

POL 203, Sections H & J  
INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IR)  
(Spring 2010)  
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Jenkins 314

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course introduces the student to an analysis of global political, economic and security arrangements and agreements which link the nation-states of the world together, to greater or lesser extents. A history of these arrangements and their evolution is analyzed as well. The principles of dominance, reciprocity and identity are defined and their application to real world issues is evaluated. Part One deals with international security issues and the major subsets of international relations theories, conflict and international organizations. Part Two focuses on political economy, and its subsets of trade, international finance, supranational organizations, and global issues.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To understand the political theories, philosophies, and histories related to various forms of international governmental relations which have evolved over the past centuries throughout the world;
- To understand how the concepts of dominance, reciprocity and identity have played a role in the development of political theories and philosophies;
- To understand how these same concepts are inter-related and how they are manifested by individual actions, as well as domestic, international and global activities;
- To understand how these same concepts are exemplified in the evolution and development of supra-national organizations as they relate to worldwide security, economy and political arrangements.

**ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES:** Students achieve these objectives by:

- studying the related assigned material prior to each class meeting;
- participating in Socratic class discussions on course-related issues raised by the instructor, to include pertinent current events;

-- taking four essay-type exams, each exam covering one-fourth of the course material, non-cumulative, five questions each, which must be answered in a thorough, comprehensive manner. Students will also be required to define key terms and phrases unique to the field of IR.

**CLASS MEETINGS:** POL 203 H meets on Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:35PM until 4:50PM in MM 211; POL 203 J meets on Mondays & Wednesdays from 5:00PM until 6:15PM in MM 211.

**TEXT:** Goldstein, J.S., & Pevehouse, J.C., "International Relations," 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Pearson, 2009, ISBN-13: 9780205723904

**GRADING:** There will be four, co-equal exams, each worth 24% towards your final grade. The final 4% will be based on the overall quality of each student's class participation. Points may be deducted for excessive, unexcused absences, for poor responses to questions asked in class, or for general misbehavior.

**COURSE GRADING CRITERIA:** A, 93.0-100.0; A-, 90.0-92.9; B+, 87.0-89.9; B, 83.0-86.9; B-, 80.0-82.9; C+, 77.0-79.9; C, 73.0-76.9; C-, 70.0-72.9; D+, 67.0-69.9; D, 60.0-66.9; F, 59.9 or less. Course final letter grades will ONLY be released through MYUM.

**EXAMS:** There will be four, co-equal, non-cumulative exams, each worth 24% towards your final grade. Each exam will consist of five essay-type questions which must be answered in a thorough and comprehensive manner, as well as key terms and phrases unique to the field which students are expected to define. These terms and phrases are found at the end of each chapter and are defined in the Glossary. Students who do not know how to prepare for this type of exam are urged to visit the Academic Development Center located in Suite N-201, in the University Center. The essay questions in the exams will be based on the study assignments and on all other material addressed in class, to include the Power Point presentations. Missed exams may be made up only with PRIOR permission of the instructor, and only for students with exceptionally compelling reasons. Requests to take the final exam early (or any other exam) due to airline tickets already purchased will NOT be honored. The time and place for makeup exams will be determined by the Instructor on a case-by-case basis. Makeup exams will be different in content from the exam given at the scheduled time. Any cheating will be dealt with through the University's formal process.

**STUDY ASSIGNMENTS:** Students are responsible for complying with the assignments found on the 4th page of the syllabus. Additional material may be assigned during the conduct of the course.

**BLACKBOARD:** All class information will be posted in Blackboard. ONLY the "Course Documents" section of Blackboard will be used for all course related material, to include the syllabus. Students are expected to check Blackboard periodically.

**CLASS DECORUM:** Students must insure that all beepers, cell phones and pagers are inoperable during class hours. Students who use their computers in class for texting, for sending and/or receiving e-mails, or for internet browsing/surfing will be directed to leave the class immediately. During exams, cell phones and other text messaging devices, to include computers, must be turned OFF or a failing grade for the exam may be awarded. Conversations between and among students during class hours are strictly prohibited. During exams, students will not be allowed to leave the room for any reason, especially not for a restroom break.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** There are no provisions in this course for extra credit work. The only makeup work allowed will be for missed exams and then, only with prior approval from the instructor. Consequently, all students are strongly encouraged to be present for all classes, to take notes carefully, and to study the material in the text, not merely to read it.

**SPECIAL DAYS:** Wednesday, February 3, 2010, is the last day to drop a course without a "W." Friday, April 2, 2010, is the last day to drop a class with a "W." Spring Break takes place from Saturday, March 13, 2010, through Sunday, March 21, 2010. Friday, April 30, 2010, is the last day of class for the semester. The Final Exam is scheduled for Section H on Thursday, May 6, 2010, from 2:00PM until 4:30PM in MM 211. The Final Exam is scheduled for Section J on Monday, May 10, 2010, from 5:00PM - 7:30PM in MM 211.

**E-MAIL:** In all e-mails to the instructor, please set your browser so that your real name identifies you as the sender, not your e-mail alias nor your e-mail user name. In any event, please insure that in all e-mails to the instructor, your name, course number and course section are displayed.

**SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS:** Students are urged to obtain a weekly copy of "The Economist" magazine. It is focused on current events from around the world and provides a very objective perspective on issues of interest to anyone involved in politics or business, especially as globalization continues to have an ever-increasing impact on our daily lives. A student subscription rate is available from the publisher. Another excellent periodical is "Foreign Affairs," which provides very comprehensive articles and essays on current topics which could have an impact on the US, its economy, and its influence on world-wide events.

## POL 203 H & J STUDY ASSIGNMENTS (Spring 2010)

Jan 20	Syllabus, Chapter 1
Jan 25	Chapter 1
Jan 27	Chapter 2
Feb 1	Chapter 2
Feb 3	Chapter 3
Feb 8	Chapter 3
Feb 10	Chapter 4
Feb 15	Exam # 1, Chapters 1-4
Feb 17	Chapter 5
Feb 22	Chapter 5
Feb 24	Chapter 6
Mar 1	Chapter 7
Mar 3	Chapter 7
Mar 8	Chapter 8
Mar 10	Chapter 8
Mar 22	Exam # 2, Chapters 5-8
Mar 24	Chapter 9
Mar 29	Chapter 10
Mar 31	Chapter 10
April 5	Chapter 11
April 7	Chapter 11
April 12	Exam #3, Chapters 9-11
April 14	Chapter 12
April 19	Chapter 12
April 21	Chapter 13
April 26	Chapter 13
April 28	Chapter 14
	Final Exams, Chapters 12-14
May 6	POL 203, Section H, 2:00PM – 4:30PM, MM 211
May 10	POL 203, Section J, 5:00PM – 7:30PM, MM 211