

POLI 180-01
Introduction to Global Affairs
UWSP
Fall 2020
Course Meeting Times: Online

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How to contact me: there are three ways to contact me this semester. First, send me an e-mail. Second, come to my regular Zoom offices hours: T, Th, 10:30am-12 noon. Third, speak with me “after” class on Mondays and Wednesdays in Zoom. See the information below in the syllabus.

Introduction

POLI 180 covers many aspects of global politics and international relations. The course looks at how the international system of states is organized, with special attention given to international institutions, foreign policy, and a wide range of policy issues such as global trade, human rights, terrorism, military security, and human development.

Learning Outcomes

Students will...

- learn about the basic political institutions and public policies of the global political system
- understand the different roles of international institutions and actors, such as sovereign states, the United Nations, and key non-governmental organizations;
- critically analyze global political issues;
- learn about various theoretical approaches to global politics;
- understand broadly the role of the United States in the global political system; and
- explain or apply major concepts, methods, or theories used in the social sciences to investigate, analyze, or predict human behavior (UWSP General Education Plan Social Science Learning Outcome)

Textbook: Steven L. Lamy, John S. Masker, John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, Introduction to Global Politics, Oxford University Press. The UWSP book store has either the 5th or 6th edition—either edition is fine.

Course Organization

This course is ONLINE through the UWSP Canvas Learning System (Canvas). It is organized in a **modular** way, meaning that you will progress through the course chronologically by completing each specific module in sequence. With a couple of exceptions each module corresponds to a chapter and content in the textbook.

Although there are specific times listed for the virtual classroom, you will be able to access the course modules at times more convenient to you. Thus, this course is more *asynchronous* in that it allows you to complete most of the requirements at times that fit your schedule. The EXCEPTIONS to this are the regularly scheduled quizzes and exams.

Please note the following about the modular organization of the course:

- modules must be completed *sequentially, in order*;
- each module has a specific opening time that is based on moving through the course at a regular pace throughout the semester;
- each module will generally consist of a reading assignment that corresponds to the textbook, powerpoint slides, video lectures by the professor, AND a required reading quiz.

With the modular organization of the course you cannot work ahead. That is, as you finish one module you must wait for the next module to open at its set date. This is because the course is an academic course based on 3 credit hours. It is not an online course leading to a certification after specific content has been

studied. A 3 credit hour course has specific assumptions about how much work students put into the course. UWSP must adhere to federal and state guidelines on the workload appropriate to a 3 credit hour course. Thus, the modular format with specific opening times for each module reflects the appropriate workload for a 3 credit course.

Technology requirements: to successfully complete this course you must have:

- reliable internet access;
- the capability to view powerpoint files and pdf files;
- the capability to view mp4 video files in the Canvas learning system;
- ability to write and submit papers to Canvas in Microsoft Word; and
- regular access to Canvas. The reading quizzes are taken in Canvas, and you'll also view lecture videos in Canvas, as well as upload your written work on essay exams and papers.

Grading: your final grade is based on the following:

Weekly reading quizzes:	25%
Midterm essay exam:	25%
Final essay exam:	25%
Two short papers:	25%

Weekly reading quizzes will cover the assigned readings for each module. Note the following:

- Each quiz will open on a Wednesday morning at 8am and will close on the following Thursday morning at 8am. Each quiz will be open for that 24 hour window.
- Each quiz will consist of 10-20 questions over the reading.
- Most quiz questions will have a single answer and be worth 1 point; there are a few quiz questions that will have more than one answer and be worth more than 1 point.
- Your quiz score will be converted to a percentage score in the Canvas gradebook.
- Once you open a quiz you will have 30 minutes in which to finish it.
- You may take the quiz ONLY ONCE.
- You MAY use your textbook during the reading quizzes. The quizzes are “open-book” quizzes.
- You must take ALL of the quizzes. If you miss a quiz it will automatically count as a “0”.
- Your final quiz grade for the semester will be based on the average of your highest 5 scores. Thus, out of the 10 total quizzes your lowest 5 scores will be dropped, and only your highest 5 scores will count towards your final grade.
- There are 10 quizzes on the course content up to the Thanksgiving break. There are no quizzes after the break.

The **midterm and final exams** will each consist of two essay questions. You will answer essay prompts in a Microsoft Word document that you will then upload to the respective assignment “dropbox” in Canvas. Your essays will be scanned by the plagiarism program Turnitin.com. Plagiarism on any assignment will result in a 0 grade for that assignment.

You will write **two short (400 word) papers** at the end of the course. Note that the requirement is a WORD count, not a page count. Each paper will cover a specific module hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations. You will complete these modules AFTER the Thanksgiving break. Each paper will address the specific content of the module, and will be uploaded to Canvas as a Microsoft Word document. Your short papers will be scanned by the plagiarism program Turnitin.com. Plagiarism on any assignment will result in a 0 grade for that assignment.

Grading Rubrics: written exams and papers will be graded according to a rubric. The grade rubric will be posted in Canvas.

