

POLS3361-002 International Politics

Spring 2014

Department of Political Science, Texas Tech University

T-TH 9:30-10:50 AM in Holden Hall 126

This syllabus contains the policies and expectations I have established for POLS3361: International Politics. Please read the entire syllabus carefully before continuing in this course. The standards and requirements in this syllabus may be modified at any time by the course instructor. When such changes occur, students will be notified by email and the syllabus posted on the course Blackboard page will be edited to reflected those changes.

1 Instructor Information

Dr. Carie Steele

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TA: Caleb Crow

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Office Hours: T & TH 11:00-1:00 PM & by apt

2 Course Overview and Objectives

This course is broad introduction to the politics of international relations(IR). Its primary purpose is to introduce students to the major theories and concepts used in the IR subfield of political science. Although many view international relations as being familiar with current events, the scholarly study of international relations attempts to understand and explain international politics by studying patterns of behaviors and events. The course will include an introductory survey of the four major theoretical approaches, the major topics and problems addressed by the field — including conflict, cooperation, international political economy, and other transnational problems — and how scholars engage important questions in international relations.

2.1 Course Learning Objectives

After completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Summarize the four major theoretical approaches to international relations;
- Apply each of the theoretical approaches to explain and interpret political events;
- Discuss the causes of conflict in international relations;
- Discuss how and why cooperation occurs in the international system;
- Evaluate political behaviors and policy recommendations using logically consistent criteria;
- Synthesize information about patterns of outcomes with information about specific events to develop policy recommendations/positions.

3 Required Readings

- Mingst, Karen and Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft. *Essentials of International Relations*.

Additional readings will be available in electronic form on Blackboard.

4 Assignments and Evaluations

Your grade for the course will reflect your performance on assignments and your mastery of the concepts and materials covered throughout the semester. The due dates for all materials are included in the “Course Schedule” section of this syllabus. Students are responsible for meeting all due dates and are expected to turn in all work on time.

4.1 Attendance: 10%

Attendance will be taken 10 times throughout the semester. Attending class will earn you a 10 out of 10. There is no makeup for attendance. If you miss class for a documented excused absence, the total number of possible points from attendance will be reduced by 10.

4.2 Pop Quizzes: 10%

Pop quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 10 possible points. **You must be in class in order to take these quizzes. No makeup quizzes will be offered.** Missing quizzes for unexcused absences will result in a 0 for that quiz. If a student has an excused absence for a class during which a pop quiz is administered, the total number of possible points from pop quizzes will be reduced by 10.

There are limitations on how many quizzes can be dropped due to excused absences. **You must have grades for at least 3 pop quizzes. If, due to excused absences, you are present for fewer than 3 pop quizzes, the pop quiz component of your grade will be replaced by a 5 page written assignment.** Students registered for this course have a responsibility to prioritize class attendance. If your health, family obligations, or extra-curricular activities will prevent you from attending class on a regular basis, it is perhaps best to reconsider whether this is an appropriate time to take this class.

The last page of this syllabus is a quiz intended to ensure students have read and understood the syllabus. The quiz will replace your lowest pop quiz score. Detach the last page, read the syllabus thoroughly, answer the quiz questions, follow the instructions for signing in to Turnitin, and return the quiz with your answers to Dr. Steele at the beginning of class on Thursday, January 23rd. The quiz will not count unless you have also signed in to Turnitin.

4.3 Problem-Themes (3) 30%

You will complete three short essay assignments called problem-themes for this course. There will be 11 potential essay topics throughout the course, categorized into three broad themes — problem-themes 1-3 address theoretical foundations of international relations; problem-themes 4-7

address cooperation and conflict behaviors in international relations; and problem-themes 8-11 address transnational issues/problems. **You will write at least one essay from each category.** You may choose to write more than one essay for each category, and the highest grade will be counted. However, additional essays cannot replace grades outside of their category. Each essay will be 3-4 pages double-spaced and turned in via Turnitin (see instructions below). The prompt for each essay, as well as a guide for writing a good problem theme, can be found on Blackboard.

