

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLS-1600-01/H Intro to International Politics
3 Credit Hours
Spring 2019

Dr. Emmanuel Uwalaka
MWF: 1:10 -2:00 pm
Classroom: McG 211

Office: McG 150
Phone: 977-3035/3039
Hours: MWF: 10-11
am or by appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce undergraduate students to the basic concept of international politics/relations and the theories that have been developed to interpret problems faced by nation-states in dealing with each other. Emphasis will be placed in using different theoretical perspectives to interpret concrete international situations. The course is organized into three broad sections: (1) history, methods, and theories of international politics, (2) actors in international politics, and (3) contemporary international relations issues of the 21st century. This course fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Global Citizenship requirement and the Political Science major and Foreign Service minor requirements.

II. REQUIRED BOOK(S) READINGS

Mingst, Mckibben and Arreguin-Toft, 2019. Essentials of International Relations. 8th edition New York, W.W. Norton. (Required)

Mingst, Karen and Snyder, Jack. 2017. 6th edition, Essential Readings in World Politics. New York, W.W. Norton & Company. (Reserve Desk)

Daily reading of a major newspaper: The New York Times, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, etc.

Additional reading assignments will be placed in the reserve collection of the University Library, if the need arises.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. To introduce the student to the basic concepts, history, approaches and theories of international politics
2. To provide the student with contextual understanding and sufficient factual background to assess international relations theories and concepts.
3. To discuss the essential elements in the governing process through illustrations from various political systems; and
4. To provide the necessary foundation for advanced courses in Political Science.

1V. LEARNING OUTCOMES

After taking this course, students will be able to:

Explain differences in the normative and scientific approaches to international politics;

Recognize and apply major concepts in the study of international politics;

Illustrate the role of international politics in their everyday lives;

Able to analyze the cultural, economic, political and social aspects of contemporary international issues; and

Write clearly about international politics events and effectively defend their opinions and interpretations.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to attend class sessions regularly and punctually. Students are required to sign the roll at each session, and a record of attendance will be maintained. This instructor allows only three unexcused and undocumented class absences after which a student must provide documentation or explanation for being absent from class. Unexcused and undocumented class absences in excess of seven will warrant an "F" grade for the course.

Students will be expected to complete assigned readings before the next day's class, participate in class discussions and prepare for case studies. Students should be aware of how politics affects their everyday lives. Most of the time, the instructor will begin class by asking "what is the latest?" The idea is to allow you express yourself on what you have observed about politics at the international level. Your participation efforts at this level will be recorded toward class participation points. During class, **cell phones must be turned off or to vibrate mode.** If you need to respond to a call, please step outside the room. Use of laptop computers during class is only allowed to take lecture notes.

A class session might be changed to discussion session depending on how the class responds to lectures, readings and issues in international politics. Students will be informed of discussion topic in advance.

OFFICE VISITS

Students are encouraged to visit the instructor during office hours in connection with their work in this class, or to discuss any career-related problems. If unable to visit during posted hours, an appointment will be made convenient to both the student and the instructor.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU GET TO KNOW YOUR TEACHERS AND TO MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN TO THEM. IT IS THE ONLY WAY TEACHERS CAN BE OF HELP TO YOU OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES POLICIES ON ...

Title IX

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; akratky@slu.edu; 314-977-3886) and share the basic facts of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web addresses: www.slu.edu/here4you and <https://www.slu.edu/general-counsel>.

Disability Services

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course.

Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at Disability_services@slu.edu or 314.977.3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact to Disability Services.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf.

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

Student Success Center

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit <https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

University Writing Services

Students are encouraged to take advantage of University Writing Services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit <https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

SLU faculty have begun to request language for a syllabus statement that acknowledges and points students toward supports for basic needs insecurity for things like food and shelter. The Dean of Students Office developed the following statement for those who wish to include this sort of language into their syllabi.

Basic Needs Security

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office (deanofstudents@slu.edu or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

COURSE EVALUATION

As part of class participation, during the last week of the semester students will be reminded to complete an on-line course evaluation. Students will be notified when screens will be accessible for students to submit the evaluation.

V1. EVALUATION

A. Methods

Two writing assignments (based on an issue arising from the lectures and readings not more than two pages each, typed and double-spaced), class participation, midterm and final examinations will be used in evaluating the performance of students.

1. Students will be required to take the mid-semester and the final examinations.
2. Students are required to take all examinations as scheduled. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions, short answers and essays. Exams are not cumulative, that is, only the material since the last exam is included.

