

## INTL 1100: Introduction to Global Issues

MWF Caldwell G10 8:00-8:50

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Office Hours: MW 11 - 12

Office: Candler B02

### Course Description

This course is designed to equip you with the basic tools to understand current and past events of global importance. This course will introduce the main theoretical frameworks and tools of analysis in international relations and comparative politics to provide a critical understanding of international events and issues. By the end of this course, students should be prepared for advanced study in the department of International Affairs.

### Required Textbook

There is one required textbook for this course:

Mansbach, Richard and Taylor. *Introduction to Global Politics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

You are required to **read** all assigned material. Class will be made up mostly of discussion with very little lecture on the reading material itself.

In addition, it is highly recommended that students read the international news section of major newspapers every day. *The New York Times* is available free to all students through the UGA Reads program and many papers, such as *The Washington Post*, have inexpensive year-long web subscriptions available. *The Washington Post* actually has a free subscription with an .edu email account.

### Assignments

*Participation* (20%): All students are expected to participate and contribute to the discussions. Participation will be based on both the quantity and quality of comments. A very quiet student that asks a few very thought provoking questions and contributes good analytical comments per class may receive full credit. It is best to be fully participating each class session.

*Analyses of Current Events* (50%): Each student will turn in five three-page analyses of a current global issue. This assignment will require you to use all of the analytical tools that you will learn over the course of the semester. Check the weekly calendar for the due dates of these analyses. You will need to turn in hard copies of your analyses to me at the start of the class listed as the due date.

*Quizzes* (10%): There will be reading quizzes throughout the semester to check for comprehension of the text and current events. Makeup quizzes will not be given.

*Exams* (30%): There will be two exams. One will be a midterm and the final will be on the scheduled exam day. **Please note:** makeup exams will only be given in the case of university approved absences.

## **Grading**

All coursework will be graded using the following scale:

- A** 93 and above
- A-** 90-92.999999
- B+** 88-89.999999
- B** 83-87.9999999
- B-** 80-82.999999
- C+** 78-79.999999
- C** 73-77.9999999
- C-** 70-72.9999999
- D** 60-69.99999
- F** 59 and below

## **Attendance**

Participation makes up 20% of the final grade. If you are absent, you are not participating. You are expected to attend all class sessions, however, you do have up to 3 unexcused absences. In addition, absences due to university sanctioned events, health emergencies with the proper documentation, and other pre-approved extenuating circumstances may be excused. When in doubt, ask me if it would be an excused absence. I do not need constant email contact of why you failed to get up in time for class or the end of the semester-struggle-is-real. Repeated contact of that sort could result in fiery wrath being wrought upon you and your classmates, like Khaleesi will wreak upon Westeros. That being said, I am flexible in making arrangements for documented chronic health issues.

## **Use of Electronics**

Use of cell phones, MP3 players, or any other sort of hand-held device is not permitted during class. Laptops may only be used for taking notes. You may not use a laptop to surf the web during class. I reserve the right to prohibit the use of laptops in class.

## **Disabilities and Health Issues**

Any student with any sort of disability or health issue should make an appointment to speak with me as soon as possible so that we can fill out the proper Disability Resource Center paperwork. This includes accommodations such as extra test time or a note-taker.

## **Contact**

My office hours are the open time that I have available for you to come and speak with me about any topics of concern you might have. I can be reached by email to answer simple questions, but face to face contact is always better.

## **Academic Honesty**

All students are expected to follow the university guidelines found in "A Culture of Honesty." You can review that policy here [http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm). All classwork must meet the standards listed in the policy.

## **Grade Appeals**

If a student feels that an assignment has been graded incorrectly, he or she will have 48 hours from the time the assignment is handed back to submit a handwritten explanation for why the grade is not correct. Appeals will result in the entire assignment being regraded. Please note that the grade could stay the same, be raised, or be lowered. All grades following an appeal are final.

## **Due Dates**

The due dates listed, for both readings and assignments, are the day that the assignment needs to be completed. Late work will not be accepted, unless there is a university approved excused absence.

## **Class Schedule**

### **Section 1 – The Global System**

**Week 1** Jan 6

This syllabus

**Week 2** Jan 9-13

Chapter 1 – Theoretical Approaches to Global Politics

**Week 3** Jan 16 – 20

**No Class Jan 16**

Chapter 2 – Alternative Global Political Systems

First Analysis due on Friday.

### **Section 2 - Past as Prologue**

**Week 4** Jan 23 - 27

Chapter 3 – The World Wars

**Week 5** Jan 30 – Feb 3

Chapter 4 – The Cold War

**Week 6** Feb 6 - 10

Chapter 8 – The Causes of War

Second Analysis due on Friday.

### **Section 2 – Globalization and Inequality**

**Week 7** Feb 13 - 17

Chapter 6 – Globalization

**Week 8** Feb 20 - 24

Chapter 5 - The Global South

**Week 9** Feb 27 – Mar 3

Chapter 14 – International Political Economy

**Midterm Exam**

**Third analysis due on Friday.**

**Spring Break from March 6 - 10**

### **Section 3 – Human Rights**

**Week 10** Mar 13 - 17

Chapter 11 – Human Rights

**Week 11** Mar 20 – 24

**Withdrawal Deadline March 20th**

Chapter 12 – Human Security

**Week 12** Mar 27 - 31

Chapter 13 – Identity Politics

Fourth analysis due on Friday.

**Section 4 – International Law**

**Week 13** Apr 3 - 7

Chapter 10 – International Law

**Section 5 – Collective Actions**

**Week 14** Apr 10 - 14

Chapter 15 – The Environment

**Week 15** Apr 17 – 21

Putting it all together.

Final analysis due on Friday.

**Week 16** Apr 24 - 26

Student led exam review.

**Final Exam – Wednesday May 3, 8:00 a.m.**