INR 3016.1
Global Political Issues

Fall 2013
Credit hours: 3

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Class meets: T R 09:00 AM – 10:15 AM at PSY 111
Office Hours: T R F 10:30 to 12:00, and by appointment.

Course Goals

Achieve an accurate and in-depth understanding of global political issues; improve ability to think; promote research and writing skills.

UCF Catalogue Description

Current global political topics from political development and income gap to gender issues and environmental challenges. Pre-requisites: POS 2041 (American National Government) or C.I.

Detailed Section-specific Description of the Course

Topics include the causes of war, global development, roots of terrorism, global anti-Americanism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the politics of oil, global warming, and the protection of human rights. Part I begins with the evolution of the international system, including coverage of the concrete historical events that have shaped our world. From this foundation Part II proceeds with some of the most important issues of our day.

Required Text

The course text is the reader *Global Political Issues*, designed specifically by your instructor for this course with McGraw-Hill. Pages are assigned according to the order of the lectures, not the order of the text.

Course Web Page

All lecture Power Point slides, including historical clips and graphs, as well as extraneous supplementary materials, will be made available on the course web page.

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation

1. The course is structured around the lectures, so you are highly encouraged to regularly attend, pay attention, participate, and ask questions. Doing so will make a huge difference in your personal growth and global awareness.
2. It is best to read the material *before* the week it is assigned.
3. Evaluation is as follows:

a. One midterm exam, 40%. Scheduled for the end of Part I during week 6. Short-answer questions on the lectures and readings.
b. Final exam, 40%. Scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 7:00 AM – 9:50 AM. Short-answer questions on the lectures and readings.
c. Paper, 20%. Select a global political issue that interests you and seek to explain it. Begin by introducing the issue, including the historical context; be sure to identify the leading actors and their preferences/positions. Your core task is to offer your best explanation for why the actors have the positions they hold. A good paper explains the issue concisely and convincingly; this means addressing as well counter-points that may arise. Notes:
    i. The task is to develop your own thesis: you should generally refrain from reviewing the arguments of others.
    ii. You should try to select an issue that is not directly covered in class, though your issue can be related to a topic covered in class.
    iii. ***Your issue must be approved by me. This can be in person after class or during office hours, or by email.
    iv. Some light research will be necessary. Wikipedia is an acceptable cited source.
    v. Expected length is 8-12 pages. Double-spaced 12-point Palatino font using standard margins.
    vi. Turn in an electronic copy only, in Microsoft Word.
    vii. Note section 'Tips on Writing a Good Term Paper' below.
    viii. Due in my emailbox the first morning after the last day of class at 8:00 am.

Course Outline and Readings

Part I	**How the World Works**
Weeks 1-2	<u>Why the World is Divided into States</u> Of interest (not required): • The full text of the Peace Treaty of Westphalia can be found at http://avalon.law.yale.edu/17th_century/westphal.asp.
Weeks 2-3	<u>How the Imperial Order Came to an End</u> Of interest (not required): • A short review of the Atlantic Charter can be viewed at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_Charter
Weeks 4-5	<u>The Rules and Norms of Today's Global Order</u> Is the Use and Threat of Force Necessary in International Relations?: *Chapter 13 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014* International Security: The Alternative Road: *Chapter 11 from International Politics on the World Stage, 12th Edition by Rourke, 2008.*

Recommended (not required):
William Appleman Williams, *The Tragedy of American Diplomacy* (W W Norton (1959) 2009). This classic work documents how the core aim of US foreign policy is the search for markets.
Benn Steil, *The Battle of Bretton Woods: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White, and the Making of a New World Order* (Princeton University Press, 2013). Narrative describes how the blueprint for the post-World War II economic order was drawn.
Richard H. Immerman, *The CIA in Guatemala: The Foreign Policy of Intervention* (University of Texas Press, 1982). Recounts the American backed overthrow of the government of Guatemala in 1954.

Week 6 Back up & Midterm Exam

Part II Global Political Issues

Week 7 Relations Among the Great Powers
Is China Becoming a Dangerous Superpower?: *Chapter 3 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*
Does China's Currency Manipulation Warrant International and National Action?: *Chapter 9 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014*
Should Russia Be Considered a Hostile Country?: *Chapter 2 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*

Week 8 Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
Should Force Be Used if Necessary to Prevent Iran from Acquiring Nuclear Weapons?: *Chapter 5 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*
John Hudson, "7 Things North Korea Is Really Good At", *Foreign Policy Magazine*, April 29, 2013. http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/04/29/7_things_north_korea_is_really_good_at

Week 9 The Middle East
Does the Islamist Movement Threaten the Democracy Gained in the "Arab Spring"?: *Chapter 7 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*
Are the Palestinians Blocking the Path to Peace in the Middle East?: *Chapter 4 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*

Week 10 International Terrorism and Anti-Americanism
Is Religious and Cultural Extremism a Global Security Threat?: *Chapter 16 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issues, Expanded Seventh Edition by Harf, Lombardi, 2013.*
Does Using Drones to Attack Terrorists Globally Violate International Law?: *Chapter 12 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*
Michael Mousseau, "Market Civilization and its Clash with Terror," *International Security,* Vol. 27, No. 3 (Winter 2002-2003), pp. 5-29. To be distributed.

Week 11 <u>Oil in Global Politics</u>

Recommended (not required):

Daniel Yergin, *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money, and Power* (Simon and Schuster, 1991). Cited as essential background for students of the history of oil. Lectures will review this Pulitzer prize-winning book.

