

COURSE: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (POL-375-01-1)
TIME: TUESDAYS, 2:30 – 5:20 P.M.
LOCATION: HENRY 207
SEMESTER: FALL 2014
INSTRUCTOR: MICHAEL E. WEAVER
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(808) 542-2084

NOTE: All email communication must be conveyed by means of your Chaminade email address. I will not respond to emails sent to me from other email addresses.

REQUIRED TEXT:

- *Essentials of International Relations, Karen Mingst (6th edition)*

eCOLLEGE:

This course is listed on eCollege. All written assignments are to be submitted to the eCollege site ONLY according to published deadlines on the site and also announced in class. Copies of all handouts, readings, etc. will also be available on the course website.

Course Description

This course introduces students to the most relevant themes in the discipline of international relations. It considers the history and principal theories of international relations, as well as the systems, processes, and actors that condition world politics and their contending conceptualizations.

Course Objectives/Competencies

The primary aim of this course is to help students forge a better understanding of the ideas and other forces that shape relationships among nations. Moreover, upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- outline the history of international relations in the modern era;
- describe the main theories of international relations;
- distinguish among and describe the motives and forces that shape relationships among nations;
- describe the main perspectives on the nature of the international system and the role of the state within that system;
- describe the impact of non-state actors (i.e., the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, and individuals) on the conduct of international relations;
- describe the causes of as well as various theories on war;
- discuss the impact of such issues as international law, human rights, the environment, and globalization on the international system.

Course Requirements

- Regularly attend and actively participate in class meetings.
- Satisfactory completion of all written assignments as given throughout the course.
- Satisfactory completion of all exams

Class Participation

Students are expected to actively participate in the class. Participation includes asking and answering questions during sessions. More significantly, participation consists of getting involved in class discussions, one of the cornerstones of this course. It is thus essential that students perform all assigned readings in a timely manner, and utilize the assigned readings to assist them in their discussions. A general awareness of current world events will also be of help in developing your contributions to discussions.

Attendance

Students must attend class in order to pass this course. Students who do not attend class consistently as well as students who are persistently late may fail the course.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the submission of the work of another as one's own. It is a serious offense, any incidence of which will result in dismissal from the course, a grade of "F" for the course, and possible suspension from the University. Plagiarism, according to the *Chaminade University of Honolulu Policy Manual*, includes but is not limited to "complete or partial copying directly from a written published or unpublished source without proper acknowledgment to the author"; "paraphrasing the work of another without proper author acknowledgment"; and "submitting as one's own original work (however freely given or purchased) the original exam, research paper, manuscript, report, computer file, Internet information, or other assignment that has been prepared by another individual." Submission of the same written or oral material in more than one course without obtaining prior authorization from the instructors concerned is also prohibited.

Grading

The final grade for this course will be determined as follows:

- A
 - 90% or higher average on mid-term and final exams
 - Satisfactory and timely completion of all written assignments
 - Satisfactory attendance
 - Satisfactory class participation
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- B
 - 80% or higher average on mid-term and final exams
 - Satisfactory and timely completion of all written assignments
 - Satisfactory attendance
 - Satisfactory class participation
- C
 - 70% or higher average on mid-term and final exams
 - Satisfactory and timely completion of all written assignments
 - Satisfactory attendance
 - Satisfactory class participation
- D
 - 60% or higher average on mid-term and final exams
 - Non-compliance with written assignment guidelines
 - Satisfactory attendance
 - Satisfactory class participation
- F
 - Less than 60% or higher average on mid-term and final exams
 - Non-compliance with written essay assignment guidelines
 - Unsatisfactory attendance
 - Unsatisfactory class participation

Course Schedule

Week 1 (26 August)	Ch.1 Approaches to International Relations
Week 2 (2 September)	Ch.2 The Historical Context of Contemporary International Relations
Week 3 (9 September)	Ch.3 Contending Perspectives: How to Think about International Relations Theoretically
Week 4 (16September)	Ch. 4 The International System
Week 5 (23 September)	Ch.5 The State
Week 6 (30 September)	Ch. 6 The Individual
Week 7 (7 October)	Ch.7 Intergovernmental Organizations, International Law, and Nongovernmental Organizations
Week 8 (14 October)	<i>MIDTERM EXAMINATION</i>
Week 9 (21 October)	Ch. 8 War and Strife
Week 10 (28 October)	Ch. 9 International Political Economy
Week 11 (4 November)	Ch.10 Human Rights
Week 12 (11 November)	<i>VETERANS' DAY HOLIDAY- NO CLASS</i>
Week 13 (18 November)	Ch. 11 Transnational Issues: The Environment, World Health, and Crime
Week 14 (25 November)	TBA
Week 15 (2 December)	TBA
Week 16	<i>FINAL EXAM, DATE & TIME TBA</i>