Course Section	Problem-themes	Due Date
Section I	Problem-theme 1	January 28th
	Problem-theme 2	February 4th
	Problem-theme 3	February 11th
Section II	Problem-theme 4	February 18th
	Problem-theme 5	February 25th
	Problem-theme 6	March 4th
	Problem-theme 7	March 11th
Section III	Problem-theme 8	April 1st
	Problem-theme 9	April 8th
	Problem-theme 10	April 15th
	Problem-theme 11	April 22nd

4.4 2 Exams: 25% each

There will be two in-class exams over the material covered in lectures, discussion, and assigned readings. You *must* sit take these exams at the scheduled time. The exams will be held in class on:

- **March 13th @ 9:30 am**
- **April 29th @ 9:30 am**

If you will have an excused absence on the date of an exam, you must take the exam before your absence (see excused absence policy below). Make-up exams will only be allowed after the exam dates in documented cases of medical emergency — this means a trip to the emergency room. **All make-up exams for medical emergency will be held on May 1st at 9:30pm**

5 Grading

Course grades will be based on the following weights:

Assignment	Percentage
Attendance:	10%
Pop Quizzes:	10%
Essays:	30%
Exam 1:	25%
Exam2:	25%

The grading scale used for this course is:

A+	100-97	C	76.9-73
A	96.9-93	C-	72.9-70
A-	92.9-90	D+	69.9-67
B+	89.9-87	D	66.9-63
B	86.9-83	D-	62.9-60
B-	82.9-80	F	Below 60
C+	79.9-77		

6 Course Expectations and Policies

These are the policies that you will be subject to throughout the semester. Please read this section carefully. A university education and taking this course is voluntary. If these policies seem unreasonable, please select another class.

6.1 Expectations

My expectations for my students are simple — be engaged, responsible, and diligent. This means:

- Read and understand the syllabus.
- Attend class.
- Do reading assignments carefully and take notes.
- Participate in class discussion.
- Turn in your work on time.
- Do your own work — do not plagiarize or cheat.
- Be willing to ask questions and seek help.

6.2 Attendance

Students who attend class perform better in class and on course assignments. Taking attendance everyday is not a good use of class time, however, I will take attendance, at random, 10 times during the semester.

6.3 Workload

This is a 3 credit hours class. This means that you are expected to be in class 3 hours a week. In general, university students should expect to spend about 2-3 hours per credit hour per week on class work including reading, writing assignments, and reviewing material. This means, for this class alone, you should expect an additional 6-9 hours of work a week outside of class. You should be prepared to read up to 100 pages a week. I will not cover everything in the text and readings during class time. It's up to you to use the material covered in class as a starting point for your study. Writing assignments and exams will ask you to think about and synthesize seemingly unrelated topics from readings and discussion. Some of this will be covered in class, but you are expected to do additional work outside of class.

6.4 Classroom Etiquette

In order to create a classroom environment that is conducive to learning, you are expected to adhere to basic classroom etiquette. Do not disrupt class. This includes arriving late, leaving early, holding side conversations with others, reading newspapers, and using electronic devices in a distracting manner(see the Electronic Devices statement). Do not interrupt or engage in side conversations

while someone else is speaking. Be civil, constructive, and respectful — derogatory and sarcastic comments have no place in the classroom. Comments that are derogatory toward any group — particularly on the basis of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or disability — are strictly prohibited. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if you are disrupting or obstructing normal class functions.

6.5 Electronic Devices:

Distractions in the classroom affect everyone in the classroom. The use of electronic devices in this class is limited to the use of laptop computers for academic purposes only. To facilitate this, everyone in the class will begin the semester with 10 extra credit points (enough to replace a missed pop quiz with a perfect score). Each time a phone is seen or heard by the instructor or TA (please note, this means the phone must be turned off AND out of sight **before** the instructor begins class), or a computer is observed in use as a distraction (email, Facebook, Twitter, G+, or anything else non-course related) everyone in the class will lose one extra credit point.

