

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. COURSE ID: PLSC 130 **TITLE:** International Relations **C-ID:** POLS 140

Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours; and 96.0-108.0 Homework hours

Method of Grading: Letter Grade Only

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ENGL 105, and completion of, or concurrent enrollment in, any READ 400-level course.

2. COURSE DESIGNATION:

Degree Credit

Transfer credit: CSU; UC

AA/AS Degree Requirements:

CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5b. Social Science

CSU GE:

CSU GE Area D: SOCIAL SCIENCES: DSI - Social Institutions

IGETC:

IGETC Area 4: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES: Social and Behavioral Sciences

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Catalog Description:

Introduction to the nature of relations among nation-states, and non state actors within the global system. Basic forces affecting the formulation of foreign policy and the dynamics of international politics will be analyzed. Covers the nation-state system, sources of national power, instruments of national policy, international law and organization, and 21st Century challenges presented by globalization and terrorism.

4. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Effectively communicate the impact of state and non-state actors on the development and implementation of foreign policy and international relations.
2. Critically analyze theories of international relations.
3. Discuss the impact of ethnic, cultural and economic diversity on international relations.
4. Evaluate ethical issues and conflicts inherent to international political issues.

5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Effectively communicate the impact of state and non-state actors on the development and implementation of foreign policy and international relations.
2. Critically analyze theories of international relations.
3. Discuss the impact of ethnic, cultural and economic diversity on international relations.
4. Evaluate ethical issues and conflicts inherent to international political issues.

6. COURSE CONTENT:

Lecture Content:

1. Introduction: Exploring the Theory and Practice of 21st Century World Politics.
 - A. Theoretical Underpinning: Overarching Paradigms
 - a. Realism
 - b. Neo-realism
 - c. Liberalism
 - d. Neo-liberalism
 - e. Constructivism
 - f. Feminism
 - g. Neo-Marxism
2. The Nation-State System and Non-State Actors.
 - A. Origins and Development of the Nation-State System.
 - B. Post-Cold War Transformation of the Global Community.
 - C. Non-State Actors.
3. Foreign Policy Decision-Making.

- A. Formulation of Foreign Policy.
- B. Sources of National Power.
- C. Instruments of Foreign Policy.
 - a. Military Force.
 - b. Economic Policy and Globalization.
 - c. Diplomacy.
 - d. Colonialism and Imperialism.
 - e. Propaganda.
 - f. Intelligence.
- 4. Quest for Peace.
 - A. Collective Security.
 - B. Economic Cooperation.
 - C. International Law.
 - D. United Nations System and Global Organization.
 - E. Regional Integration.
 - F. Strategies to address the Post-Cold War Challenges of Arms Control and Global Terrorism.
- 5. Contemporary Issues in International Relations
 - A. Application of Theoretical Concepts to Events (International Law, Human Rights, Globalization)
- 6. Conclusion. Integrating National, Regional and Global Interests in an Age of Interdependence: Prospects for the Global Future.

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Discussion
- C. Guest Speakers
- D. Other (Specify): Lecture/discussion. Group discussions/presentations. Readings in the textbook and ancillary source books. Visual materials (films, videos, DVDs, etc.) to enhance presentation of material. Research papers/presentation in which critical analysis and mastery of material is assessed.

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

Short answer questions, essays, research papers, reports on events and programs, reports on service learning activities.

Reading Assignments:

Reading assignments in textbook; articles in newsmagazines like the Time and The Economist, and in newspapers like the New York Times; websites.

Other Outside Assignments:

Oral presentations.

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Class Participation
- B. Exams/Tests
- C. Group Projects
- D. Homework
- E. Oral Presentation
- F. Papers
- G. Projects
- H. Quizzes
- I. Research Projects
- J. Written examination

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Kegley, C.W., and Blanton, S.L.. *World Politics - Trend and Transformation*, 16th ed. Cengage Learning, 2016
- B. Nau, H.R.. *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas*, 4th ed. CQ Press, 2014
- C. Scott, J.M.; Carter, R.G.; and Drury, A.C.. *IR*, 1st ed. Cengage Learning, 2014

D. Art, R., & Jervis, R.. *International Politics: Enduring Concepts & Contemporary Issues*, 13 ed. Pearson, 2016

E. Viotti, P.R. & Kauppi, M.V.. *International Relations and World Politics*, 5 ed. Pearson, 2013

F. Friden, J.A., D.A. Lake, and K.A. Schultz. *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, 3rd ed. W.W. Norton, 2015

Other:

A. Global Issues (CQ Researcher, 2016).

Origination Date: September 2016

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: October 2016

Effective Term: Fall 2017

Course Originator: Lee Miller