

PSC 110 Global Issues

Section 06

Fall 2014

Course Location: 244 Stillwell **Course Time:** TR:9:30-10:45
Instructor: Dr. Sievert **E-mail:** jmsievert@email.wcu.edu
Office Location: 347 Stillwell **Office Hours:** MW 1:00-3:00pm, or by apt.

Course Overview

This course is designed to introduce students to the general problems, arguments and ideas that shape our understanding of international and comparative politics. This class will provide students with a basic introduction to the international system and the decision-makers who affect global politics, as well as the ever-evolving relationship between governments, corporations, non-governmental organizations, and individuals. Throughout the semester this course will cover issues such as state formation, types of governments, interstate conflict and cooperation, state sovereignty, terrorism, trade and finance.

Many of the issues we will cover this semester will be complex, thought-provoking, and hopefully, interesting to you as a student. As such this course will utilize a mix of lecture and discussion. Therefore, students are expected to come to class having completed the readings assigned for that day and to be prepared to ask and answer questions about the assigned material.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students can expect to be able to:

- Identify major topics and arguments in international relations,
- Distinguish between different types of governments and non-government actors,
- Apply ideas and theories to modern issues affecting the international system.

In accordance with the Liberal Studies Learning Goals students will also be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to locate, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information;
- Demonstrate the ability to interpret and use numerical, written, oral, and visual data;
- Demonstrate the ability to read with comprehension, and to write and speak clearly, coherently, and effectively as well as to adapt modes of communication appropriate to an audience;
- Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze arguments;

- Demonstrate an understanding of
 - Past human experiences and ability to relate them to the present;
 - Different contemporary cultures and their interrelationships;
 - Issues involving social institutions, interpersonal and group dynamics, human development and behavior, and cultural diversity;
 - Scientific concepts and methods as well as contemporary issues in science and technology;
 - Cultural heritage through its expression of wisdom, literature and art and their roles in the process of self and social understanding.
- Demonstrate an excitement for and love of learning.

Course Materials

The required text for this course is *Introduction to Global Politics, 2nd Edition*, Lamy, Steven, John Baylis, Steven Smith, and Patricia Owens. Oxford University Press: New York, NY. The text is available for rental through the campus bookstore.

Readings from the textbook will be denoted with GP (for Global Politics) on the course schedule. All other readings will be posted on the course Blackboard site and are denoted with * on the Course Schedule.

Course Requirements

Grades will be calculated based on three key components.

Exams

Three non-cumulative exams will be given throughout the semester. Exams will be a mix of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. Each exam will cover material since the last exam and will be worth 25% each, for a total of 75% of the final grade.

Presentations

Students will work together in groups of 4 or 5 to present on a current issue in international or comparative politics. Students will present their work during the final exam period and submit a short report of their findings. Further details and a grading rubric will be discussed in class and posted on the course Blackboard site. The presentation and short paper will be worth a total of 20% of the final grade.

Participation

Active participation in course discussions is a vital component of this course. Participation will be recorded throughout the semester and can take the form of posing questions for fellow students to answer, or answering questions posed by the instructor or other students. Participation will be worth 5% of the final grade.

Course Policies

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Western Carolina University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. Students who require reasonable accommodations must identify themselves as having a disability and/or medical condition and provide current diagnostic documentation to Disability Services. All information is confidential. Please contact the Office of Disability Services for more information at (828) 227-3886.

Academic Integrity Policy

“I will practice personal and academic integrity”, WCU Community Creed.

Western Carolina University strives to achieve the highest standards of scholarship and integrity. Any violation of the Academic Integrity Policy is a serious offense because it threatens the quality of scholarship and undermines the integrity of the community. Any violation of the Academic Integrity Policy is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct (see dsce.wcu.edu for more information).

Violation of the Academic Integrity Policy include:

Cheating: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.

Plagiarism: Representing the words or ideas of someone else as one’s own in any academic exercise.

Fabrication: Creating and/or falsifying information or citation in any academic exercise.

Facilitation: Helping or attempting to help someone to commit a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy in any academic exercise (e.g. allowing another to copy information during an examination).

As a faculty member I reserve the right to determine the appropriate sanctions for violations of the Academic Integrity Policy, including a final grade of “F” in the course. Students will be notified, in writing, of any Academic Integrity Policy allegation and have the right to respond to the allegation. The full text of the WCU Academic Integrity Policy, Process, and the Faculty Reporting Form can be found online at academicintegrity.wcu.edu.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be in class, on-time, and prepared. Therefore, I will take attendance regularly. I do understand that you as students have lives, responsibilities, and demands on your time outside of the classroom and may have to miss class. However, your success in the course depends in large part on class attendance. After three absences final

grades will be affected. Students are responsible for any material they miss when absent from class.

Make-ups exams will only be permitted in truly extraordinary circumstances, such as documented medical emergencies. In order to be granted a make-up exam students must contact the instructor PRIOR to the date of the exam, and provide documentation as to why they are unable to take the exam at the scheduled time. It is at the sole discretion of the instructor as to what constitutes an extraordinary circumstance.

Communication

It is important to stay in contact with your fellow students and your instructor. I will hold regular office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays and can also be reached Monday through Friday via email. Please come see me, or email me, with any questions or concerns you have as they arise. The semester moves along very quickly, and it is always best to come to me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the semester to let me know if you have questions.