6.6 Communications

Questions about the course: If you have questions about due dates, the use of Turnitin, when office hours are held, or other specifics about the course, the first place you should look is in the syllabus. If you have checked the syllabus three times and cannot find the information you are looking for, you should then contact the instructor or TA with questions. In cases where the information is readily available in the syllabus, the instructor or TA may simply respond with “Check the syllabus.”

Email: I will send all emails to your TTU email address — thus you are expected to check it regularly. You may send emails to me from whatever email account you prefer, however, TTU’s email filter will often send non-TTU emails to the trash folder. Your best bet is to use your TTU account. In most situations, I will respond to emails sent during the week within 24 hours. For emails sent after Friday at 3pm or on Saturday or Sunday, my response may be delayed until Monday morning. When sending an email to the professor or the TA, your email should include a relevant subject, appropriate greeting, a concise but clear message, and a closing that includes your name. I will not respond to emails that do not identify the sender.

Seeking Help: You are responsible for communicating any course related difficulties to the professor in a timely manner. This means you should monitor your grades throughout the semester. If you are having difficulty with any part of this course seek help immediately. Ask questions in class, meet with the TA, come to office hours, and/or send me an email. I can’t help if I don’t know there is a problem. **Do not wait until the end of the semester.** I will not provide extra credit opportunities, nor will I negotiate final grades.

In addition, you should consider taking advantage of the numerous resources Texas Tech has available for you. The TecNiques Center offers tutoring <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/techniques/tutoring.asp> and the writing center can provide invaluable help with writing assignments <http://uwc.ttu.edu/aboutus.asp>.

6.7 Absences

Absences are excused under the following circumstances only: death in the family (parent, spouse, sibling, child or grandparent), participation in an official TTU sponsored academic or sporting event, observation of a religious holy day, unforeseeable medical emergency affecting yourself, your spouse, or your child. In cases involving the death of a family member, you must give me notice via email at least 24 hours prior to the absence. In cases involving university sponsored activities and observance of religious holy days, you must give me notice via email at least 2 weeks prior to the event. In all cases I require supporting documentation in advance, except for medical emergencies — I will accept documentation for medical emergencies up to a week after the event. Whether missing class for an excused or unexcused reason, you are responsible for the material covered during your absences.

Excused absences do not excuse you from turning in your assignments on time. If you will miss class for an excused absence, you are responsible for turning in your assignment **before** your absence. I will deal with cases of medical emergency on a case-by-case basis. **IMPORTANT:** You are encouraged to discuss any circumstances that might affect your performance in class with the instructor **BEFORE** it becomes an issue. This includes physical or intellectual challenges, illnesses, emergencies, or any event of which the instructor should be aware.

6.8 Grading

Late Work: You are expected to turn in assignments by the deadline and in the manner detailed in the syllabus. Late work will be accepted with a 10% deduction for every day it is late. Work turned in within 24 hours of the deadline can earn up to 90% of the total possible points for the assignment. Work turned in within 48 hours of the deadline can earn up to 80% of the possible points. And so forth. Excused absences do not excuse you from turning in your assignments on time (see Excused Absence policy).

Extra Credit: No extra credit will be offered aside from the opportunity outlined in the Electronic Devices policy.

Contesting Grades: In order to contest your grade on an exam or writing assignment you must first make an appointment to meet with the grader of the assignment — either the professor or the TA. During this meeting, you may ask questions about the grading of the assignment and should receive an explanation of the grade. If you are not satisfied with this explanation, you may then submit the assignment for re-grading. In order to submit an assignment for regrading you need to submit the original assignment, the grader's feedback on the original assignment, and a written document explaining how your work meets the criteria of the assignment and why you feel the grade is inaccurate. Upon submission of these materials, I will regrade your assignment. **Please note: This means that I will regrade the entire assignment, and the resulting grade can be higher, lower, or the same as the original grade.** This grade will be final. All assignments for regrading must be submitted within one week of the graded assignment being handed back in class or released on Turnitin. **Please note: failure to attend class on the day the assignment is handed back or to check Turnitin within a week of the assignment's release does not extend the deadline for regrading.**

6.9 Blackboard

This course will make use of Blackboard. On the course site you will be able to access an electronic copy of this syllabus, the course readings, instructions for assignments, and course announcements. Students are responsible for checking Blackboard and staying up-to-date with all class announcements and assignments. If there is a problem with accessing Blackboard (can't sign in, a file it will not load, etc.), students should first check their web browser and pop-up blocking software and/or contact IT help as necessary. In contrast, if you can get onto Blackboard but the required file is not listed, students should contact the TA or the instructor immediately.

