Global Issues:
An Introduction to International Relations

POLS 2401.3
Spring 2015

Course Location: Young Hall, Room 203
Course Time: MWF*, 1:15 pm – 2:05 pm

*This course will be scheduled as a hybrid course. What this means for you as a student is that Mondays and Wednesdays will be traditional seated classes. However, classes scheduled for Fridays will use multiple formats. For example, some classes will be used as review or overflow periods, others will consist of online work and writing assignments intended to strengthen your understanding of the material. The format of the Friday class will be clearly stated on the board each Wednesday.

Professor’s Name: Sam Rohrer, PhD

Professor’s Office Hours
Location: Hansford Hall, Office 319
Time: MW 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; T 10:00 am – 11:00 am, 12:15pm – 1:15 pm

Professor’s Email: sam.rohrer@ung.edu

All email should contain a subject line formatted in the following manner:
POLS 2401.3 // First Name & Last Name // Subject

Phone: 706.864.1927

Teaching Assistant: Ashley Long

Teaching Assistant’s Office Hours
Location: Third Floor Hansford Hall At Large
Time: WR 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
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, although the Saints are a pretty constant back up team.)

Weekly Lesson Plans

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. The presentations will not be posted prior to class. They will be made available to the class within one week after each section has been completed.
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 10% of your overall score.

• **Quizzes** – Quizzes will be given on D2L after a topic has been covered in class. These quizzes are intended to reinforce material as we progress through the semester. There is no set number of quizzes that will be given. Your quiz scores will make up 15% of your overall score.

• **Hybrid Reflection Papers** – On hybrid days students will complete a series of reflection and analysis papers. These papers will be 3-5 pages in length, incorporate outside sources, and allow the student to apply the theories discussed in class to contemporary or historical international events and explore their personal understanding of the lecture material. Combined these papers will be worth 10% of your overall score.

• **Critical Analysis Paper** – 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 10% of your overall score.

• **Exams** – There will be three exams throughout the course.* Each exam will be worth 20% of your overall score.
  
  o *In the event that the second exam is dropped due to time constraints the first exam and the final will be weighted at 30% each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid Reflection Papers</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis Paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Important Semester Dates

January 19 (Monday) – Martin Luther King Jr. Day NO CLASS
March 16 (Monday) – Spring Break Begins NO CLASS
March 23 (Monday) – Classes resume, 7:00 am
April 24 (Friday) – Last day of class before finals week
## Course Schedule

### Spring 2015 – 16 Weeks
January 4<sup>th</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: January 5-9</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW – Seated Class</td>
<td>Syllabus Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Problems &amp; Questions in IR</td>
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<tr>
<td>F – Hybrid Class</td>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction Assignment</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2: January 12-16</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW – Seated Class</td>
<td>Historical Evolution of States &amp; Sovereignty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F – Hybrid Class – <strong>Seated</strong></td>
<td>Reflection Paper Directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reflection Paper – Topic A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online Quiz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D’Anieri Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3: January 19-23</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td><strong>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – NO CLASS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W - Seated Class</td>
<td>Realist Paradigm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F – Hybrid Class</td>
<td>Reflection Paper – Topic B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D’Anieri Ch. 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 4: January 26-30 | MW – Seated Class  
• Machiavelli, Rousseau, & Hobbes  
F – Hybrid Class  
• Reflection Paper – Topic C  
• Online Quiz  
D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Sources |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Week 5: February 2-6 | MW – Seated Class  
• Modern Realist Thinkers  
• Hegemonic Stability  
F – Hybrid Class  
• Independent Reflection Topic D  
• Online Quiz  
D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Sources |
| Week 6: February 9-13| MW – Seated Class  
• Liberalism  
• Complex Interdependence  
F – Hybrid Class  
• Independent Reflection Topic A  
• Online Quiz  
D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Sources |
| Week 7: February 16-20| **International Studies Association Conference – NO CLASS** |
| Week 8: February 23-27| M – Seated Class  
• Classical Liberal Thinkers  
**W – Exam 1**  
F – Flex Day  
D’Anieri – Ch. 3 + Outside Sources |
| Week 9: March 2-6 | MW – Seated Class  
|                  | • Finish Liberal Thinkers  
|                  | • Start Democratic Peace  
|                  | F – Independent / Reflection Work  
|                  | • Independent Reflection Topic B  
|                  | • Online Quiz  
|                  | D’Anieri – Ch. 3, 5 + Outside Sources  
| Week 10: March 9-13 | MW – Seated Class  
|                    | • Finish Democratic Peace  
|                    | • Sub-State  
|                    | F – Hybrid Class  
|                    | • Independent Reflection Topic C  
|                    | • Online Quiz  
|                    | D’Anieri – Ch. 5  
| Week 11: March 16-20 | Spring Break – NO CLASS  
| Week 12: March 23-27 | MW – Seated Class  
|                    | • Sub-State  
|                    | • Critical Approaches to State Behavior  
|                    | F – Hybrid Class – Seated  
|                    | • Critical Analysis Paper Directions  
|                    | D’Anieri – Ch. 4, 5  
| Week 13: March 30-April 3 | MW – Seated Class  
|                        | • Economic Structuralism  
|                        | F – Hybrid Class  
|                        | • Independent Reflection Topic D  
|                        | • Online Quiz  
|                        | D’Anieri – Ch. 4 + Outside Sources  

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| Week 14: April 6-10 | MW – Seated Class  
| | • Feminism  
| | • Exam - 2  
| | F – Flex Day  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 4 & 12  
| Week 15: April 13-17 | MW – Seated Class  
| | • International Organizations & Transnational Advocacy Networks  
| | F – Hybrid Class  
| | • Critical Analysis Papers Due  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 12  
| Week 16: April 20-22 | MW  
| | • Terrorism  
| | F – Concentrated Study Day  
| | D’Anieri – Ch. 9 (Sections covering WMD and terrorism), + Outside Sources  
| Final Exam: | Monday, April 27th, 12:40 pm – 2:40 pm |
Course Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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 the class will be notified via an announcement on D2L.

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, 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
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

**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 706.867.2782

**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. 2) The student has a documentable absence approved by the professor prior to the due date of the assignment.

**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 method for all coursework. In this class, it is recommended that you use Chicago style and parenthetical 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. The 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. At the college level multiple primary sources are expected in your written work. 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.

**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.