B. Grading Scale and Distribution of Percentages

1. Writing Assignments 10%
2. Mid-Semester Exam 35%
3. Final Exam 40%
4. Class Participation15%

The numerical equivalents of letter grades are:

93-100 = A	83-86 = B	73-76 = C	
90-92 = A-	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	
87-89 = B+		77-79 = C+	60-69 = D
Below 65 = F			

NOTE: Final grades will not be changed unless there is an error in computation.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE

Jan. 14 Course Overview

Section 1: History, Approaches and Theories of International Politics/Relations

Jan. 16 In this section, we examine some of the events that have shaped our ideas of international politics and international relations. We examine 3 methods used by political scientists to study political phenomena – traditionalism, behavioralism, and post-behavioralism. Also, since the appearance of the works by E. H. Carr and Hans Morgenthau, numerous theories have developed for the study of international politics/relations. We will examine three basic theories: Realism, Liberalism and Constructivism.

Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 19-32

Jan. 18 History of International Relations

Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 32-42

Jan. 23, 25 History of International Relations (cont'd)

The Cold War

Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 42-59

Mingst and Snyder, X, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," pp. 35-40 or *Foreign Affairs* (July 1947)

Jan. 28, 30 Tools Used by Political Scientists to Investigate Political Phenomena:
Traditionalism, Behavioralism, and Post-Behavioralism
Reading(s): Essentials: pp. 5-17
Argyle, Nolan J., “Methods, “Science,” and Politics: Modes of Analysis in
Political Science” (will be sent to students via email)

Feb. 1, 4 Contending Theories of International Relations
Realism
Liberalism
Constructivism
Others
Reading(s): pp. 71-97
Hans J. Morgenthau, “A Realist Theory of International Politics,” in Mingst and Snyder,
pp. 67-104

Feb. 6 Discussion (Topic will be given in class in advance)

Levels of Analysis

Section 2: Actors in International Relations: International Relations/Politics differ in specific ways from internal politics. In this section of our course, we will examine the Basic Actors/Levels of Analysis that play a role in the international arena.

Feb. 8 The International System: Views from of Realists, Liberals
Reading: Essentials, pp. 107-118
J. Ann Tickner, “Man, The State, And War: Gendered Perspective on National Security,”
in Mingst and Snyder: pp. 115-122

Feb. 11 The International System: Views of Radicals, Constructivism;
Readings: Essentials, pp. 118-123
Hans J. Morgenthau, “The Balance of Power,” in Mingst and Snyder: pp. 124-128

Feb. 13 Discussion: What kind of international system would you like to live in? Why?

Feb. 15 The State: International Relations Perspectives and the State
Readings: Essentials, pp. 124-131

Feb. 18 The Individual: International Relations Perspectives and the Individual
Readings: pp. 132-146

Feb. 20, 22 The Nation State
Definitions: Nation, State and Nation-State.
The Tools of Statecraft
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 149-165

Foreign Policy

In this segment of the course, we shall focus on the structures and processes of foreign policy decision making. Foreign policies are defined as “the strategies used by governments to guide their actions in the international arena” which “spell out the objectives state leaders have decided to pursue” and “the general means by which they intend to pursue those objectives.”

Feb. 25, 27 Models of Foreign Policy Decision Making
The Rational Model: The Realist Approach
The Liberal Approaches
Constructivist Alternatives
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 165-173

Mar. 1, 4 Challenges to the State: Globalization, Transnational Religious and Ideological Movements, etc.
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 173-184

Mar. 6 **MID TERM REVIEW**
Mar. 8 **MID TERM EXAMINATION**
Mar. 11-16 **SPRING BREAK**

International Cooperation and International Law

In this segment of the course, we shall focus on the question why states cooperate with one another and contending paradigms on this question. We shall describe the role international law plays in international relations.

Mar. 18, 20 International Cooperation
Realism and the Cooperation Problem
Liberalism and Cooperation
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 233-243

Mar. 22, 25 International Law
Historical Development
Readings: Essentials, pp. 246-247

Mar. 27, 29 Functions and Sources of International Law
Reading(s); Essentials, pp. 247-250

Apr. 1, 3 International Law: Compliance and Enforcement,
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 250-257

Apr. 5 **Discussion: Is International Law Really Law, or a Charade?**
Class will be divided into two groups. Use lecture notes and Rochester, 1-48

Apr. 8, 10 Law of the Sea (A Body of International Law)
Conferences
Issues and Management of Resources of the Deep Seabed
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 261-266

Apr. 12 International Law: Compliance and Enforcement
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 244-245
Rochester, pp. 59-64

Some of the contemporary international relations issues of the 21st century include (a) Economic issues, (b) Human rights, (c) The Environment, and (d) Global health. In this segment we examine economic issues.

Apr. 15 The Evolution of International Political Economy: Ideas and Institutions
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 269-272

Apr. 17 Economic Institutions
The Role of States, Corporations, and the Bretton Woods Institutions
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 272-279

Apr. 19, 22 **EASTER BREAK**

Apr. 24, 26 How the Globalized Economy Works Today
International Finance
International Monetary Policy
International Trade
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 279-285

**Apr. 29,
May 1, 3** International Development
Strategies to Achieve Economic Development
Criticisms
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 295-306

May 6 **REVIEW**

May 13 **FINAL EXAMINATION 12:00 – 1:50**