

Pols 4: Introduction to International Relations
Fall 2011

DMH 149A
W 6:00 - 8:45 p.m.

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Introduction

It is no longer possible to understand how our everyday world works without understanding how the United States is connected to other countries, and how relationships between countries affect politics, economics and societies. In this class, we will consider the three major “schools of thought” for explaining relations between countries (*realism*, *liberalism*, and *constructivism*) as well as an alternative school (*Marxism*). We will then apply these paradigms to both historical and current issues in international politics to increase our understanding of how relationships between countries change, and why events such as war, globalization, underdevelopment, cross-border ethnic conflict, and environmental problems occur. We will also be concerned with the question of whether an international approach can avoid or resolve these problems.

International relations is a field of political science where theory and reality interact, with theory being used to interpret events and events eventually leading to changes in theory. By the end of this class, you should be comfortable with this relationship between ideas and reality, and understand the basic concepts behind this field of political science.

Course Objectives

This course fulfills the D3 General Education requirement, which means it will accomplish the following learning objectives:

- ★ Students shall be able to identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.
- ★ Students will be able to place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.
- ★ Students will be able to identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them.
- ★ Students will be able to evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.

- ★ Students will be able to apply multidisciplinary material to a topic relevant to policy and social action at the local, national and international levels.

We will fulfill the first three objectives through a combination of class discussion and essays that require you to learn the paradigms of IR and apply them to changes in societies, world history, current international events and the identities of states and nonstate actors. The fourth objective will be fulfilled through a midterm and a final exam that will test your social science knowledge and ability to apply it to specific issues. The final objective will be fulfilled through reading material from multiple disciplines on topics such as humanitarian intervention, global environmental politics and the question of self-determination for nations without independent states and using this material in your essays and exams.

Students are expected to write at least a total of 1500 words in this core GE course. We will meet this requirement through three essays written over the course of the semester.

By the end of this class, you should understand the major perspectives of IR and how they address questions of international relations and conflict. You should also have a basic understanding of issues that provoke conflicts between countries such as underdevelopment and globalization, environmental problems, and ethnic strife.

Readings

There is a textbook that you should purchase *immediately* to begin the reading for this course: Henry R. Nau's Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions and Ideas, Third Edition (ISBN: 978-1-60426-732-7). There are also articles on electronic reserve in the library to supplement the text; you can access these on the library website (<http://library.sjsu.edu/course-reserves/course-reserves>). All readings for this course are required readings.

Evaluation for this Course

Students will be evaluated in the following ways for this course:

Participation	40 points
Essays 1, 2 and 3	180 points (60 x 3)
Midterm	60 points
Final Exam	<u>120 points</u>
Total	400 points

Grading Policy

All grades for this class will be based on a point system. If you divide the number of points you receive by the points per assignment, you can generate a percentage to determine your letter grade: 97-100% is an A+, 93-96% is an A, 90-92% is an A-, 87-89% is a B+, 83-86% is a B, 80-82% is a B-, etc. Keep track of your points over the course of the semester as noted above, and you should have an idea how you stand in the class.

All grades are final for this course.

Participation: Attendance will be taken for this course for bureaucratic purposes, but quality of participation when you are in class is what affects this part of the grade, not just being in class. Students are expected to attend class and be prepared to participate in class discussions when appropriate. You will be assigned a grade for your participation at the end of the course.

Essays 1, 2 and 3: There will be three essays in this course, each worth 60 points, covering the three major issue areas in the class (War, Political Economy and Global Problems). Each essay should be 2-3 pages in length (500-750 words double-spaced in 12 point font) and will answer one of a choice of topic questions distributed in class a week before the due date. Each essay must be submitted both in class as a hard copy and to Turnitin on the day it is due; unless there is an emergency, an essay will lose the equivalent of ½ letter grade (3 points) each day it is late. No essays will be accepted after the start of the next week’s class unless excused. Please see the syllabus appended to this handout for more information.

The Turnitin class ID for this course is 4105810; the password is “partition.” If you have never used this service before, please log on to <http://www.turnitin.com>, set up an account and establish a link to the class. Papers can be uploaded in most word processing formats; I urge you to familiarize yourself with the process well ahead of submitting the paper and upload your paper as soon as possible before the deadline time. Please double-check after uploading to make sure your paper is accepted. While you can upload after the deadline, it will still count as late unless there is an emergency.

