**The Honor Code is in force and will be
strictly followed in this course.**

POLITICAL SCIENCE 113

Spring, 2018

SYLLABUS

This is a “short course” on the nature of some of the most consequential world issues since 1948.

You are responsible for knowing what is going on in the world (the best way to do that is to read the International Section of the NYTimes daily, Foreign Policy, ISA, and Geopoliticalfutures, though those are a minimum) and for knowing the geography of the world. This is independent study on your part and there is nothing I can do to help you learn these facts. What I will be doing in class is dependent on you having this background. If you do not have it or are unwilling to learn it you should not take this course.

Aside from this general stricture I will be referring to certain readings (very few) and giving you handouts. There is no assigned textbook nor are other books assigned, but you are welcome to read more and to get suggestions from me as to what might best complement your interests. I welcome such interaction with you.

I will be teaching this course in six lectures, with the very able help of MK Healy. She is a great resource person for you and I know will help you to the extent she has time. If she does not (she has courses and tests too!) and tells you so, please do not insist. She is in charge of all powerpoints and is working on an independent study. I could not teach this course at this time without her indispensable help.

LECTURES

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| 1. February 22: | Introduction |
| 2. February 27: | Russia |
| 3. March 1: | Russia |

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| 4. March 6: | Israel-Arab Dispute |
| 5. March 8: | Israel-Arab Dispute |
| 6. March 20: | China |
| 7. March 22: | China and final exam |

All sessions are from 7:30pm to 8:30pm except for March 22nd. Since you will have your exam that day the class will end at 9:30pm and you will have one hour to complete a short answer test of 24 questions, of which you will be asked to answer 20, preferably correctly.

If you would like to write a 5-7 page review of one of two books that will count for 20 points on your final exam, you are invited to do so. Also, if there are more than five grammatical errors in the paper it will not count. **I must emphasize that the paper option is up to you to pursue.** The review is due, electronically, on March 22 by the time class begins.