Global Issues:
An Introduction to International Relations

POLS 2401.D1
Fall 2015

Course Location: Young Hall, Room 203
Course Time: MW, 4:05 pm – 5.20 pm

Professor’s Name: Sam Rohrer, PhD

Professor’s Office Hours
Location: Hansford Hall, Office 319
Time: MW 8:15 am – 9:00 am; 9:50 am – 12:05 pm
Professor’s Email: sam.rohrer@ung.edu

All email should contain a subject line formatted in the following manner:
POLS 2401 // First Name & Last Name // Subject

Phone: +1.706.864.1927

Course Description & Objectives

This course is designed to introduce you to the basic principles, problems, and theories of international politics; the evolution of the Westphalian nation-state; concepts of sovereignty, power, and national interest; patterns of conflict and cooperation; and the impact of international organizations and transnational advocacy networks.

By the end of the semester, it is expected that students should have developed sufficient knowledge of global interaction that they can explain and analyze events and trends in the contemporary world at multiple levels of analysis including the individual, state, and system. As this is an introductory course, no prior political science classes are required in order to succeed.

Required Textbook


This text is available through the campus bookstore and online retailers. If you do not already have a copy of the textbook, have one in hand by the end of week two.
Professor’s Bio

- **Academic Interests**: Terrorism, modern maritime crime, and non-democratic governments
- **General Interests**: Electronic gadgets, travel, cooking, baseball (St. Louis Cardinals) & football (St. Louis Rams, LSU, & Mizzou).

Presentations

Lesson plans will be presented as a series of PowerPoint presentations. These presentations will be customized to include information from multiple sources in addition to the assigned textbook.

Course Requirements

- **Participation** – Students are expected to participate in class lectures, discussions, and activities in an active and constructive manner. It is difficult to earn participation points in a class you are not regularly attending. Participation will make up 11% of your overall score.
- **Quizzes & Application Papers** – Quizzes & Application Papers will be given on D2L after a topic has been covered in class. These assignments are intended to reinforce material as we progress through the semester. There is no set number of assignments that will be given. In total these scores will be weighed at 11% of your overall score.
- **Common Assessment Paper (Final Project)** – Each student will complete a written assignment that will require a critical application of the theories discussed during the course. This assignment addresses the University System of Georgia Learning Outcome II: Global Perspective. The paper will require students to identify, compare, and contrast multiple theories of state behavior. This project will be discussed in greater detail later in the course. The paper will be worth 12% of your overall score.
- **Exams** – There will be two exams over the duration of the course the course.* Each exam will be worth 33% of your overall score.
  - *In the event that the schedule is altered and three exams are included they will weighed in the following manner. Exam I: 16%, Exam II: 16%, Exam III: 34%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes &amp; Application Papers</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Assessment Paper (Final Project)</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Important Semester Dates

September 7: Labor Day NO CLASS
October 12: Full Session Withdrawal Deadline
November 23-28: Thanksgiving Break NO CLASS
December 4: Last day of class before finals week
December 7-11: Finals Period
# Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2015 – 16 Weeks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 17th – December 4th</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: August 17 – 21</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW – Seated Class</td>
<td>• Syllabus Review</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Problems &amp; Questions in IR</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 2: August 24 – 28</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW – Seated Class</td>
<td>• Historical Evolution of States &amp; Sovereignty</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D’Anieri Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3: August 31 – September 4</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>• Realist Paradigm I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>• Conference: American Political Science Association Meeting  (No Seated Class)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D’Anieri Ch. 3</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4: September 7 – 11</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>• Labor Day – No Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>• Realist Paradigm II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Classic Realists</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Sources</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 5: September 14 – 18</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>• Realist Paradigm III &amp; IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Modern Realist Thinkers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Hegemonic Stability</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| Week 6: September 21 – 25 | MW  
| | • Liberalism  
| | • Complex Interdependence  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Source  |
| Week 7: September 28 – October 2 | MW  
| | • Finish Liberalism  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Source  |
| Week 8: October 5 – 9 | MW  
| | • Exam I & Recap  |
| Week 9: October 12 – 16 | MW  
| | • Flex Day  
| | • Common Assignment Directions  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 3, 5 + Outside Sources  |
| Week 10: October 19 – 23 | M  
| | • Start Democratic Peace  
| | W  
| | • Conference: International Studies  
| | Association – South (No Seated Class)  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + 5  |
| Week 11: October 26 – 30 | MW  
| | • Finish Democratic Peace  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 5  |
| Week 12: November 2 – 6 | MW  
| | • Economic Structuralism  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 4 + Outside Sources  |
Week 13: November 9 – 13
MW
• International Organizations &
  Transnational Advocacy Networks
  D’Anieri – Ch. 12

Week 14: November 16 – 20
MW
• Terrorism
  D’Anieri – Ch. 9 (Sections covering WMD and terrorism), + Outside Sources

Week 15: November 23 – 27
MW
• Thanksgiving Break – No Class

Week 16: November 30 – December 4
MW
• Flex Day
• Exam II (Wednesday)

Common Assessment Paper (Final Project) Due via D2L Dropbox:
Monday, December 7 by 11:59 am

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A grade of A involves a level of performance that is completely excellent in the factors indicated in the definition of B.</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A grade of B indicates a higher level of performance than the satisfactory standard defined for a grade of &quot;C.&quot; It involves excellence in some aspect of work, such as completeness, accuracy, detail of knowledge, or effective independent work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A grade of C represents a satisfactory level of performance which can be expected of any student who gives a reasonable amount of time, effort and attention to the work of the course. Such satisfactory performance should include familiarity with the concept of the course as shown by an acceptable mastery of the information, concepts of skills involved and regular participation in the work of the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>A grade of D indicates below standard performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>A grade of F indicates an unacceptable level of performance.</td>
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Syllabus Policy

Each class is unique due to the composition of the students enrolled, as well as the constantly shifting nature of international relations. As a result the professor reserves the right to revise the syllabus and listed assignments. Students will receive a revised syllabus if the listing of course assignments significantly alter.

