

POL SCI 122: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, EAU CLAIRE
FALL 2005 (Sept. 6---Dec. 22)

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M, W, F. 10:00-10:50, SSS 100
Office Hours: M, W, F: 12:00 - 1:00
And by Appointment or email

COURSE OUTLINE

Political Science 122 is aimed at introducing students to the fundamental concepts, ideas, theories, and methods utilized in the study of global politics. By the end of the term, students are expected to have developed a more sophisticated and systematic outlook of global politics. The course is divided into four parts. Part I will, after a brief discussion of the historical evolution of different international systems, deal with theories and approaches utilized in the study of international politics. Part II will examine the primary sources of conflict in global politics, including nationalism, arms races, ideologies and the pursuit of national interest. In Part III, we will explore and examine the utility of diplomacy, international organizations and law, and arms control in promoting global peace. Part IV will deal with the contemporary International Political Economy, and particularly the North-South relations: The gap between rich and poor countries remains wide, and poverty and non-democratic politics continue to persist in most developing countries. **[The goals of this class will match the following University's Baccalaureate Goals: Goal 3, An ability to inquire, think, and analyze; Goal 6, An historical consciousness; Goal 7, International and intercultural experience; Goal 10, An understanding of values; Goal 11, An understanding of human behavior and human institutions.] For a complete list of Baccalaureate goals, go to <http://webportfolio.uwec.edu>**

All students are required to obtain the two assigned books, and are strongly encouraged to do the reading requirements prior to class meetings. Students must also read at least one major source of international news on daily basis and be prepared to make intelligent comments on major world issues and events. This will encourage you to develop a habit of keeping up with world affairs and to better understand the relevance of academic learning to the actual processes of decision making in both domestic and international politics. The New York Times (www.nytimes.com), the Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com>), and the BBC World News (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/default.stm>) are some useful, free, and easy-to-reach sites. In addition, I will, through emails, advise you of articles of interest on the Internet for class discussions.

Regular attendance and participation in class discussions are required. I will randomly call on students to enlighten the rest of us about important international issues. The "lucky" student whose name is called will then highlight the important points of the article(s) in question, followed by a class discussion involving all students. Those students whose names are called and are not present will be penalized. Class attendance and participation will contribute 10% to your

final grade. Please note that class lectures do not necessarily follow the same exact materials discussed in the book. However, students are responsible for both the assigned reading materials and what is covered in class lectures. The precise outline of topics covered in this class is provided below. We will try to follow the outlined schedule, but I will inform you of necessary amendments should there be any. **There will be no make-up exams given unless a prior written notice is provided by the student, explaining the circumstances under which he or she is forced to miss an exam. Make up exams will be harder.**

ABOUT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

In accordance to the University handbook, “I consider any academic misconduct in this course as a serious offense, and I will pursue the strongest possible academic penalties for such behavior.” The disciplinary procedures and penalties for academic misconduct are described in the UW-Eau Claire *Student Services and Standards Handbook* (<http://www.uwec.edu/sdd/publications.htm>) in the section titled, “Chapter UWS 14— Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures.”

REQUIRED BOOKS AND READING:

1. Rourke, John T., *International Politics on the World Stage*, 10th ed. (New York, NY: McGraw-Hill, 2005).
2. John Rourke, ed. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics*, 12th ed. (Dubuque, Iowa: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, 2006).
3. Email articles and a major source of international news (paper or electronic).
www.nytimes.com
www.cnn.com
www.washingtonpost.com

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING:

Your final grade will be based on three examinations (60%), class attendance/participation (10%) and an 8-10 page term paper (30%). Each exam will contribute 20% to your final grade. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions, including bonus questions on current events. The term paper must deal with an important international issue, the subject of which must be approved by me. **Students must submit their paper abstracts by the end of the 11th week, outlining the important features of the paper (topic, thesis, methodology, etc.). Paper abstracts are usually between 1-2 typed pages. [\[Your research paper in this class will fulfill goals 3a, 3b, or 3c for your portfolio in meeting the Baccalaureate Goals\]](#).** I will provide you with a guideline as how to approach this research paper. The calculation of your final grade is, thus, based on the following:

EXAM I (20%)-----	60 points
EXAM II (20%)-----	60 points
EXAM III (20%)-----	60 points
TERM PAPER (30%)-----	90 points
CLASS ATTENDANCE/-----	30 points
PARTICIPATION (10%)-----	

300 points

FINAL GRADE:	300--280 -----	A RANGE
BREAKDOWN	279--270 -----	A- "
	269--260 -----	B+ "
	259--250 -----	B "
	249--240 -----	B- "
	239--225 -----	C+ "
	224--215 -----	C "
	214--210 -----	C- "
	209--200 -----	D+ "
	199--185 -----	D "
	184--180 -----	D- "

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Exam I -----	Friday, October 14
Exam II -----	Friday, November 18
Final Exam PS 122-----	Thursday, Dec. 22, 10:00 AM
Paper Abstracts-----	Friday, November 18
Papers Due-----	Monday, December 12
Exam Week-----	Friday-Thursday, December 16-22

PART I: WORLD POLITICS: BACKGROUND AND APPROACHES TO WORLD POLITICS

Weeks I-II (September 6-16)

- a) The Study of World Politics: The What and How Questions/ Levels of Analysis
- b) Paradigms in IR: Idealism, Realism, Internationalism, Marxism

Readings: Rourke, ch. 1 & Taking Sides, Issue 1

Week III (September 19-23)

The Evolution of International Systems

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 2 & Taking Sides, Issue 2

Week IV (September 26-30)

Systemic, the State, and Individual Levels of Analysis

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 3 & Taking Sides, Issue 3

Week V (October 3-7)

Systemic, the State, and Individual Levels of Analysis (continues)

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 8 (Optional) & Taking Sides, Issues 10 & 11

PART II: SOURCES OF CONFLICT IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**Week VI (October 10-14)**The State, National Interest, and Sovereignty in the late 20th Century

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 6 & Taking Sides, Issues 5 & 7

EXAM I: Rourke (chs. 1, 2, 3, 6)
Taking Sides Issues (1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 5, 7)

Week VII (October 17-21)

a) Nationalism: Old and New

b) Evolving Transnationalism as the Alternative Orientation

Readings..... Rourke, chs. 4 and 5 & Taking Sides, Issues 9 & 12

Week VIII (October 24-28)

National Security, Arms Races, and the Use of Force

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 10 & Taking Sides, Issues 14 & 15

PART III: ALTERNATIVE PATHS TO PEACE?

Week IX (October 31-November 4)

Collective Security and the Idea of International Security as the Alternative Road?

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 11 & Taking Sides, Issues 4 & 8

Week X (Nov. 7-11)

International Law, Morality and Human Rights

Readings.....Rourke, ch. 9 & Taking Sides, Issue 18

Week XI (Nov. 14-18)

Time to Review and to Reflect

Paper Abstracts are Due

EXAM II: Rourke (chs. 4, 5, 10, 11, 9)

Taking Sides Issues (9, 12, 14, 15, 4, 8, 18)

Week XII (Nov. 21-25)

NOV 24 THANX GIVING, NO CLASSES ON FRIDAY

1) International Organizations: Promoters of Global Peace?

Readings:..... Rourke, ch. 7 & Taking Sides, Issue 17

PART IV: ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

Week XIII (October 28-December 2)

International Political Economy: Challenges and Prospects

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 12 & Taking Sides, Issue 13

Week XIV (Dec. 5-9)

International Political Economy: Challenges and Prospects (continues)

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 13 & Taking Sides, Issue 6

Week XV (Dec. 12-16)

International Political Economy (continues)

Time to Review and to Reflect (classes on Monday and Wed. only)

Readings..... Rourke, ch. 14, and **Time Permitting:** Rourke, chs. 15 (on Human Rights), ch.16 (Environment, Population, and Development)

Taking Sides, Issues 19 & 20

**FINAL EXAM: Rourke (chs. 7, 12, 13, 14 and possibly 15 & 16)
Taking Sides Issues (17, 13, 6, and possibly 19 & 20)**