

POLI 103 - INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS

Course and Subject Number

N: Course Content:

Part One: An Introduction to International Politics and the Contemporary International System 1. The study of international politics - international politics, international relations, international system, levels of analysis, states, and non-state actors, anarchy, the security dilemma

2. Theoretical perspectives - realism, idealism, liberalism, critical perspectives, neo-realism

3. The origins of the contemporary international system - the modern state, Peace of Westphalia, nationalism, WW1, WWII, the cold war, the balance of power, collective security

4. Foreign policy - objectives, models of decision making: rational actor, bureaucratic politics; group dynamics, perception, other individual level factors, nationalism, ideals and values

5. Characteristics of the contemporary international system - sovereignty, nationalism, weak states/strong states, non state actors, polarity, cleavages, regimes, alliances, globalization,, fragmentation, integration, cooperation, competition

6. International Organizations - regional organizations: types; goals

7. International Law and Regimes - development and role, effectiveness

8. Diplomacy - purpose, functions, negotiations, crisis management, propaga

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O: Methods of Instruction

Presentation of the course will involve the use of formal lectures, structured group work by students, and in class discussion of assigned material. Additional readings may be assigned for each unit of the course and placed on reserve in the library. Where appropriate, audio-visual materials will be used.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

Text and course readings will be selected by instructors after consultation with the department. Examples of texts to be used:

Rourke, John T. International Politics on the World Stage, 8th ed. Guilford: Dushkin McGraw-Hill, 2002

Sens, Allen and Peter Stoett. <u>Global Politics: Origins, Currents, Directions</u>, 2nd ed. Scarborough: Nelson Thomson Learning, 2002

Other materials may be used by instructors as supplements, and texts will be periodically updated

Q: Means of Assessment

This course evaluation will be based on the course objectives and in accordance with Douglas College policy and the policies of the Political Science Department. A minimum of 50% of the student's grades will be assigned to the midterm and end of term examinations. A minimum of 30% of the student's grades will be assigned to a formal research essay. A maximum of 20% of student's grade will be based upon a series of components, for example, quizzes, short essay, attendance, participation, class presentations. The specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

An example of an evaluation scheme:	
Midterm Exam	20%
Seminar Presentation	20%
Research Essay	30%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	20%
	100%

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s)

Education Council/Curriculum Committee Representative

S. Tyakoff

Dean/Director

Registrar