

UNLV
PSC 231-001
Fall 2006
WRI C151, M W 1-2:15 pm

Instructor: Dr. Penny Pardoe
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Office Hours: Monday 10:15am – 12:15pm and
Wednesday 2:30pm-3:30pm

World Politics

COURSE PURPOSE AND DISCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to outline basic theories of International Relations and to familiarize the student with the important actors and organizations that heavily influence the global political atmosphere. This will be done by introducing the student to prominent world system theories, such as Realism, Liberalism, as well as theories of international security and political economy. Upon completion of this course students are expected to have:

- develop the skills necessary for analyzing the roles of different state and non state actors in relation to world politics
- develop a general understanding of IR theory and the major contemporary debates which surround them

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

The required text for this course is:

Goldstein & Pevehouse, International Relations, Brief 3rd Edition, Pearson-Longman (ISBN: 0-321-33798-0)

**Further readings will be required but these materials will be available to you through library services.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:

This class will be conducted via a series of lectures and class discussions. A schedule of lecture and discussion topics, as well as reading assignments, is provided below. However, be aware that additional reading may be added to the schedule, and that the schedule itself may change due to time constraints. Any changes will be announced at least a week in advance.

ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

You will be required to complete the following:

- 3 tests
- one article report (5 pages typed)
- and one final exam

The due dates for the above mentioned are indicated in the schedule provided below.

All tests will include a combination of multiple choice, identification, true and false, and short answer questions.

More details on the procedures and requirements of the report will be provided early in the semester.

STUDENT EVALUATION:

Your final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

Attendance: 10%

Participation: 10%

First Test: 15%

2nd Test: 15%
Third Test: 15%
Article Report: 15%
Final Exam: 20%

GRADING:

All final numerical grades will be transcribed into letter grades as follows:

100-93= A	75- 73= C
92- 89 = A-	72- 69= C-
88- 86= B+	68- 66= D+
85- 83= B	65- 63= D
82- 79= B-	62- 59= D-
78-76= C+	58- 0 = F

CLASS POLICIES:

1. Attendance: Attendance is taken and counts toward part of your final grade. Anyone coming to class more than 30 minutes late or leaving more than 30 minutes early will be counted as absent.

2. Class participation: Class participation also counts toward your final grade. Discussion periods are specifically designed to evaluate your performance. Keeping up with your reading and preparing in advance for discussion will help you achieve a high grade in this area.

3. Exam and Missed Test Policy:

If a student has an extraordinary, legitimate, and proven reason for missing a test (such as religious holidays or extracurricular activities), and the instructor is notified at least 2 weeks prior to the test date, arrangements for a make-up can be made during the semester. Otherwise, all students can make-up any missed tests on the last day of class. Note: that the format of the make-up tests will **not necessarily** be the same as that of the regularly scheduled test.

The final exam **must** be taken at the scheduled date during finals week. No make ups or early final exams will be given.

5. Late Papers. For the purposes of fairness, students who do not turn in their written assignments on time will be penalized at the rate of 5 points per day (including weekends and holidays).

7. Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism, Cheating). Such instances may (and will most likely) result in a **FAILURE** for the *entire course*. See the “*Student Academic Misconduct Policy*.”

LECTURE, DISCUSSION, AND READING SCHEDULE:

Week 1

August 28th and 30th

Lecture: Introduction and Studying IR

Assigned Reading- Goldstein- Chapter 1 (pages 3-24)

Week 2

September 6th (September 4th is Labor Day-have a nice holiday)

Lecture: History of World Politics

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 1 (pages 24-53 be sure to read the Lets Debate) and Poster, Mark, “National Identities and Communications Technologies” *Information Society*, Oct-Dec99, Vol. 15 Issue 4, p235-240.

Discussion Questions: Have states lost their sovereignty? If so, is this a good or bad thing?

Week 3

September 11th and 13th

Lecture: Power and Bargaining

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 2

Week 4

September 18th and 20th

Lecture: Debating the nature of the International system: IR theories

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 3 (pages 99-121) and Tickner, J. Ann, "Why Women Can't Run the World," *International Studies Review*, Fall99, Vol. 1 Issue 3, p3, 9p.

Discussion Question: Does realism display a distinctively male approach to studying IR? Are women more peaceful than men? Are there any dangers in making these assumptions?

Week 5

September 25th and 27th

Lecture: IR theories continued

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 3 (131-137)

*****Test on Wednesday**

Week 6

October 2nd and 4th

Lecture: The Foreign Policy Process

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 4

Week 7

October 9th and 11th

Lecture: International Conflict

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 5 (be sure to read the Lets Debate), "Al Qaeda's New Strategies," *American Foreign Policy Interests*, Apr2005, Vol. 27 Issue 2, p149-151, and Crockatt, Richard, "No Common Ground," *European Journal of American Culture*, 2004, Vol. 23 Issue 2, p125-142.

Discussion Topics: What is meant by the term "clash of civilizations?" Is there an inevitable clash between the West and the Islamic world?

Week 8

October 16th and 18th

Lecture: Military Force

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 6

Week 9

October 23rd and 25th

Lecture: International Law and Organization

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 7 (pages 251-273)

******Test on Wednesday**

Week 10

October 30th and November 1st

Lecture: International Law continued

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 7 (273-294) and TBA

Discussion Question: TBA

***Report Due on Wednesday at the beginning of class**

Week 11

November 6th and 8th

Lecture: International Trade

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 8

Week 12

November 13th and 15th

Lecture: Integration

Assigned Reading: Goldstein -Chapter 10 and TBA

Discussion Question: TBA

Week 13

November 20th and 22nd (Happy Thanksgiving- break starts on the 23rd)

Lecture: Money and Business

Assigned Reading: Goldstein-Chapter 9

******Test on Wednesday**

Week 14

November 27th and 29th

Lecture: International Development

Assigned Reading: Goldstein- Chapter 13 and TBA

Discussion Question: TBA

Week 15

December 5th and 7th

Lecture: Catch up and Review for Exam

Final Exam

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Copyright Law:

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<<http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright/>

Disability Resource Center (DRC) – *The Executive Vice President and Provost and Faculty Senate have endorsed the following statement to be included in all course syllabi.* NOTE: Over two-thirds of the students in the DRC reported that the syllabus statement, often read aloud by the faculty during class, directed them to the DRC office.

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The DRC is the official office to review and house disability documentation for students, and to provide them with an official Academic Accommodation Plan to present to the faculty if an accommodation is warranted. The DRC strongly encourages faculty to provide accommodations only if and when they are in receipt of said plan. Faculty should not provide students accommodations without being in receipt of this plan.

UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, offering reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. **If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137, and the contact numbers are: VOICE (702) 895-0866, TTY (702) 895-0652, FAX (702) 895-0651. For**

additional information, please visit: <<http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/>>.

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