

## PS 205 GLOBAL POLITICS

(CRN 40689)

FALL 2007

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**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the major concepts, approaches and issues in the field of International affairs and thereby help them to understand the dynamic changes currently at work on a global scale.

For the Internationalize curriculum please refer to the Course Outline and the Summit Project

**Course Objectives:** After completing this course the student should have a basic understanding of :

- basic concepts of state, sovereignty, power, and nation
- the theories of IR including realism, idealism, dependency, and others
- the security dilemma around national and international security
- the relationship between the developed and developing world
- the role of international organizations, multinationals, the UN
- International law and human rights
- major problems facing the world that need cooperation of all states

### Intended Outcomes For the Course

Students will be able to

- recognize and reflect on the interconnectedness of the international activities and local realities
- become an active participant in the political processes that effect international policies
- have the ability to reflect on a political issues and make personal value judgments regarding these issues recognizing the diversity of points of view
- be prepared for a successful transfer to and performance at a four-year university or college if they so choose
- engage in lifelong learning that includes effective listening, observation, and reading thereby encouraging stimulating conversations in future settings.

<b>Course Requirements:</b> Exam #1	30 % Thurs. OCT 25
Exam #2	30 % Tues. NOV 20
Summit Project	30% Thurs. DEC 6 (see assignment sheet)
2-reviews	<u>10%</u>
	100%

**Text Required:** Rourke and Boyer, International Politics on the World Stage, Brief 7th edition, McGraw Hill, 2008.

Keep informed of world events by reading newspapers and/or magazines.

**Exams:** I believe that it is very important that students not only learn content and critical thinking skills BUT that they learn to express their thoughts in an organized and coherent manner, especially in written form, therefore, exams will generally consist of long essay questions. They will be based on lectures, readings and videos. Exams will be given under time constraints therefore; you should allot your time carefully. No one will be given extra time to complete the exam unless there is a documented reason from the disabilities office that requires special circumstances for testing.

No make-up exams will be given unless there is a medical emergency or other extenuating circumstance. In those cases the instructor reserves the right to provide a different type of exam.

If you do not contact me immediately after your medical emergency you will not be able to take a make-up. In other words, don't wait a week to tell me you were sick and missed the test. I have voice mail 24 hr. a day where you can leave a message. If I do not hear from you within 48 hrs you will not be able to make up the test.

You are required to bring 2 Bluebooks for all of your exams.

Exams are not cumulative.

There is no extra credit work in this class.

**Grading Scale:**      100-90=A  
                                 89-80=B  
                                 79-70=C  
                                 69-60=D  
                                 below 59=F

- PASS/NO PASS grades. You can request pass/no pass (in writing) until the 8th week of the quarter-NOV 18
- In addition, if you wish to Audit you must tell me by the 2<sup>ND</sup> week of class.
- If you have financial aid requirements, make sure you live up to your responsibilities regarding grading/withdrawal from class. Don't expect the instructor to change your grade status to accommodate you.
- NOTE: If you receive any grades in this class and stop attending after the 8th week without officially withdrawing you will receive an "F"
- Please see the schedule for further details on all deadlines and responsibilities.

Miscellaneous Issues:

THERE WILL BE NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED DURING FINALS WEEK. NO EXCEPTIONS.

*Turn off your cell phones/ pagers/ beepers, Etc. while in class!*

*Please do not read other materials, listen to music or do other work during this class.*

*Do not listen to music during class or have earphones on during exams.*

*Take care of your personal needs (bathroom, water, etc) before coming into class, getting up and going in and out of the classroom should be kept to a minimum.*

**Instructor Philosophy:** I strongly believe in a liberal arts education. That means that this class is part of enriching your life even if you never think you will “use” this material in the “real” world. Knowledge, of any kind, never occupies space it only adds to the wonderful canvas of your life. If you are in school just to improve your job situation you are missing the most important and beautiful experience of your life. So relax and enjoy the new world you will discover in this class!!!