Midterm: On October 5th students will take a midterm exam in class to test their knowledge of concepts and theory, both in terms of knowledge and application to particular issues. The midterm will consist of six short-answer questions out of a choice of seven, each worth 10 points. You do not need to bring any materials to the test aside from pens or pencils. I will distribute a list of terms I consider “fair game” before the exam is scheduled to help you prepare. However, the exam is closed-book and you may not use any aids during the actual test period.

Final Exam: The final exam (December 14th, 5:15-7:30 p.m.) is cumulative for the course. This exam partially follows the same format as for the midterm, with six out of seven short answer questions. You also will answer an essay question. I will give a list of terms and five possible essay questions before the exam to help you study. Two of the essay questions distributed will be selected for the test; you will then select one to write upon. While I will not grade as much on grammar for this test, like other essays for the course you will be expected to make a well-reasoned, well-organized and clear argument. No notes or class materials may be used during the exam apart from pencils/pens and a large blank “greenbook.” Please make sure you have these materials before the test, so you do not lose time that could be spent writing answers. The short answer section will be 60 points, the essay section worth 60 as well for a total of 120 points.

A note on exams: No exam in this course will be given in advance. Students who cannot attend the midterm or the final due to an emergency must notify the instructor as soon as possible after the emergency to schedule a make-up. Final exams must be made up by the last day of finals. Make-up times are at the instructor’s discretion, and the exams will be different from the ones administered on the test day. Please see University Policies below on test accommodations for disabled students.

Extra Credit: Students who wish to earn extra credit may complete the Plagiarism on-line tutorial on the King Library webpage (<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/index.html>), and bring in a print-out showing you have completed it with a 100% score on all sections. (If you have already

done this, bring in a copy of the results and you will still get credit.) The tutorial is worth 20 points. No extra credit will be accepted via e-mail.

Late Work Policy

Essays must be turned in both as a hard copy and to Turnitin.com the day they are due; unless excused, these assignments will lose 3 points a day (including weekends) until the start of next week's class, and then will not be accepted at all. If a student can produce written verification of an emergency (illness, accident, family emergency, etc.) that prevented him/her from completing or turning in the assignment on time, work will be accepted late without penalty. No work of any kind, including extra credit, will be accepted after the last day of class (December 7th). All essays for this course must be turned in as a hard copy and uploaded to Turnitin to qualify for credit; no exceptions.

A Note About Written Work in This Course

Students at the college level are expected to submit written work that fits the grammatical, stylistic and citation expectations for college-level work in English. All written assignments in this course are therefore graded in two ways: both in terms of content (information in terms of logic, quality of evidence, etc.) and in terms of writing. If you are at all uncomfortable with writing at the college level, you need to take steps to rectify this. The instructor is willing to preview rough drafts of work in office hours before assignments are due to provide feedback. You may also want to see the instructor after assignments are handed back if comments indicate that there are specific errors in argument or writing.

In addition to instructor assistance, tutoring when you are writing assignments is available through the SJSU Writing Center in Clark Hall. If you have a specific assignment you need assistance on, you can make an appointment with a Writing Specialist to go over your work before submitting it. See the appointments page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/tutoring/requestforappointment/index.htm> for more information on this service.

The ability to cite language or ideas not your own is a vital part of the ability to write at the college level. **Failure to cite on any written assignment in this course will result in a minimum penalty of no credit for the writing portion of your grade; depending on severity of the problem, you may also face a failing grade for the entire assignment or even the course.** The Office of Student Conduct may also be notified. Please take advantage of the plagiarism tutorial to learn how to cite properly, and ask questions about citations if necessary before turning in assignments.

There are no opportunities for re-writes in this course. At this level of academic work, you should be prepared to submit work that is ready for scrutiny in your first effort.

University Policies on Accommodating Student Disability and Academic Integrity

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me or visit me during office hours as soon as possible. Presidential Directive 97-03 (http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must be registered with the Disabled Resource Center (DRC) to establish a record of their disability.

The DRC requires students to make arrangements for exam accommodations with the instructor and the DRC as soon as a student has the exam dates, and no later than five working days before the scheduled exam. For final exams, you must make arrangements one month in advance. Please do not wait to make arrangements if you need them – the DRC has limited space, particularly during midterm and final periods.

SJSU has a policy of Academic Integrity for all its students. Please see the campus website for the specific policy: <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.pdf>. Resubmitting written work from other classes as work for this class (with the exception of the plagiarism tutorial, if you have already done this) or submitting someone else's work as your own are considered acts of cheating. Misuse of material from class sources, including lecture, or outside sources could be considered plagiarism if citations are missing or inappropriately used. Instances of cheating or plagiarism could result in penalties ranging from a failing grade on the assignment to a failing grade in the course. The instructor is required to approach the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development when there are clear infractions of the Academic Integrity policy. This is the least pleasurable task the instructor has to do in her profession, but given the number of other students willing to “play by the rules” and the requirements of the University, she will do it.

