COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

The course is designed as a broad introduction to contemporary issues, actors, theories, debates, and major scholarly traditions in the study of global politics. The course examines and assesses the foundational assumptions, methods and scope of the issues of global politics as defined by various perspectives on and approaches to the study of world politics. In doing so the course introduces the students to core concepts necessary for understanding how the world, although diverse in composition and divided against itself, governs its affairs and decides whose preferences will win out and whose welfare will be fostered in ways that are viewed as legitimate and authoritative by the contending populations of the globe.

The course is structured into lectures (Mondays and Wednesdays) and weekly discussion sessions. The lectures take a thematic approach to the various issues that world politics deals with. At the same time the thematic approach is seasoned with a reasonable amount of conceptual/theoretical discussion to anchor our understanding of world politics both on solid empirical and theoretical grounds.

Students are thus expected to fully acquaint themselves with the themes discussed in the lectures and discussions sections such as the politics of security, the politics of justice, and the politics of the environment, etc. The students are also expected to fully grasp the meaning and scope of concepts such as power, identity, and international political economy, etc. At the end of the semester the students will have acquired enough knowledge (both empirical and theoretical) to be able to form their own critical and knowledgeable views on many important issues of global politics.

COURSE READINGS

- All required readings are available on the canvas site for the course in the folder called ‘Files’ on canvas. Download the zip file to your computer and unzip it.
- The readings are divided into weekly readings (each week has a folder)
- There are two types of readings for each week. When you open a weekly folder you will find that:
The required readings are grouped in one folder called ‘required’ – this is what you must read before you come to class on Monday.

There is a second folder called ‘recommended’ – it is highly recommended (but not required) that you read a few (if not all) of these readings in addition to the required ones so as to increase your knowledge of the issues and themes being discussed during the week.

In addition to these readings, students are encouraged to read on a daily basis the international news sections of major newspapers such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Christian Science Monitor (www.nyt.com, www.washingtonpost.com, www.csmonitor.com), as well as others of their choosing.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

GRADES WILL BE BASED ON:

1. Four in-class exams
2. Eight surprise- quizzes held during discussion sessions
3. Class attendance and participation (both in the lecture and discussion sessions as well as in canvas)

DESCRIPTION OF EXAMS

Each exam consists of two sections, each with equal weight on the exam grade.

1. First section: you will be required to answer five out of seven ID questions in no more than a paragraph of 4-5 lines each. The topics will be drawn from the required readings and lectures.
2. Second section: you will be required to write one out of two possible essays about topics from the required readings and lectures.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

- Students are required to attend class (lecture and discussion) sessions on a regular basis. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.
- Students are also required to complete all the readings in a timely fashion, as specified by the course outline.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- Four in-class exams: 16% each → 4 X 16% = 64%
- Eight quizzes: 2% each → 8 X 2% = 16%
- Attendance = 10% – attendance will be taken at the beginning of every lecture and discussion session: 5% for lectures and 5% for discussion sessions.
- Participation in discussion sessions = 5%.
- Participation in canvas discussions = 5%.
Your final cumulative score will be translated into a letter grade according to the following schedule: 93 points or higher = A; 90–92.9 = A-; 87–89.9 = B+; 83–86.9 = B; 80–82.9 = B-; 77–79.9 = C+; 73–76.9 = C; 70–72.9 = C-; 67–69.9 = D+; 63–66.9 = D; 60–62.9 = D-; <60 = E. Information on UF’s grading policies is posted at http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html

IMPORTANT DATES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes Begin</th>
<th>August 21</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holidays</td>
<td>September 4: Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>No classes</td>
<td>October 6 - 7: Homecoming</td>
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<td>November 10 - 11: Veterans Day</td>
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<td>November 22 - 25: Thanksgiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Days - no classes</td>
<td>December 7-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>December 9-15</td>
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IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Incomplete grades may be granted under very special circumstances as supported by valid official documentation (in accordance with the university regulations). Any student seeking such accommodation must request it prior to the deadline for the specific assignment.
- Retroactive extensions/incompletes will not be granted under any circumstances.
- The instructor reserves the right to change any part or aspect of this document should a need for doing so emerge at any point in time during the semester.
- Online course evaluation process: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu.
- Per university rules there is a zero-percent tolerance on cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, conspiracy, fabrication (see university definitions down below).

UF POLICIES:

- **University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:** Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the
quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

- **University Policy on Academic Misconduct:** Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php).