My approaches to teaching and learning are:

- Human Dignity & Equality- Each of us is a unique and equally valuable human being with our own capabilities and experiences to contribute to the class.
- Self-Responsibility- Each of us is responsible for our own learning and it is up to each of us to make the class relevant to our own growth.
- Participatory Learning- People learn best when they participate and involve themselves in the learning process.
- Freedom of Thought/Speech and Mutual Respect- The best atmosphere for learning is one in which individuals feel free to speak their own opinions and respect the right of others to express their own views.
- Instructor Responsibilities-My responsibilities as an instructor are to set the direction of the course, provide information and resource material regarding the field, facilitate a positive learning environment, hold students accountable for their own learning, and provide support and encouragement for their growth.
- Student Responsibility- My expectations regarding your responsibilities as a student are to attend all class sessions and participate actively in the class, complete class assignments promptly, use this opportunity to build your knowledge and understanding of Global Politics, as well as, your own political value framework, and to contribute to the learning experience of others in the class.
- Overall, I view my mission as an educator to instill in my students a love of knowledge, tolerance of opposing views and critical thinking about the political world around them.

Note: This course is taught in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Any study and /or skills problems you may have should be addressed as soon as possible by visiting with the instructor and /or by taking advantage of resources available on the PCC campuses.

### **Instructor Qualifications:**

#### **Ph.D. University of Southern California --Comparative Politics**

Dissertation written on: “The Role of the Catholic Church in Elaborating a Counter Hegemony in Opposition to the Dominant Groups in Brazil and Poland.”

**MA University of Southern California -- Political Science**  
Comparative Politics

American Presidency  
Political Theory

**MA University of Southern California -- History**

Russian/Soviet History  
Post-Partition Poland  
Soviet Foreign Policy

**BA College of Notre Dame --History**

US and European History  
Behavioral Sciences

**Teaching Experience:**

Taught part-time at California State University, Stanislaus 1989-1995

Portland Community College, 1995-present

Department Chair, 2000-2003

**COURSE OUTLINE**

You are expected to read the material and come to class prepared. Note: This is a tentative schedule; the instructor reserves the right to modify it as circumstances change.

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
9/25	Introduction IR theories	CH 1, 2
10/2	Continue Theories	CH 3
10/9	The State System/Challenges	CH 4, 6
	*Cambodia is used as an example of a failed State during the Khmer Rouge Period	
10/16	IGOs/NGOs	CH 5, 7
	*Several examples from Cambodia and Vietnam on the work of Intergovernmental and non-Governmental organizations in improving the political, economic and social recovery of these devastated societies.	
10/23	Faculty In-service. No Class	
	<b>10/25 EXAM # 1</b>	
10/30	Political Economy	CH 10, 11, 12
	*Both Cambodia and Vietnam are used as examples of developing economies: Vietnam is seen as a success, while Cambodia is still struggling.	
11/6	Security Dilemma	CH 9
11/13	International Law & Human Rights	CH 8
	*The Human Rights violation and International law a highly applicable to the discussion on the Khmer Rouge Genocide and the International Tribunal.	

## 11/20 EXAM # 2

11/27 SUMMIT Discussion  
12/4 SUMMIT  
Summit Project Paper Due Dec 6.

**Meet Thurs Dec 13. 11-1 Wrap-up and return summit papers.**

### PS 205 Global Politics

A Summit - Resolving International Problems

#### **Conceptual Outcomes:**

This activity gives students an opportunity to explore alternative views of global problems. By conducting careful research, the students develop an understanding of a nation-state's worldview and the policy priorities, which emerge from this perspective.

Students are involved in research, the application and synthesis of basic data, and the comparison of values and assumptions about how the world works. Finally, students learn to write concise policy recommendations.

#### **Procedure:**

You have been asked to participate in a significant international event: a summit conference aimed at identifying and then proposing solutions to global or international problems. These problems threaten our international stability and influence or affect most citizens in the world.

