

## World Politics World Politics

UNLV

Course No. PSC 231-001

Semester: Spring 2007

Classroom: WRI C301

Day and Time: M W 8:30am-9:45am      Office Hours: Monday 10:15am-12:15pm and Wednesday 10:15am- 11:15am

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### COURSE PURPOSE AND DISCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to outline basic theories of International Relations and to familiarize the student with the important actors and organizations that heavily influence the global political atmosphere. This will be done by introducing the student to prominent world system theories, such as Realism, Liberalism, as well as theories of international security and political economy.

Upon completion of this course students are expected to have:

- develop the skills necessary for analyzing the roles of different state and non state actors in relation to world politics
- develop a general understanding of IR theory and the major contemporary debates which surround them

### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

The required text for this course is:

Goldstein & Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 2006-07 Edition, Pearson-Longman (ISBN: 0321434307)

\*\*Further readings will be required but these materials will be available to you through library services.

### INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:

This class will be conducted via a series of lectures and class discussions. A schedule of lecture and discussion topics, as well as reading assignments, is provided below. However, be aware that additional reading may be added to the schedule, and that the schedule itself may change due to time constraints. Any changes will be announced at least a week in advance.

### ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

You will be required to complete the following:

- 3 tests
- 2 Quizzes
- and one final exam

All tests will include a combination of multiple choice, identification, true and false, and short answer questions.

### STUDENT EVALUATION:

Your final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

Attendance: 10%

Participation: 10%

First Test: 15%

2nd Test: 15%

Third Test: 15%

Quiz 1: 5%

Quiz 2: 5%

Final Exam: 25%

### GRADING:

All final numerical grades will be transcribed into letter grades as follows:

100-93= A

75- 73= C

92- 89 = A-

72- 69= C-

88- 86= B+	68- 66= D+
85- 83= B	65- 63= D
82- 79= B-	62- 59= D-
78-76= C+	58- 0 = F

### CLASS POLICIES:

1. Attendance: Attendance is taken and counts toward part of your final grade. Anyone coming to class more than 15 minutes late or leaving more than 15 minutes early will be counted as absent.
2. Class participation: Class participation also counts toward your final grade. Discussion periods are specifically designed to evaluate your performance. Keeping up with your reading and preparing in advance for discussion will help you achieve a high grade in this area.
3. Exam and Missed Test Policy: If a student has an extraordinary, legitimate, and proven reason for missing a test (such as religious holidays or extracurricular activities), and the instructor is notified at least 2 weeks prior to the test date, arrangements for a make-up can be made during the semester. Otherwise, all students can make-up any missed tests on the last day of class. Note: that the format of the make-up tests will not necessarily be the same as that of the regularly scheduled test. The final exam must be taken at the scheduled date during finals week. No make ups or early final exams will be given.
5. Late Papers. For the purposes of fairness, students who do not turn in their written assignments on time will be penalized at the rate of 5 points per day (including weekends and holidays).
7. Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism, Cheating): Such instances may (and will most likely) result in a FAILURE for the entire course. See the “Student Academic Misconduct Policy.”

### LECTURE, DISCUSSION, AND READING SCHEDULE:

#### Week 1

#### **January 17<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* Introduction and Studying IR

*Assigned Reading-* Goldstein- Chapter 1 (pages 3-24)

#### Week 2

#### **January 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* History of World Politics

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 1 (pages 24-53 be sure to read the Lets Debate) and Poster, Mark, “National Identities and Communications Technologies” *Information Society*, Oct-Dec99, Vol. 15 Issue 4, p235-240.

*Discussion Questions:* Have states lost their sovereignty? If so, is this a good or bad thing?

#### Week 3

#### **January 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>**

*Lecture:* Power and Bargaining

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 2

#### Week 4

#### **February 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* Debating the nature of the International system: IR theories

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 3 (pages 99-121) and Tickner, J. Ann, “Why Women Can’t Run the World,” *International Studies Review*, Fall99, Vol. 1 Issue 3, p3-12.

*Discussion Question:* Does realism display a distinctively male approach to studying IR? Are women more peaceful than men? Are there any dangers in making these assumptions?

#### Week 5

#### **February 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* IR theories continued

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 3 (131-137)

**\*\*\*Test on Wednesday**

#### Week 6

#### **February 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

*Lecture:* The Foreign Policy Process

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 4

Week 7

**February 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* International Conflict

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 5 (be sure to read the Lets Debate), "Al Qaeda's New Strategies," *American Foreign Policy Interests*, Apr2005, Vol. 27 Issue 2, p149-151, and Crockatt, Richard, "No Common Ground," *European Journal of American Culture*, 2004, Vol. 23

Issue 2, p125-142.

*Discussion Topics:* What is meant by the term "clash of civilizations?" Is there an inevitable clash between the West and the Islamic world?

Week 8

**March 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* Military Force

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 6 and "By the Dawn the Islamists Were Gone," *Economist*, January 6<sup>th</sup> 2007, p41-42.

*Discussion Questions:* What are the prospects for peace in Somalia?

**Quiz on Monday**

**\*\*\*\*March 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> is Spring Break (Have a nice break!!!)**

Week 9

**March 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

*Lecture:* International Law and Organization

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 7 (pages 251-273)

**\*\*\*\*Test on Wednesday**

Week 10

**March 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* International Law continued

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 7 (273-294), "Briefing: the United Nations," *Economist*, January 6<sup>th</sup> 2007, p 20-24.

*Discussion Question:* In what way should the UN be reformed? What kinds of challenges does the UN face in reference to peacekeeping?

Week 11

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* International Trade

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 8

Week 12

**April 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>**

November 13th and 15th

*Lecture:* Integration

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein -Chapter 10 and TBA

*Discussion Question:* TBA

**Quiz on Monday**

Week 13

**April 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* Money and Business

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein-Chapter 9

**\*\*\*\*Test on Wednesday**

Week 14

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>**

*Lecture:* International Development

*Assigned Reading:* Goldstein- Chapter 13 and TBA

*Discussion Question:* TBA

Week 15

**April 30<sup>th</sup>-May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Lecture:* Catch up and Review for Exam

Final Exam: **Date and time TBA**

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

*Copyright Law:* The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. YOU ARE INDIVIDUALLY AND SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL NEITHER PROTECT NOR DEFEND YOU NOR ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT VIOLATIONS OF FAIR USE LAWS. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. To familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, you are encouraged to visit the following website: <<http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright/>>

*Disability Resource Center (DRC):* The Executive Vice President and Provost and Faculty Senate have endorsed the following statement to be included in all course syllabi

NOTE: Over two-thirds of the students in the DRC reported that the syllabus statement, often read aloud by the faculty during class, directed them to the DRC office. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The DRC is the official office to review and house disability documentation for students, and to provide them with an official Academic Accommodation Plan to present to the faculty if an accommodation is warranted. The DRC strongly encourages faculty to provide accommodations only if and when they are in receipt of said plan. Faculty should not provide students accommodations without being in receipt of this plan. UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, offering reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137, and the contact numbers are: VOICE (702) 895-0866, TTY (702) 895-0652, FAX (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: <<http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/>>.

*RebelMail:* Student's UNLV e-mail account (RebelMail) is one of the primary ways students will receive official university communication: information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a RebelMail account after they have been admitted to the university. For more information, see <<http://rebelmail.unlv.edu/>>.