Attendance & Technology Policy

Class attendance is the responsibility of the student. The student is expected to attend all classes. Inappropriate usage of technology in the classroom will result in an attendance score of zero. Inappropriate usage of technology encompasses all uses that the instructor deems irrelevant to taking notes in class.

Inappropriate usage of technology include:

1. Social Media (Twitter, Pinterest, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, Weibo, etc.)
2. Catching up on your email.
3. Working on a project for another class.
4. Texting, instant messaging, etc.
5. This is not an exhaustive list of examples.

A student who finds it necessary to miss class assumes responsibility of notifying the professor in advance, providing original documentation to justify the absence. The student is responsible for obtaining lecture notes, and otherwise compensating for what s/he may have been missed. The course professor will determine the validity of a student's reason(s) for absences and will assist those students who have valid reasons and can produce original documentation.

Valid documentable reasons for absences include:
1. Illness – An original note from a medical facility is required. A note from your mother, father, roommate, boyfriend, girlfriend, or third uncle that you were sick is insufficient.
2. Serious family emergency
3. Special curricular requirements such as judging trips or field trips
4. Court-imposed legal obligations such as subpoenas or jury duty
5. Military obligations
6. Serious weather conditions
7. Religious observances
D2L Utilization

The learning management system will be used to distribute the following information in this course.

1. Course announcements will be released via the D2L ‘News’ feature. Examples of relevant announcements include, but are not limited to, the upcoming course schedule, and the release of new online material.
2. Grades will be released via the ‘Grades’ feature. Scores will remain available for approximately one week. D2L is not the formal grade book for the course. Rather it is a tool utilized to distribute information in a timely manner. Students are encouraged to keep track of their scores and contact the professor if they have questions or encounter difficulty in calculating their standing in the course.

Please configure your D2L account to notify you when new course announcements have been released.

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted. There are only two exceptions to this rule. 1) The student was unable to submit the assignment as a result of participation in a formal university function. In which case, the student should have provided documentation of their university related absence in advance of their absence. 2) The student has a documentable absence approved by the professor prior to the due date of the assignment.

Academic Success Plan

UNG has implemented an Academic Success Plan to identify and provide assistance to at-risk undergraduate students. Resources are made available through the Academic Advising Center that can assist in developing strategies to assist in your academic success. Students are expected to take advantage of advising services and other on campus resources.

Students with Disabilities

The University of North Georgia System is committed to equal access to its programs, services activities, and welcomes otherwise qualified students with disabilities. Students who require accommodations and services must register with Disability Services and submit supporting documentation. The Office of Disability Services provides paperwork for eligible students that must be presented to the course professor. Students are responsible for making arrangements with professors, and must give reasonable prior notice of justifiable accommodations. If you require assistance contact Thomas.McCoy@ung.edu, visit Room 313 in the Stewart Center, or call +1.706.867.2782. If you require this document in another format to better accommodate a disability notify your professor.

Academic Integrity

Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give an unfair academic advantage to the student. These offenses are also a violation of the UNG Student Honor Code.
Plagiarism and Citation Method

As a student at UNG, it is your responsibility to refrain from plagiarizing the academic property of another and to utilize appropriate citation methods for all coursework. In this class, it is recommended that you use Chicago style and parenthetical (author, year) citations. Ignorance of the citation methods is not an excuse for academic misconduct. One tool available to assist you in correct citations is the references function in Microsoft Word. This program automatically formats the information you input according to the citation method you select for the document. This program also has the ability to generate a reference or works cited page for the information you input. A version of Microsoft Word with these added features is available in most University computer labs. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade on the assignment, a 20% deduction from your final overall grade in the class, and an academic misconduct report will be submitted to the Dean of Students.

Expectations of Written Work

All papers are to be college level papers. They are expected to be typed, spell-checked, and grammar checked, well written with a logical flow of thought, and correctly cited using an in text parenthetical style. At the college level multiple primary sources are expected in your written work. An informal rule of thumb would be to provide a minimum of one source for each assigned page. Failure to meet these criteria will result in a below average grade.

Group Work and Unauthorized Assistance

All work must be completed without assistance from a classmate or group, unless explicitly stated by the professor. This is critical so that the professor can assess individual performance on each assignment. If a group or partner based project is assigned, the student may still have individual work to complete. Read the syllabus and assignment directions carefully. When in doubt, e-mail the professor or ask during class. Seeking clarification is the sole responsibility of the student.

Inclement Weather Policy

If inclement weather occurs that results in a closure of UNG, classes will be cancelled for the duration of the closure. If inclement weather occurs that does not result in a closure of the university, but in conditions that the professor considers too hazardous for students, class can be cancelled. In these rare occurrences (It has never happened to date.) the class will be notified via an announcement on D2L.

Disruptive Behavior Policy

Students who exhibit behaviors that are considered to obstruct or disrupt the class or its learning activities are subject to sanctions under the Board of Regents Policy on Disruptive Behavior. Behaviors which may be considered inappropriate in the classroom includes, but is not limited to, sleeping, coming in late, talking out of turn, inappropriate use of laptops or mobile technology, verbal behavior that is disrespectful of other students or the faculty member, or other behaviors that may be disruptive. Students who exhibit such behavior may be temporarily dismissed from the class by the professor and will be subject to disciplinary procedures outlined in the student handbook.