The agenda for this conference will be decided by 5 states. These countries have been asked to prepare the agenda for the larger conference. The states are listed below:

China            India            Russia  
**Vietnam**        Japan

This is a cooperative learning project. Your team will represent one of these countries. As a team you should complete the following tasks:

- 1) Using journals such as Current History or resources such as the CIA World Fact Book, UN site, various embassy sites, to develop a profile of interests for your assigned country. What are its policy priorities and what worldviews prevail in your society?

\*Vietnam is one of the Countries that students would represent at the summit:  
What position has your country supported in economic, environmental military, and socio-cultural policy issue areas?

- 2) Once you know something about your country, master and adapt a worldview, which is consistent with your country's past and present policy priorities.

- 3) As a group representing your country and its worldview, develop an agenda of policy issues, which you would like the summit to address. You might include human rights issues, war and violence, and global poverty, environmental issues, security, etc. Be prepared to explain the causes of these problems and suggest effective policy responses, which are consistent with your country's interests and priorities.

Definition: **Worldview** - basic values and assumptions which people use to describe the world around them. An individual uses his/her worldview to identify problems and evaluate and analyze policies aimed at responding to these problems. Also, from worldviews emerge theories, which we use to explain issues and events. For example, a Marxist would most likely explain persistent inequality by focusing on the failures of capitalism.

#### **Discussion Activity:** (After the research)

After preliminary work with your country team, the entire group of states will come together with the purpose of developing a specific agenda. Only 5 items may appear on the final agenda for the global conference. In this 5 state preliminary summit, you are to do the following:

#### **Assignments**

Twice during the quarter you are to prepare a 1-page single –spaced paper based on reading 3 articles in the local press related to your country. State the main points of the articles and how they relate to the issues(theories, organizations, concepts ) that have been discussed in lecture and/or book. Due dates are based on the group you are assigned:

Group 1	10/4 and 11/8	Group 3	10/18 and 11/29
Group 2	10/11 and 11/15	Group 4	11/1 and 12/6

**PRESUMMIT:** Background: Relevant statistical and other information on the condition of your country. Provide a handout to class . By Nov 20

#### **SUMMIT** Beginning Nov 27

- 1) Present your country's suggestions to the group of 5 states.

(Provide 1 page typed outline of those suggestions to Instructor)

2) After your discussion of each state's list, the entire group should try to reach consensus on 5 policy problems for the upcoming summit. The method of selecting these issues is left to the group. The goal is to reach agreement on 5 issues; however, this may not be possible.

**NOTE:** The purpose of the summit is to get assistance from other countries in cooperating on a major problem in your country. In other words, "What do you want the international community to do about this problem and what are you willing to do in return?"

### **Debriefing Questions**

1) Evaluate and critically review the agenda items presented by the other five countries.

2) Were you able to reach consensus on 4 items? Why or why not?

3) Were some issues more acceptable than others?

4) Did your national interest prevent acceptance of some issues?

5) Are there some global problems, which are better left to a few powerful and influential states? Why? Which states?

6) What could be the role of NGOs and IGOs?

Include a 2-3 page outline of the responses to these questions in addition to the writing assignment below. Your responses are based on your observation of the summit.

### **Policy Recommendation Paper (5-6 pages)**

A) Identify one of the policy problems on your country's list and develop a policy strategy statement. Your statement should include the following:

1) A *description* of the global problem

2) An *explanation* of causes of this problem

3) A *prediction* of future conditions in this area if nothing is done

4) A set of *policy recommendations* aimed at responding to the problem (This should be from your own perspective BUT keeping in mind the worldview of your country.

- Use standard citation for your resources.
- You should provide a bibliography and cite the works within the body of the paper.
- Use at least 10 different sources.

**Final Report should include:** Background information sheet, Outline of major problems, Debriefing Question responses, and final Policy Recommendation Paper. All should be stapled together in that order.