

Syllabus for PS 240 Section 1, "World Politics"

Fall 2009

Christopher Butler, Associate Professor

Contact Information:

Main Lecture: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 - 9:50 AM
in Bandelier Hall East 105

Instructor's Office: SSCI 2051

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Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays from 10:00 to 12:00, Wednesdays from 10:00 to 11:00, and
by appointment.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of International Relations. It will do so by surveying the key actors, issues, concepts, processes, patterns, and historical events that have shaped and continue to influence world politics. The course will provide students with knowledge of the historical antecedents of international affairs to aid understanding of foreign governments and societies, knowledge of world geography to understand the geographic context of foreign relations and U.S. foreign policy, knowledge of the basic principles of international economics and major contemporary international economic issues (four of twelve areas on the knowledge section of the U.S. Foreign Service Officer Written Examination). Course topics include the nature of politics, political power and decision-making, causes of war and peace, national security, domestic politics effects on international relations, political leadership, trade, technology, and the global revolution in communications and interdependence.

Class Webpage: <http://www.unm.edu/~ckbutler/ps240>

Class Readings:

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse. 2009. *International Relations*, brief fifth edition.
Pearson Longman.

Student Responsibilities:

Reading. Each student is expected to complete assigned readings before its corresponding lecture.

Current Events. Students are expected to keep up on current events related to international news since such events will be used as examples in class.

Participation. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions and join discussion during class.

Attendance. Students are expected to attend all lectures.

Academic Integrity. Students are expected to comply with University policies regarding academic integrity. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated.

Basic Policies:

Make-up Policy. If a student has a University-approved excuse for missing an examination AND if the instructor is notified PRIOR to the examination, arrangements for a make-up examination will be made. This policy is for exams only.

Late Written Assignments. Written assignments (i.e., Reading Responses) turned in late will be docked 10 points.

Timeliness of Web Assignments. On-line assignments (i.e., Quizzes) will only be posted for one week from the date each is due.

Completion. Grades of incomplete (I) will only be given in extraordinary circumstances.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact me as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met in a timely manner. Handouts are available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

Course Work and Grading:

Students will be evaluated on their understanding of the class material using the following grading system:

Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	35%
On-line Quizzes (4)	20%
Writing Assignments (5)	25%
	<hr/>
	100%

Assignments will be graded on a percentage basis. Writing Assignments (averaging one page each) will be graded following the attached general rubric.

Exams:

The dates of exams are listed on the course schedule.

A study guide will be handed out at least one week prior to each exam. The study guide will contain a list of definition terms and potential essay questions as well as topics for multiple-choice questions. Each exam will have three sections. One section will have multiple-choice questions, another section will have fill-in-the-blank/definitions, and the last section will be an essay section.

The final exam will be cumulative.

Final grades will be determined according to the following scale.

<u>Percentage Earned</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
99.0 and above	A+
95.0 to 98.9	A
91.0 to 94.9	A-
87.0 to 90.9	B+
83.0 to 86.9	B
79.0 to 82.9	B-
75.0 to 78.9	C+
71.0 to 74.9	C
67.0 to 70.9	C-
63.0 to 66.9	D+
59.0 to 62.9	D
55.0 to 58.9	D-
below 55.0	F

General Grading Rubric for Writing Assignments

Assessment Criteria	6	82	86	90	94	98	100
	5	78	82	86	90	94	96
	4	70	74	78	82	86	88
	3	62	66	70	74	78	80
	2	54	58	62	66	70	72
	1	46	50	54	58	62	64
		1	2	3	4	5	6
		Quality of Writing					

Assessment Criteria (Generic)

