Introduction to International Studies  
ISTD 110

DeSmet Jesuit High School  
International Studies  
90614  
Sprin 2013

Instructor: Mr. Lenzini

Contact Information: plenzini@desmet.org

Required Text:

Students are asked to purchase just one text for this class. You may purchase this text in the book store.


Students will also be given articles from books, journals, and magazines including *Foreign Affairs, American Foreign Policy*, McGraw Hill’s *World Politics* and *World Issues*, and Sheldon Anderson’s *International Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, Roskin and Berry’s *IR: The New World of International Relations*, and *Issues for Debate in American Foreign Policy*, *The Economist, Newsweek, Time*.

Course Objectives:

- To establish a working knowledge of the events of the 20th century to establish a context for understanding the modern geopolitical dynamic.
- To develop in students an interest in global affairs.
- To explore the global paradigm shift that has taken place in the last two decades.
- To examine how history influences current global dynamics.
- To explore a few of the many issues that countries around the world will face in the coming years (e.g. Poverty, Environmental Degradation and Global Warming, Energy Monopolization and Shortages, Terrorism, Culture Clashes).
- To continue to help students to develop basic humanities-based skills (reading, writing, critical thinking, discussion and dialogue, argumentation).
- To assess global issues and politics from a Catholic perspective with an emphasis on when and how justice fits into foreign policy decisions.
- To refresh knowledge of geography fundamental to any discussion of global politics.
- To look specifically at U.S. foreign policy.
- To proceed in all learning in such a way that accords with Ignation Principles.
Structure:

IR is a one semester course in which assessment is divided into the following categories:

(20%) Quizzes:
Students will be quizzed on nearly every reading given. Students are encouraged to take hand-written notes on the texts and will be allowed to use notes on all quizzes.

(30%) Article Summaries, Critical Analysis Papers, & Presentations:
Students will be asked to write a series of 1-2 page papers in which they summarize readings or analyze a topic based on readings and class discussions. Students will also be asked to occasionally present summaries or analysis to the class.

(30%) Tests:
Students will take two tests this semester. Tests will cover material covered in class.

(15%) Final Paper:
Students will write one longer research-style paper to be assigned in the 2nd quarter of the semester.

(5%) Class Participation:
Student participation will be evaluated on every class day.

Course Outline:

- Pre-Cold War, Cold War History, and Post-Cold War History: (5 Weeks)
  - Introduction to Post-War Theory
    - Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, many have theorized about the future of the world. Explore some of the possible new paradigms.
    - Read excerpts from Samuel Huntington’s “Clash of Civilizations” and Francis Fukuyama’s *End of History and the Last Man*
  - Pre-Cold War
    - Brief review of Imperialism
    - Introduction to the creation of Israel
  - The Cold War
    - Read David Painter *The Cold War: An International History.*
    - View selected episodes of CNN’s *The Cold War.*
  - Post-Cold War
- Globalization (3 Weeks)
  - Examination of the emerging economies that are China and India.
    - Read excerpts from Fareed Zakaria’s *The Rise of the Rest.*
    - Read excerpts from Thomas Friedman’s *The World is Flat.*
  - Exploration of the recent Global Economic Collapse.
- Introduction to the Israel-Palestine Dispute (2 Weeks)
  - Trace the origins of the dispute to the present.
  - Outline efforts at and roadblocks to peace in the region.
• An introduction to the Arab World (2 Weeks)
  o Establish a context for understanding N. Africa, the Near East, Central Asia, and SE Asia.
  o Examine the roots of the Arab Spring and follow its progress.
• A Look at the Developing World with Emphasis on Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa (2 Weeks)
  o Explore the way that globalization is affecting Latin America and Africa.
  o Examine the roots of poverty and explore some of the proposed solutions in a global world.
• The Environment and Global Resources (2 Weeks)
  o An examination of the arguments regarding global warming.
  o An introduction to past resource wars and potential cites of future resource wars.
  o An examination of environmental and resource policies in Europe, United States and China.
• Nuclear Proliferation (2 Weeks)
  o Iran
  o North Korea

1818 Sign Up

International Studies at De Smet Jesuit is worth 4 credit hours. It is much to your advantage to take advantage of this opportunity.

Mr. Luecke will join us in two weeks to provide you with an explanation of the advantages of taking 1818 credit and instructions on how to sign up for classes. Please do not try to sign up before this time.

Other Course Requirements:

Students are asked to be prompt to class. Students should bring all materials necessary for conducting the business of the day.

Students are asked to be critical learners. Students should ask the tough questions and be open to criticism of their own arguments by peers.

As is stated in the De Smet Parent Student Handbook, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any such instance will be met with a zero on the assignment, a report to the Dean of Students, and a call home to your parents.

Students are asked to conduct themselves in the spirit of the Ignatian tradition. Please respect each other.

Office Hours:

Fall Hours: 7 am-Homeroom (Room 206 or Faculty Room)
Activity Period
Immediately After School (by appointment only)
Winter Hours:  7 am-Homeroom (Room 206 or Faculty Room)  
               Activity Period  
               2:45-3:15

Spring Hours:  7 am-Homeroom (Room 206 or Faculty Room)  
               Activity Period  
               Immediately After School (by appointment only)