Weeks 12-13 <u>Economic Development and Inequality</u>

Political Economy: *Chapter IV from Annual Editions: Global Issues 13/14, 29th Edition by Jackson, 2014.*

National Economic Competition: The Traditional Road: *Chapter 12 from International Politics on the World Stage, 12th Edition by Rourke, 2008.*

International Economic Cooperation: The Alternative Road: *Chapter 13 from International Politics on the World Stage, 12th Edition by Rourke, 2008.*

Is the Global Economic Crisis a Failure of Capitalism?: *Chapter 13 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issues, Expanded Seventh Edition by Harf, Lombardi, 2013.*

Is Economic Globalization Good for Both Rich and Poor?: *Chapter 8 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014*

Weeks 13-14 <u>Global Warming</u>

Are International Negotiations to Control Global Warming Useful?: *Chapter 17 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*

Recommended (not required):

Daniel Yergin, *The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World* (Penguin Press, 2011). This bestselling book by Pulitzer- prize-winning author Daniel Yergin describes the development of the current energy system and the prospects for the future.

Week 14 <u>Human Rights</u>

Is U.S. Refusal to Join the International Criminal Court Wise?: *Chapter 15 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, 16th Edition by Rourke, 2014.*

Is the International Community Making Effective Progress in Securing Global Human Rights?: *Chapter 21 from Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issues, Expanded Seventh Edition by Harf, Lombardi, 2013.*

Recommended (not required):

"Former Leader of Guatemala Is Guilty of Genocide Against Mayan Group." Elisabeth Malkin, *New York Times*, May 10, 2013.

Romeo Dallaire, *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda* (Random House Canada, 2003). Memoir of Force Commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) chronicles the failure of the international community to prevent the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

Make-up Exam and Late Paper Policy

Make-ups for exams will be given only for documented circumstances of illness or official college activities. Under such circumstances you are required to notify me in advance or with 24 hours after missing the exam.

Late papers are acceptable but accrue penalties of 5% reduction for each day late. Exceptions are allowed for exceptional circumstances at instructor's discretion.

Letter/Grade Equivalencies

95% - 100%	A
90% - 94.99%	A-
87% - 89.99%	B+
83% - 86.99%	B
80% - 82.99%	B -
77% - 79.99%	C +
73% - 76.99%	C
70% - 72.99%	C -
65% - 69.99%	D +
60% - 64.99%	D
Below 60%	F

Curve Policy: No curve.

Method of Grade Reporting: Webcourses@UCF.

Campus Resources

You should be aware that help is available if you are struggling with this course! First see me, your instructor: I want you to understand the material and would be most pleased to help if you are having trouble. Other resources include the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC), for supplemental instruction and academic tutoring, and the University Writing Center.

Disability Access Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone 407-823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone 407-823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Academic Conduct Statement

UCF is committed to promoting a culture of academic integrity where faculty and students work together to meet our personal, professional, and social responsibilities. A

degree from UCF is only valuable to the extent it reflects valid assessments of student learning. Misrepresenting your learning on tests, projects, reports, or papers invalidates your grades and tarnishes the credibility of UCF. While collaboration is encouraged in the learning and studying process, you should assume that all tests, quizzes, etc. require your individual effort unless explicitly directed otherwise. Unauthorized collaboration, whether voluntary or not, is cheating. Unauthorized use of materials during a test, quiz, or other assessment is cheating. Regarding papers and projects, one of the core fluencies that students need to demonstrate is the ability to discern information that is common to the public from the intellectual property of individuals. Use of protected ideas, processes, or language without attribution or proper citation is plagiarism.

Tips on Writing a Good Term Paper

- All good papers of more than several pages are divided into appropriate sections clearly marked with headings and, if appropriate, sub–headings. Then, aside from the introduction (where you say what you are going to say), and conclusion (where you say what you said), each section of the body of the paper should have an introductory paragraph, the body, and a summary/conclusion paragraph.
- Most—but not all—good paragraphs start with a topic sentence that says what the paragraph will say, and end with a summary sentence that summarizes the main point of the paragraph. Sometimes several paragraphs may be 'linked,' with one topic sentence at the top of the first paragraph, and one summary sentence at the bottom of the last paragraph. Paragraphs over one page in length are often too long, and should be broken into two or more paragraphs.
- Before you turn in your paper you should give it test: read the introduction and then, for each section, read only the introductory paragraph, the first sentence of each body paragraph, and then the summary/conclusion paragraph. Then read the conclusion section. If your reading does not flow easily and logically—and if you do not instantly remember your main points— then your paper probably is not written well.
- Once you think you have it right, give your paper to a friend to read. It is possible that what may seem understandable to you is incomprehensible to your friend. Learn what your friend does not understand, and re–draft the paper again. A good paper is re–written dozens of times. Remember that what is incomprehensible to your friend is also incomprehensible to your teacher.
- You may save time and produce a better paper by starting first by outlining each section.
- Remember that Microsoft Word has spelling and grammar check. Bad grammar and misspellings make a paper look bad. A paper is a product of your creation: a work of art, not an industrial production. Take pride in your art.
- You should cite the source every time you use someone else's arguments or quotations (otherwise you are plagiarizing). Please reference your sources in the text in the following format: (last name(s), year, page number(s)), e.g.: ". . . although some bozos think so (Mousseau, 1996, pp. 8–9)." when referring to particular pages, or " . . . some bozos think otherwise (Mousseau, 1996)." when referring to a whole article or book. Note how the period at the end of the sentence appears AFTER the cite. Of course, you must include a list of references (using a standard style) at the end of your paper.
- Use footnotes if you have something to say that does not fit well with the flow of your paper.