Electronic Device Policy for This Course

Laptops may be used during class for the purpose of taking notes or for downloaded articles, but students are expected to stop typing and participate in discussions when they occur. Voice recorders may be used to record lectures if the instructor approves in advance. **No other** electronic devices (cell phones, smartphones, pagers, etc.) may be used during class, no exceptions. If a cell phone rings during class, the instructor reserves the right to answer it; if you text, you will be asked to leave the class session.

Important Class Add/Drop/Withdrawal Dates

Students need to be aware that SJSU requires strict adherence to due dates for adding, dropping and late withdrawals from class. Please note that in the Fall semester, the last day to drop without penalty is September 6th, the last day to add is September 13th, and the last day to withdraw from any course is November 15th.

Class Webpage

Each of my classes has a separate webpage where the syllabus, major handouts and other materials may be uploaded for online reference. For this class, you may access materials at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/sabrina.pinnell/courses/intlpol/>.

Disclaimer

All information in this syllabus may be subject to change with fair notice by the instructor, the Department of Political Science or San Jose State University.

Course Schedule (Important dates are in boldface)

Topic 1 (August 24th): Introduction and Perspectives

Nau, Introduction and Ch. 1

Topics 2 and 3 (August 31st): IR Perspectives and World History; WWI
Nau, Chs. 2, 3

Topic 4 (September 7th-14th): IR Perspectives: WWII and The Cold War
Nau, Chs. 4, 5

Topic 5 (September 14th-21st): IR Perspectives: From the “New World Order” to the “War on Terror”

Nau, Chs. 6

Fukuyama, Francis. “Are We at the End of History?” Fortune 121, No.2 (15 January 1990), 75-78 (on reserve).

Huntington, Samuel. “The Clash of Civilizations?” Foreign Affairs (Summer 1993), 22-49 (on reserve).

Essay topics for Essay 1 distributed on September 14th

Essay 1 due September 21st, as a hard copy and uploaded to Turnitin

List of terms of Midterm distributed on September 21st

Topic 6 (September 21st-28th): IR Perspectives and the Current Era: The “War on Terror” and the Resurgence of Ethnic Conflict

Nau, Ch. 7

Holder, Cindy. “Self-Determination as a Universal Human Right,” Human Rights Review (July-September 2006): 5-18 (on reserve).

Kaufmann, Chaim. “A Security Dilemma: Ethnic Partitioning in Iraq,” Harvard International Review (Winter 2007): 42-49 (on reserve).

Film: The Road to 9/11 (in class).

Midterm: October 5th in class

Topic 7 (October 12th - 19th): Globalization and Trade

Nau, Chs. 8-10

Veseth, Michael. “Financial Globaloney: Safe as Houses,” and “The Crash of 2008 and the Global Market Myth,” in Globaloney 2.0: The Crash of 2008 and the Future of Globalization, Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2010, 35-72 (on reserve).

Essay topics distributed on October 19th

Topic 8 (October 19th - 26th): Development and Foreign Aid

Nau, Chs. 11-13

Essay 2 due on October 26th, as a hard copy and uploaded to Turnitin

Topics 9, 10: (November 2nd-9th): Diplomacy and International Organizations, Global Civil Society

Nau, Chs. 15, 16

Bass, Gary J. “Humanitarian Intervention in the 21st Century,” The Tocqueville Review – La Revue Tocqueville 30 (January 2009): 17-35 (on reserve).

Cottey, Andrew. "Beyond Humanitarian Intervention: The New Politics of Peacekeeping and Intervention," Contemporary Politics 14, No. 4 (December 2008): 425-446 (on reserve).

Film (excerpt): Sometimes in April (in class).

Essay Topics distributed on November 9th

Essay 3 due on November 16th

Topic 11 (November 16th-30th): Diagnosing and Solving Environmental Problems

Nau, Ch. 14

Caney, Simon. "Markets, Morality and Climate Change: What, If Anything, is Wrong with Emissions Trading?" New Political Economy 15, No. 2 (2010): 197-224 (on reserve).

Dimitrov, Radoslav. "Inside Copenhagen: The State of Climate Governance," Global Environmental Politics 10, No. 2 (May 2010): 18-24.