Zoom Office Hours: There are several ways to contact me this semester. First, you can e-mail me at my university e-mail address. Second, you can speak with me by Zoom during my regular Zoom office hours. Finally, I will be available “after class” on Mondays and Wednesdays. I like to remain for several minutes after an in-person class to talk students and answer questions on the material. Since that’s not possible this semester I will be available “after class” for regular, short Zoom meetings scheduled at 10:30 (before

class “ends” at 10:45). Look for my **Zoom Office Hours** and **Prof. Blakeman After Class Zoom meetings** in Canvas, where you’ll find the link to the Zoom meeting and the password. Please note that my Zoom meeting schedule may change according to how the semester progresses.

Also, **Prof. Blakeman After Class Zoom meetings will not be private**. I will admit anyone who is waiting to ask a question, just like in a classroom. Given time constraints I may not be able to answer all questions at that specific time. **Importantly, since this is a group/public meeting, DO NOT raise confidential issues at that time.**

If you need to speak with me confidentially, or you’d rather meet with me one-on-one, then just come to my regular **Zoom Office Hours** where I will only speak with students on an individual basis.

Class Schedule

Week of September 2

Introductory Module

Start of Class

Introductory video. Familiarize yourself with Canvas.

Practice quiz in Canvas Opens 9/2 am; closes SUNDAY 9/6 8am.

NOTE: the practice quiz is open for a longer period to allow to practice taking quizzes in Canvas.

Week of September 9

Module: Introduction to Global Politics

NOTE: September 7 is Labor Day and the university is closed.

Canvas will be available if you want to work on the course.

Assigned Reading: Lamy, Chapter 1

Reading Quiz on Chapter 1; opens 9/9 8am; closes 9/10 8am.

Week of September 14-16

Module: The Evolution of Global Politics

Assigned Reading: Lamy et al., Chapter 2

Reading Quiz on Chapter 2; opens 9/16 8am; closes 9/17 8am.

Week of September 21-23

Module: Realism, Liberalism, and Critical Theories

Assigned Reading: Lamy et al., Chapter 3

Reading Quiz on Chapter 3; opens 9/23 8am; closes 9/24 8am.

Week of September 28-30

Module: Making Foreign Policy

Assigned Reading: Lamy et al., Chapter 4

Reading Quiz on Chapter 4; opens 9/30 8am; closes 10/1 8am.

Week of October 5-7

Module: United States Foreign Policy

Assigned Reading: The Constitution and Foreign Policy

Lecture and Powerpoint slides in Canvas.

Quiz on assigned readings and lectures; opens 10/7 8am; closes 10/8 8am.

Week of October 12-14

AND Week of October 19-21

Module: Global and Regional Governance

NOTE: This Module covers TWO weeks. You should plan to complete the readings and lectures on the United Nations for the week of October 12; and then complete the powerpoints and lectures on the European Union for the week of October 19-21.

Assigned Reading: Lamy, et al., Chapter 5

Reading Quiz on Chapter 5 opens 10/14 8am; closes 10/15 8am,

Powerpoint and lecture on the European Union. No assigned reading.

Quiz on EU powerpoint and lecture opens 10/21 8am; closes 10/22 8am.

Week of October 26-28.

Mid-Term Exam: The Midterm exam consist of two essays that you submit to Canvas. The essay prompt opens on Monday, 10/26 at 8am and you can access the prompt at any time after that. You will type your responses in a Microsoft Word document that you will upload to Canvas no later than Thursday, 10/29 at 8am. Your essays will be scanned by Turnitin.com. Any plagiarism on your essays will result in a 0 for the assignment.

Week of November 2-4

Module: Global Security, Military power, and Terrorism

Assigned Reading: Lamy et al., Chapter 6

Reading quiz on Chapter 6 opens on 11/4 at 8am; closes 11/5 8am.

Week of November 9-11

Module: Human Rights

Assigned Reading: Lamy et al., Chapter 7

Reading quiz on Chapter 7 opens 11/11 at 8am; closes 11/12 8am,

Week of November 16-18

Module: Global Trade and Finance

Assigned Reading: Lamy, et al., Chapter 8

Reading quiz on Chapter 8 opens 11/18 at 8am; closes 11/19 8am.

Thanksgiving Break Week of November 23-25.

At this point you will NOT return to UWSP for the rest of the semester. The remainder of the course will consist of TWO online modules hosted by the Council for Foreign Relations (CFR).

Online Modules hosted by the Council for Foreign Relations:

CFR Module #1 must be completed by Friday December 4 at midnight. You will choose either a module on Terrorism OR Global Cybersecurity. You will write a 400 word essay on the module. Your essay will respond to a specific essay prompt and must be written in a Microsoft Word document, uploaded to the appropriate Canvas dropbox no later than December 4th at midnight. Your essay will be scanned for plagiarism by Turnitin.com.

CFR Module #2 must be completed by Friday December 11 at midnight. You will choose either a module on Global Health OR Climate Change. You will write a 400 word essay on the module. Your essay will respond to a specific essay prompt and must be written in a Microsoft Word document, uploaded to the appropriate Canvas dropbox no later than December 11th at midnight. Your essay will be scanned for plagiarism by Turnitin.com.

Final Exam: To be determined in Canvas. It will be administered during the final exam period for the class. It will operate the same as the Midterm exam. You will answer two essay questions and upload your answers in a Microsoft Word document to Canvas. Your document will be scanned for plagiarism by Turnitin.com.

One final note: the syllabus is subject to change. Given the unique and difficult issues that the Covid-19 pandemic presents, the syllabus and course content and provision of information may change as circumstances change.