You will be able to view your grades for the course in the Blackboard grade book. However, please bear in mind that the Blackboard grade book is not the official grade book. The calculation of your grade is based upon the percentages denoted in this syllabus, not the raw point totals recorded in Blackboard.

6.10 Turnitin

The University has a license agreement with Turnitin, an educational tool that helps prevent or identify plagiarism. This course will use the service by requiring you to submit assignments electronically to Turnitin. The Turnitin Originality Report will indicate the amount of original text in your work and whether all material that you quoted, paraphrased, summarized, or used from another source is appropriately referenced. This service checks students' work for originality against both internet sources as well as other work submitted to Turnitin.

You will be using Turnitin to submit your assignments. Using this tool requires you to sign into the class. In order to ensure that everyone has signed in before having to turn in the first written assignment, we will walk through the sign in on the first day of class. If you miss the first day of class, you are responsible for following the instructions below to sign into the class.

6.10.1 Using Turnitin:

On the Blackboard page, select the Turnitin web-link. Click the Sign In Using eRaider button. Enter your eRaider credentials when prompted to do so. To sign-up for a class for the first time enter the class ID: 7491022 and the password: POLS3361 (be aware that the password is case sensitive). Once you have signed in, you will see a list of your classes. Click on POLS3361 — International Politics to see the list of assignments associated with it.

To turn in an assignment, look for the title of your assignment in the assignment list. To the right of the title, click the Submit icon. Where you see choose a paper submission method, leave the default setting single file upload. Enter submission title. To upload a file, click on the Browse button, find the paper on your disk or computer, then click Upload. Be sure it is the paper you want to send, then click submit. If you have additional questions or issues, first consult the Turnitin.com help page at http://turnitin.com/en_us/training/student-training. If you cannot find the information you need, then contact the TA or professor.

6.11 University Policy Regarding Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary ar-

rangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructors office hours. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information you may contact the Student Disability Services office in 335 West Hall or 806-742-2405.

6.12 Academic Dishonesty Policy:

According to the Texas Tech Student Handbook: “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Any such act will not be tolerated in this class. Any student caught plagiarizing work will be given a failing grade for the course and reported to University officials for possible expulsion from the University. Additional information on TTU’s policy concerning academic dishonesty can be found at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/studentjudicialprograms/AcademicIntegrity.htm>

7 Course Outline and Assignments

Date	Topic & Readings	Assignments
January 16	<i>Course Introduction — What is International Relations?</i> Review Syllabus and Course Expectations	
SECTION I:	FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	
January 21	<i>Context of International Politics</i> Mingst — Chapter 2 Rosenau — The Need for Theory	
January 23	<i>Theories of International Relations</i> Mingst — Chapter 3	Syllabus Quiz Due in class
January 28	<i>Theories Continued</i> Bueno de Mesquita and Smith — Domestic Explanations of International Relations Tickner — Why Women Can't Rule the World	Essay 1 Due
January 30	<i>Power and the International System</i> Mingst — Chapter 4 Finnemore — Legitimacy, Hypocrisy and Social Structure in Unipolarity	
February 4	<i>States and Nations</i> Mingst — Chapter 5 Is Hutt River a state? http://www.principality-hutt-river.org/gov/	Essay 2 Due
February 6	<i>Nonstate Actors</i> Mingst — Chapter 6 Mingst — pg 204- 208 and 233-242	
SECTION II:	COOPERATION AND CONFLICT BEHAVIOR	
February 11	<i>Multilateralism and Cooperation</i> Oye — Explaining Cooperation Morgenthau — The Future of Diplomacy	Essay 3 Due