Quality of Writing Scale

6	Covers all points raised in the assignment with appropriate depth and relevance. Correctly identifies and appropriately discusses all relevant sections(s) of the assigned document.	6	Paragraph structure with topic sentences, introductory and concluding paragraphs. All sentences complete; no spelling, typographical, or grammar errors. All evidence and quotations cited properly.
5	Covers most points raised in the assignment with appropriate depth and relevance. Correctly identifies and appropriately discusses most relevant sections(s) of the assigned document.	5	Paragraph structure with topic sentences, introductory and concluding paragraphs. All sentences complete; few spelling, typographical, or grammar errors. All evidence and quotations cited.
4	May cover all points raised in the assignment but lacks depth or may be off target. Correctly identifies most relevant sections(s) of the assigned document but may not discuss them appropriately.	4	Paragraph structure but topic sentences, introductory and concluding paragraphs may be weak or lacking. Few incomplete sentences; some spelling, typographical, or grammar errors. Most evidence and quotations cited.
3	Does not cover all points raised in the assignment and/or lacks depth or may be off target. Correctly identifies some relevant sections(s) of the assigned document but may not discuss them appropriately.	3	Paragraph structure but topic sentences, introductory and concluding paragraphs may be weak or lacking. Few incomplete sentences; some or many spelling, typographical, or grammar errors. Citations sporadic or missing.
2	Does not cover all points raised in the assignment, lacks depth, and is off target. Does not correctly identify relevant sections(s) of the assigned document but may discuss some other sections of the document appropriately even though off target.	2	May have paragraph structure. Some incomplete sentences; many spelling, typographical, or grammar errors. Citations sporadic or missing.
1	Does not cover all points raised in the assignment, lacks depth, and is off target. Does not correctly identify relevant sections(s) of the assigned document or discusses some other sections of the document but inappropriately.	1	Paragraph structure lacking or weak. Many incomplete sentences; many spelling, typographical, or grammar errors. Citations sporadic or missing.

- Late assignments are docked 10 points.
- Acknowledging people (in an initial footnote) who sparked ideas or commented on your writing is a good thing.
- Assignments found to be plagiarized will receive a grade of zero; further action may be taken.

Lecture and Reading Schedule for PS 240-1
Fall 2009

Monday		Wednesday		Friday	
Aug 24	Political Order in the International System	Aug 26	People, Power, and Preferences Goldstein ch.1 & pp. 37-40	Aug 28	Basic Frameworks: Realism Goldstein ch. 2
Aug 31	Activity 1: Balance of Power	Sep 2	<i>No Class Conference</i>	Sep 4	<i>No Class Conference</i>
Sep 7	The State, Violence, and Sovereignty	Sep 9	Basic Frameworks: Liberalism Goldstein pp. 63-72	Sep 11	Activity 2: Regime Type and Conflict
Sep 14	Foreign Policy and Substate Actors Goldstein pp. 72-87	Sep 16	Other Frameworks Goldstein pp. 87-108	Sep 18 Q1	International Conflict Goldstein pp. 109-139
Sep 21	Military Force Goldstein pp. 139-163	Sep 23	Activity 3: Bargaining over Territory	Sep 25	International Law Goldstein pp. 241-243
Sep 28	International Law Focus: Nonproliferation Treaty (on-line) R1	Sep 30	International Governmental Organizations Goldstein pp. 209-213, 244-249	Oct 2 Q2	United Nations: Overview Goldstein pp. 213-228, 243-244
Oct 5	United Nations: The Role of Non-State Actors	Oct 7	United Nations: Peace Keeping United Nations Charter (on-line) R2	Oct 9	<i>Catch up</i>
Oct 12	<i>Study Session</i>	Oct 14	Midterm Exam	Oct 16	<i>No Class Fall Break</i>
Oct 19	International Political Economy	Oct 21	Trade Strategies Goldstein pp. 164-183	Oct 23	Activity 4: International Trade
Oct 26	Gains from Trade versus Protectionism	Oct 28	Multinational Business Goldstein pp. 200-208	Oct 30	The World Trade Organization on-line readings R3
Nov 2	Integration and the EU Goldstein pp. 228-241	Nov 4	Activity 5: North American Integration	Nov 6 Q3	The Currency System Goldstein pp. 188-200
Nov 9	International Comparisons: If the World Were a Village...	Nov 11	International Law Focus: Goldstein pp. 249-259	Nov 13	International Law Focus: Universal Declaration of Human Rights (on-line) R4
Nov 16	Modern Economic History Goldstein pp. 183-188, 260-271	Nov 18	Development: Theories Goldstein pp. 271-289	Nov 20	Current North-South Interactions Goldstein pp. 289-305
Nov 23	Development: Sustainability Goldstein ch. 306-333	Nov 25	<i>No Class Thanksgiving</i>	Nov 27	<i>No Class Thanksgiving</i>
Nov 30	Development Activities: The UNDP versus Micro-Loans	Dec 2	Activity 6: A New Global Order, Part 1	Dec 4 Q4	Activity 6: A New Global Order, Part 2
Dec 7	Activity 6: A New Global Order, Part 3	Dec 9	<i>Catch up R5</i>	Dec 11	<i>Study Session</i>
Dec 14	Final Exam (9:00-11:00 AM)				

* Schedule subject to revision.