**LEGAL DEFINITIONS**

(a) **Cheating** — The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes, but is not limited to, copying graded homework assignments from another student; working together with another individual(s) on a take-home test or homework when not specifically permitted by the teacher; looking or attempting to look at another student's paper during an examination; looking or attempting to look at text or notes during an examination when not permitted. Tendering of information includes, but is not limited to, giving your work to another student to be used or copied; giving someone answers to exam questions either when the exam is being given or after having taken an exam; giving or selling a term paper or other written materials to another student; sharing information on a graded assignment.

(b) **Plagiarism** — The attempt to and/or act of representing the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is published or unpublished, or simply the work of a fellow student. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on an exam, term paper, homework, or other written materials or oral presentations for an academic requirement; submitting a paper which was purchased from a term paper service as your own work; submitting anyone else's paper as your own work.

(c) **Bribery** — The offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of any materials, items or services of value to gain academic advantage for yourself or another.

(d) **Misrepresentation** — Any act or omission of information to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes using computer programs generated by another and handing it in as your own work unless expressly allowed by the teacher; lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic dishonesty.

(e) **Conspiracy** — The planning or acting with one or more persons to commit any form of academic dishonesty to gain academic advantage for yourself or another.

(f) **Fabrication** — The use of invented or fabricated information, or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive for academic or professional advantage.

**GETTING HELP:**

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- [https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml)

Other resources are available at [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help) for:
• Counseling and Wellness resources
• Disability resources
• Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
• Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.

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**Weekly Required Readings, Outline of the Course, and Exams Dates**

**Week 1 / August 21 – 23: World Politics?**
- Maja Zehfuss. 2014. What Can We Do to Change the World?

**Week 2 / August 28 – 30: Global Politics: The Roles of Knowledge and Technology**

**Week 3/September 6: World Politics Because People Mattered**
- Jeffrey Haynes. 2017. Voices of the People.

**Week 4/ September 11 -13: The Lures and Frustrations of Power and Security Politics**
- Lamont Colucci. 2015. Great Power Conflict - Will It Return?
- Tim Rinne. 2010. Space as the Ultimate Imperial Base.
- Yan Xuetong. 2015. Why a Bipolar World Is More Likely than a Unipolar or Multipolar One.

EXAM I – September 13
Week 5/ September 18 – 20: International Governmental Organizations and World order and Governance

- Alex Vines. 2007. Can UN Arms Embargoes in Africa Be Effective?
- Craig N. Murphy. 2014. Global Governance over the Long Haul.


Week 7/ October 2 – 4: Migration and Borders: Politics, Economics, and Security


Shazia Qureshi. 2013. The Recognition of Violence against Women as a Violation of Human Rights in the UN.

EXAM II – October 11

Week 9/ October 16 – 18: The Politics of Justice, Inequality, and Violence

- Paul Cammack. 2014. Why Are Some People Better off than Others?

Week 10/ October 23 – 25: The Politics, Security, and Economics of Cyberspace

- Nazli Choucri. 2012. Cyberpolitics in International Relations.

Week 11/ October 30 – November 1: Resources, Energy, and Environmental Politics

- Carl Death. 2014. Can We Save the Planet?

Week 12/ November 6 – 8: The Politics of Religions in the Twenty-First Century

- Peter Mandaville. 2014. How Do Religious Beliefs Affect Politics?

EXAM III – November 8

Week 13/ November 13 – 15: Regional Politics, Security, and Economics: Asia and the Pacific

- Bill Powell. 2017. The 800-Pound Bear in the Room.
- Nikhil Kumar. 2015. The Next Global Player: Narendra Modi Wants to Change India. Will He Succeed?
- Kunal Mukherjee. 2014. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

Week 14/ November 20: Regional Politics, Security, and Economics: The Middle East and Europe

- Waleed Hazbun. 2015. A History of Insecurity: From the Arab Uprisings to ISIS.
• Naina Bajekal. 2015. Europe New Borders’ Crisis.
• Imad Salamey. 2015. Post-Arab Spring – Changes and Challenges.
• Jakub Grygiel. 2016. The Return of Europe’s Nation-States.
• John Bew. 2014. The Tragic Cycle.

**Week 15/ November 27 – 29: Regional Politics, Security, and Economics: Africa**

• Stephanie Kumah and Samuel Brazys. 2016. Democracy or Accountability? Governance and Social Spending in Africa.
• Ivor Ichikowitz. 2015. Making the Case for Security ... Africa Is in a Much Better Place than it Ever Was Before.

**Week 16/ December 4: Regional Politics, Security, and Economics: The Americas**

• Hal Brands and Peter Feaver. 2016. Should America Retrench?

**EXAM IV – December 6**