February 13	<p><i>The Tragedy of the Commons and International Law</i> Mingst — pg 229-233 Karns — The Challenge of Global Governance The tragedy of the commons continued — http://www.economist.com/node/3930586 Phew, the ozone layer may be saved — http://www.economist.com/node/156535</p>	
February 18	<p><i>Why Institutions?</i> Mingst — pg 208-229 Abbot and Snidal — Why States Act Through Formal IOs</p>	Essay 4 Due
February 20	<p><i>War and Conflict</i> Mingst — Chapter 8</p>	
February 25	<p><i>Causes of War</i> Reiter — Bargaining Model of War Huntington — Clash of Civilizations Chronicle of Death Foretold — http://www.economist.com/node/4149736</p>	Essay 5 Due
February 27	<p><i>Democratic Peace</i> Russett — Why Democratic Peace?</p>	
March 4	<p><i>Civil War</i> Walter — Bargaining Failures and Civil War Fearon and Laitin — Ethnic Insurgency and Civil War</p>	Essay 6 Due
March 6	<p><i>Terrorism</i> Kydd and Walter — Strategies of Terrorism Cronin — Ending Terrorism</p>	
March 11	<p><i>Exam Review</i></p>	Essay 7 Due
March 13	<p><i>Exam 1</i></p>	Exam 1
March 18	<p><i>No Class — Spring Break</i></p>	
March 20	<p><i>No Class — Spring Break</i></p>	

SECTION III:	TRANSNATIONAL ISSUES	
March 25	<i>IPE — Global World Economy</i> Mingst — Pg 385-388 Mingst — Chapter 9	
March 27	<i>IPE — Finance</i> Listen to “The Invention of Money” — http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/423/the-invention-of-money Friedman — “Opening Scene” from <i>The Lexus and the Olive Tree</i>	
April 1	<i>IPE — Trade</i> Baum — The Man Who Took My Job Council on Foreign Relations — http://www.cfr.org/international-organizations-and-alliances/world-trade-organization-wto/p9386#p4 Westerhaus — Intellectual Property Rights and Antiretroviral Drugs	Essay 8 Due
April 3	Class Cancelled	
April 8	<i>IPE — Development</i> Haas et al — Can Foreign Aid Reduce Poverty	
April 10	<i>Human Rights</i> Mingst — Chapter 10 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights — http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/	Essay 9 Due
April 15	<i>Human Rights</i> Powers — Bystanders to Genocide	
April 17	<i>Human Right</i> Annan — Reflection on Intervention Barnett and Snyder — The Grand Strategies of Humanitarianism Dubriske — ICC	Essay 10 Due
April 22	<i>Environment And Health</i>	

	Mingst — pg 388-409 Fidler — Global Health and International Cooperation	
April 24	<i>Exam Review</i>	Essay 11 Due
April 29	<i>Exam 2</i>	Exam 2
May 1	<i>No Class — Make-up Exams</i>	Make-Up Exams
May 6	<i>No Class — Professors Departs for Africa</i>	

Syllabus Quiz

Name:

Instructions: Read the complete course syllabus (found on Blackboard) carefully and answer the following questions. Turn in this quiz at the beginning of class on January 23rd.

1. What is the professors name, email address, and when are her office hours?
2. What is the TA's name, email address, and when are his office hours?
3. If you have a question about the course, where is the first place you should turn to find information?
4. What types of events constitute excused absences?
5. How far in advance must you notify the instructor of an excused absence?
6. What happens if, as a result of excused absences, you are only present for only 2 of the pop quizzes?
7. What is the penalty for late work?
8. Which essays will you be writing?
9. What are the due dates for each essay you will write?
10. How will you turn in your essay assignments
11. What is the Turnitin class ID and Password for this class?
12. How long do you have to contest your grade after an assignment is returned to you?
13. How do you submit an assignment for regrading?
14. What are the dates of each exam?
15. What do you hope to get out of this class?