

May 31, 2020

POL101.30 World Politics

Summer 2020, Session I

May 26th - July 3th

Instructor: Yi-Ta Lu
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Course Description

Analysis of the basic concepts and issues of international relations in the contemporary international system. The behaviors of states and their decision makers are considered according to various models of national and international conflict. The relationship between the characteristics of nations and their foreign policies is studied on a comparative basis.

Prerequisites: None.

Credits: 3.0

Text:¹Frieden, Jeffry A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2018. *World Politics: Interests, Institutions, Interactions*. Fourth Edition. New York, NY: W. W. Norton. ISBN: 978-0393675092

Course Requirement

1. **Online Course:** This is an online course and therefore there will not be any face-to-face class sessions. All assignments and course interactions will utilize internet technologies.
2. **Computer Requirement:** This course requires that you have access to a computer that can access the internet. You will need to have access to, and be able to use, the following software packages:
 - A web browser (Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, etc.)
 - PDF Reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader DC, Preview, etc.)
 - Word processing software (Microsoft Word, Pages, etc.)
 - Presentation software (E.g., Microsoft PowerPoint.)

¹Hereafter FLS.

3. **Email and Internet:** You must have an active Stony Brook University e-mail account and access to the Internet. All instructor correspondence will be sent to your SBU e-mail account. Please plan on checking your SBU email account regularly for course related messages. This course uses Blackboard for the facilitation of communications between faculty and students, submission of assignments, and posting of grades. The Blackboard Course Site can be accessed at <https://blackboard.stonybrook.edu>.
4. **Attendance/Participation:** Preparation for class means reading the assigned readings & reviewing all information required for that learning unit. Attendance in an online course means logging into the Blackboard on a regular basis and participating in the all of activities that are posted in the course.
5. **Studying & Preparation Time:** The course requires you to spend time preparing and completing assignments. A three-credit course typically requires 135 hours of student work, which amounts to 22.5 hours per week in the summer session. While the exact amount of hours might not be necessary for you to prepare the material for the course and complete the assignments, you should expect to spend a significant amount of time working on the material and actively participating throughout the time the course is in active session.
6. **Submitting Assignments:** All assignments, unless otherwise announced by the instructor, **MUST** be submitted via Blackboard. Each assignment will have a designated place to submit the assignment. All assignments must be finished and turned in to complete the course. Unless the instructor is notified **BEFORE** the assignment is due and provides an opportunity for the student to submit his/her assignment late, points may be taken off for a late assignment.
7. **How to Succeed in this Course:**
 - Check your Stony Brook University email regularly
 - Log in to the course web site daily
 - Communicate with your instructor
 - Create a study schedule so that you don't fall behind on assignments

Course Policies and Grading

1. **Basic Structure:** This online course is divided into six learning units that cover different topics in the field of international relations and world politics. It consists of the following components: short podcast, textbook readings, quizzes, and response papers. Each component is described below.
2. **Short Podcast:** At the beginning of each learning unit, I provide a short lecture in the form of an audio podcast. You can download the podcast from Blackboard and listen to it at any time of your convenience. The podcast gives an overview of each unit and discusses main points of the readings. Please note that the podcasts do not substitute any of the textbook readings.

3. **Textbook Readings:** The textbook readings are the main focus of the course. Please read the chapters carefully. Auxiliary slides corresponded to each chapter will be provided as well, however, they should not be seen as your main learning material. If you have any questions or comments about the readings, you are encouraged to post them on the discussion board on Blackboard.
4. **Quizzes 60%:** There will be six online quizzes on the textbook readings for learning units specified on the schedule. Each of them consists of ten multiple choice questions and will be available on Blackboard. You are free to refer to any resources but discussion with others is not allowed. The quizzes have a time limit of 30 minutes. You can start the quizzes whenever you want during the scheduled weeks, but they have to be completed in one sitting once you start the quizzes. Quizzes have to be completed by the end of each unit (see specific due dates below).
5. **Response Paper, 40%:** Each student will be required to write two 2-3 pages papers (double-spaced, 12-point font, with citations, PDF file) responding to your choice of week's readings. In these short papers, you should focus on synthesizing what you have learned in the readings. You are also expected to apply concepts and theories you have learned from the materials to real world phenomena. You can start working on the paper anytime during the session but the first paper have to be completed by the end of the third week and the second paper have to be completed by the end of the last week (see specific due dates below). Each paper is graded based on this grading rubric:
 - Understanding of theories (8%)
 - Application/extension (4%)
 - Logical organization (4%)
 - Personal thoughts (4%)
6. **Grading Breakdown by Percentage:**
 - 6 Quizzes (10% each; 60% total)
 - 2 Response Papers (20% each; 40% total)

7. **Grading Scale:**

| | | | | | |
|-------|----|-------|----|-------|----|
| 94+ | A | 77-79 | C+ | 60-63 | D- |
| 90-93 | A- | 74-76 | C | 0-59 | F |
| 87-89 | B+ | 70-73 | C- | | |
| 84-86 | B | 67-69 | D+ | | |
| 80-83 | B- | 64-66 | D | | |

Note on the Syllabus

The instructor reserves the right to make reasonable changes to the syllabus and class/reading schedule during the course of the semester. Please refer to Blackboard for the most updated version of the syllabus.

Class Schedule

I. Foundations

Week 1 (Tue 5/26 to Sat 5/30): Introduction and Theoretical Framework

- Reading: Introduction and Chapter 2 in FLS
- Quiz: Blackboard Quiz 1 (due Sat 5/30 11:59 pm)

II. International Security

Week 2 (Sun 5/31 to Sat 6/6): Causes of War

- Reading: Chapters 3, 4 in FLS
- Quiz: Blackboard Quiz 2 (due Sat 6/6 11:59 pm)

Week 3 (Sun 6/7 to Sat 6/13): Institutions, Civil War, and Terrorism

- Reading: Chapters 5, 6 in FLS
- Quiz: Blackboard Quiz 3 (due Sat 6/13 11:59 pm)
- Response Paper: First Response Paper (due Sat 6/13 11:59 pm)

III. International Political Economy

Week 4 (Sun 6/14 to Sat 6/20): International Trade and Finance

- Reading: Chapters 7, 8 in FLS
- Quiz: Blackboard Quiz 4 (due Sat 6/20 11:59 pm)

Week 5 (Sun 6/21 to Sat 6/27): Monetary Policy and International Development

- Reading: Chapters 9, 10 in FLS
- Quiz: Blackboard Quiz 5 (due Sat 6/27 11:59 pm)

IV. Facilitating Cooperation at the Global Level

Week 6 (Sun 6/28 to Fri 7/3): International Law and the Global Environment

- Reading: Chapters 11, 13 in FLS
- Quiz: Blackboard Quiz 6 (due Fri 7/3 11:59 pm)
- Response Paper: Second Response Paper (due Fri 7/3 11:59 pm)

Disability Support Services (DSS) Statement

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, Room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Academic Integrity Statement

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty is required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty please refer to the academic judiciary website at https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/

Critical Incident Management

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of University Community Standards any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. Further information about most academic matters can be found in the Undergraduate Bulletin, the Undergraduate Class Schedule, and the Faculty-Employee Handbook.