

University of Georgia
INTL 1100H : Introduction to Global Issues (Honors)
Fall 2017, T TR 9:30 A.M. -10:45 A.M.
Candler Hall 214

Instructor: Filip Viskupič

Email: filip@uga.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description and Objectives

The goal of this class is to introduce students to causes, effects and solutions to contemporary and historical international issues. This course will introduce theories and tools for analysis that enable a deeper and critical understanding of global events, problems and issues. By the end of this course, students will be able to analyze these global issues using the frameworks presented in class and be prepared for advanced study in the department of International Affairs.

Course Materials

Lamy et al. Introduction to Global Politics (Fourth Edition). Oxford University Press.

Students are also required to be aware of current events in order to be able to participate in class discussion and to apply concepts learned in class. Some suggested news sites include The New York Times, CNN, BBC, and Al Jazeera.

Evaluation

Participation (15%)

In order to get the most out of this class, you must attend regularly and participate often. Participation entails thoughtfully asking questions, answering questions, providing feedback to classmates' questions, etc. A student's participation is assessed by the quantity and quality of comments, questions and answers. Just attending the class does not yield any participation points. At the start of every class we will discuss a contemporary international issue. Students are encouraged to participate in these discussions.

Movie report (20%)

Each student is required to write **two** movie reports based on the films we watched in class. The report should discuss how the movie relates to a class topic and class discussion. These reports must be typed, double spaced, stapled, and 3 pages long and are always due Tuesday of the following week in **hard-copy** form. No late submissions will be accepted. A few hints on how to write a strong film report are provided below.

- Compare and contrast the themes explored in the film with the topics that we discussed in class. How does the film content fit into class topics? Explore at least three film topics and show how they relate to the material we covered in class (lecture, class discussion, or textbook). Discuss each topic in a separate paragraph. Incorporate your opinion and original insight and make sure to provide justification.
- The report should contain the following sections: Introduction, Short Summary of the Film, Analysis, and Conclusion. Hint: The Analysis part should take most of the space.
- Avoid providing a detailed summary of the plot. Remember to be analytical and not descriptive.
- Remember to bring a hard copy of the report to class on Tuesday of the following week.

Group Presentation (15%)

A group of 3 students will be responsible for choosing a current (or recent) event and discuss how it relates to the topics discussed in class. Students are encouraged to prepare a PowerPoint presentation and discuss their topic with the instructor beforehand. I will provide more detailed guidelines later, but see a few hints below.

- Groups of 3
- Choose a current or recent international issue and connect it to class (every group must consult me on the topic)
- 15 minutes long (10 min presentation +5 min Q&A)
- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation and 1 page handout for class
- Each member will submit a peer evaluation form

Exams (50%)

There will be **two** exams that will cover readings, lectures and class discussions. All of it is fair game. Midterm exam is worth **20%** of the final grade.

Final exam is a **take-home** exam and is worth **30%** of the final grade. The final exam is cumulative. The exam will be distributed on November 16 and is due December 5 in **hard copy** form.

Please note that make-up exams will only be given for university approved absences, such as university sanctioned events (sports/conference), a documented medical excuse (you must have some sort note from a doctor or the health center), or proof of the death of a deceased direct relative. You must email me the documentation one week before the exam.

Grading

Students will be graded on all coursework according to the following scale:

A 93 and above

A- 90-92

B+ 88-89

B 83-87

B- 80-82

C+ 78-79

C 73-77

C- 70-72

D 60-69

F 59 and below

Absences

Attendance for this class is **not mandatory**. Having said that, I still expect that you will attend and actively participate in every class. If you are unable to attend a class you are responsible for getting any notes or class announcements from another student. I will not provide any lecture notes or presentation slides from class meetings. I will also not respond to email questions whose answers are contained in the syllabus

Class etiquette

Cell phones, MP3 players, and other noise-making devices must be silenced and put away during class. Frequent disruptions may result in a reduction of your final grade.

Laptops are allowed for note taking only, and not surfing the web. I reserve the right to ban laptops from the classroom if this rule is violated.

Academic honesty

All University of Georgia students must abide by the UGA academic honesty policy, “A Culture of Honesty”, which can be accessed at www.uga.edu/honesty . All academic works must meet the standards contained in the “A Culture of Honesty”. Please don’t cheat. If caught, cheating will very likely lead to failing the course and severe penalty by the University.

Disability and Health Related Issues

Students that require a disability accommodation should first register with the University Disability Resource Center. After that they should make an appointment and speak with me as soon as possible.

Class Schedule (This schedule is for planning only and is subject to change)

Week 1- Introduction

Tuesday, Aug. 15- Syllabus

Thursday, Aug. 17- Lamy: Chapter 1

Week 2- Introduction to Global Politics

Tuesday, Aug. 22- Lamy: Chapter 1

Thursday, Aug. 24- Lamy: Chapter 2

Week 3- The Evolution of Global Politics

Tuesday, Aug. 29- Krauthammer, Charles. 1990. “The Unipolar Moment.” *Foreign Affairs* 70 (1): 23–33. Available at: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20044692>

Thursday, Aug. 31- TBD (away at conference)

Week 4- Theories of Global Politics

Tuesday, Sept. 5- Lamy: Chapter 3

Thursday, Sept. 7- Lamy: Chapter 3

Week 5- “Doctor Strangelove” movie

Tuesday, Sept. 12- “Doctor Strangelove” movie

Thursday, Sept. 14- Class discussion

Week 6- Making Foreign Policy

Tuesday, Sept. 19- Lamy: Chapter 4

Movie Report 1 due

Thursday, Sept. 21- Mearsheimer, J. & Walt S., 2006. The Israel Lobby. *London Review of Books* vol. 28 no. 6 pp. 3-12. <http://www.lrb.co.uk/v28/n06/john-mearsheimer/the-israel-lobby>

Week 7-Global and Regional Governance

Tuesday, Sept. 26- Lamy: Chapter 5

Thursday, Sept. 28- Lamy: Chapter 5

Week 8-Midterm Exam

Tuesday, Oct. 3- Midterm exam review

Thursday, Oct. 5- Midterm exam

Week 9- Global Security, Military Power& Terrorism

Tuesday, Oct. 10- Lamy: Chapter 6

Thursday, Oct. 12- Lamy: Chapter 6

Week 10- “Battle for Algiers” movie

Tuesday, Oct. 17- “Battle for Algiers” movie

Thursday, Oct. 19- Class Discussion

Week 11- Human Rights and Human Security

Tuesday, Oct. 24- Lamy: Chapter 7

Movie Report 2 due

Thursday, Oct. 26- *Lamy: Chapter 7*

Week 12- Global Trade and Finance

Tuesday, Oct. 31- *Lamy: Chapter 8*

Thursday, Nov. 2- *Lamy: Chapter 8*

Week 13- Poverty, Development, and Hunger & Environmental Issues

Tuesday, Nov. 7- *Lamy: Chapter 9*

Thursday, Nov. 9- *Lamy: Chapter 10*

Week 14- “Hotel Rwanda” movie

Tuesday, Nov. 14- *“Hotel Rwanda” movie*

Thursday, Nov. 16- *Class Discussion*

Final Exam distributed

Week 15- Thanksgiving Break

NO CLASSES

Week 16- Student Presentations

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Movie Report 3 due

Thursday, Nov. 30

Week 17- Wrap up

Tuesday, Dec. 5- *Final Exam due*