Classroom Technology Policy

Please do not text, talk on cell phones, Skype, listen to music, or otherwise disrupt the class. Students are permitted to take notes on computers, however if using a computer you will be asked to sit toward the back as to not distract others.

Student Support Services

Student Support Services provides support to students who are either first-generation, low-income or those who have disclosed a disability with: academic advising, mentoring, one-on-one tutorial support, and workshops focused on career, financial aid and graduate school preparation. You may contact SSS at (828) 227-7127 or email sssprogram@wcu.edu for more information. SSS is located in the Killian Annex, room 138.

Red Zone Campaign

Western Carolina University supports its campus community members in their right to healthy, happy, consensual relationships and is dedicated to developing a culture of respect and non- violence. Early in the first and second year at college, students enter the “Red Zone”, where they are more at-risk for unwanted sexual experiences on college campuses. And, according to NCHA 2013 data, 16.0% of WCU men and women indicated being in an emotionally, physically, or sexually abusive relationship in the past 12 months. As a result, the Red Zone Campaign encourages and empowers students, faculty, and staff to develop an open dialogue on the dangers of sexual violence and to speak up when they see violent behavior occurring.

If you notice red flags in yours or a friend?s relationship, are experiencing violence or have in the past, you have a number of resources available to you:

- Counseling and Psychological Services (828.227.7469 or counselingcenter.wcu.edu)
- REACH of Macon County services in Jackson County (828.586.8969 or www.reachofmaconcounty.org)

To report a crime, please contact University Police at 828.227.8911 (Emergency line).

For more information, please visit redzone.wcu.edu or contact Sarah Carter at sacarter@wcu.edu.

Writing and Learning Commons (WaLC)

The Writing and Learning Commons (WaLC), located in BELK 207, provides free small-group course tutoring, one-on-one writing tutoring and academic skills consultations, and online writing and learning resources for all students. All tutoring sessions take place in the WaLC or in designated classrooms on campus. To schedule tutoring appointments, log in to TutorTrac from the WaLC homepage (<http://walc.wcu.edu>) or call 828-227-2274. Distance students and students taking classes at Biltmore Park are encouraged to use Smarthinking and the WaLC's online resources. Students may also take advantage of writing tutoring offered at the Biltmore Park campus on certain days of the week; call 828-227-2274 or log in to TutorTrac and select "Biltmore Park Writing Tutoring" for availabilities.

Grading and Quality Point System

A+	97-100	Excellent	4.0
A	94-96	Excellent	4.0
A-	90-93		3.67
B+	87-89		3.33
B	84-86	Good	3.0
B-	80-83		2.67
C+	77-79		2.33
C	74-76	Satisfactory	2.0
C-	70-73		1.67
D+	67-69		1.33
D	64-66	Poor	1.0
D-	60-63		.67
F	0-59	Failure	0

Course Schedule

I reserve to change or alter the syllabus at any time. Students will be notified through in-class announcements, e-mail, and notifications on Blackboard.

Week	Topic	Date	Reading
1	Introduction	8/19	
		8/21	GP, Ch.1 p. 1-17
2	State Formation	8/26	“The Origins of the Modern State” Selection from Clark, Golder, and Golder*
		8/28	“The Origins of the Modern State” Selection from Clark, Golder, and Golder*
3	Traditional Theories of International Relations	9/2	GP, Ch.3 p.68-83
		9/4	GP, Ch.3 p.83-101
4	Global and Regional Governance	9/9	GP, Ch. 6 p. 170-186
		9/11	GP, Ch. 6 p. 187-207
5	Regime Types	9/16	“Democracy and Dictatorship” Selection from Clark, Golder, and Golder*
		9/18	“Democracy or Dictatorship:Does it Make a Difference?” Selection from Clark, Golder, and Golder*
6	Types of Democracies	9/23	“Parliamentary, Presidential, and Semi-Presidential” Selection from Clark, Golder, and Golder*
	Types of Democracies	9/25	“Parliamentary, Presidential, and Semi-Presidential” Selection from Clark, Golder, and Golder*
7	Review & Exam	9/30	Review
		10/2	Exam 1
8	NGOs	10/7	GP, Ch. 7 p. 208-221
		10/9	GP, Ch. 7 p 221-240
9	Fall Break	10/14	No Class
		10/16	No Class
10	Security & Military Power	10/21	GP, Ch. 8 p.244-267
		10/23	GP, Ch. 8 p.267-281
11	Advising Day	10/28	No Class
	Bargaining & War	10/30	“Why Are There Wars?” Selection from Friedan, Lake, & Schultz*
12	Review & Exam	11/4	Review
		11/6	Exam 2
13	International Political Economy	11/11	GP, Ch. 11 p. 346-363
		11/13	GP, Ch. 11 p. 364-373
14	Global Trade & Finance	11/18	GP, Ch. 12 p.374-388
		11/20	GP, Ch. 12 p. 389-404
15	Terrorism	11/25	GP, Ch. 9
	Thanksgiving	11/27	No Class
16	Review& Exam	12/2	Review
		12/4	Exam 3
	Presentations	12/10	12:00-2:30pm