Final Terms Distributed on November 30th

NO Class on November 23rd (day before Thanksgiving)

Topic 12 (December 7th): Diplomatic Peace Theory, Review

Nau. Conclusion

Essay questions for final distributed on December 7th

Last day to turn in any late work for credit is December 7th, in hard copy form

Final Exam: December 14th, 5:15-7:30 p.m.; bring a large bluebook to exam.

Issue Essays – Format and Details

Format and Content for Essays

During the semester, you will be required to study various issues of contemporary international politics. You will write three essays on some of these topics, approximately 2-3 pages each (500-750 words), excluding the bibliography. Essays should be typewritten, in 12 point font with 1" margins and page numbers. See the syllabus for a list of due dates for essays; topics for essays will be given out a week before the due date, with a choice of question for each assignment. All essays must be submitted in hard copy form at the start of class and to Turnitin online by 11:59 p.m. on the due date. No essays may be e-mailed to the instructor for credit. If you are not in class when topics are distributed, it is your responsibility to either contact Dr. Pinnell via e-mail or check the class webpage (see above for link) to get a copy of the question. If you cannot attend class the day an essay is due, you need to make arrangements to hand in your hard copy before or in class. Late essays will lose three points a day unless excused; no papers will be accepted after the start of class a week after the due date. Each essay is worth 60 points.

You are not required to do outside research for these essays. The textbook and other written class materials as well as lecture notes should be sufficient sources for essay answers. But even if you only use class materials, they must be cited where necessary either as footnotes or endnotes or in-text. Class lectures are considered sources of material, and must be cited when used as quotes or sources of information.

Each essay will require you to make an argument that answers the question. You will need to review the information needed to answer the question and be prepared to take a position as you answer it. Mere "information dumping," where you give information from a source but do not use it in a way that shows understanding, will receive a lower grade than an essay that has less information but clearly shows that the writer can understand and apply knowledge.

All essays will receive grades based upon a point system, with 60 points total possible. 40 of these points will be for content:

- Answering all parts of a question;
- Making an argument;
- Showing an understanding of the concepts needed to answer the question.

Twenty points of the essay will be for grammar and citations, as outlined below.

Grammar and Citations in Essays

To fulfill the writing requirements of this course, students are expected to perform written work and be evaluated on their ability to write. This means that part of your essay grade will depend upon grammar and citations as well as content. You will have multiple essays this semester, which gives you a chance to improve your writing over time and become comfortable with habits such as citation that will help you in later courses.

Essays that show a minimum of grammatical errors and good use of citations when class materials are used will receive twenty points. Common grammar errors that could receive deductions include:

- Spelling (do not just rely on spell check, as an incorrect word can still be correctly spelled);
- Verb tense and agreement;
- Word choice;
- Run-on or fragment sentences;
- Run-on paragraphs (multiple topics in a paragraph).

Citations must also be given for any ideas or information that is not your own. If there are no citations in your essay for language or ideas not your own, you will receive a zero for this portion of your paper grade (-20 points). Citations can either be as footnotes or as endnotes, although you may prefer in-text. Examples:

- For information from lecture: In-text would be (Pinnell, Lecture, Date).
- For the textbook: In-text would be (Nau 2010, Page #).
- For other class sources: In-text would be (Author(s), Date, Page #).

There are writing manuals online that can help with citation formats; see the King Library website (<http://library.sjsu.edu/citing-writing-0>). Whatever form of citations you use, you are expected to append a bibliography with full citations of the sources used in your essay.

Direct quotes as well as paraphrased information must be cited in your work. Quotes that are more than two sentences should be indented as a block, single-spaced and cited. Failure to properly cite will result in a ten-point deduction. If you are confused over whether to cite or not, the safest course is to do so. If you are concerned about when and where to cite, I suggest either seeing me in office hours or taking the Plagiarism tutorial through the King Library site (<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/plagiarism/index.htm>).

One last point on citations: a common error students make, which would affect the content portion of an essay grade, is to fill an essay with quoted information. This is a problem for two reasons. First, it shows that a student is good at locating information, but that she may not understand it. Second, a good writer should be able to rephrase or paraphrase information and present it in an essay. Unless the exact language of the quote is important, you should not just quote. Essays that show this problem will receive a lower grade.

Turnitin will be used in this course primarily to evaluate your ability to utilize sources well and cite properly. Using a lot of sources to inform your writing is not necessarily a bad thing. However, if there are clear similarities between your essay and that of other sources that indicates collaboration and/or appropriation of text and passing it off as your work, the instructor will grade accordingly and may consider possible academic penalties. There is a clear difference between blatant and inadvertent plagiarism, but ignorance of the rules of citation is ultimately no excuse. Please familiarize yourself with proper source use.