POLI 15H: HONORS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/WORLD POLITICS

Foothill College Course Outline of Record

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heading</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Effective Term:</td>
<td>Summer 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Units:</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours:</td>
<td>4 lecture per week (48 total per quarter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory:</td>
<td>Not open to students with credit in POLI 15.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree &amp; Credit Status:</td>
<td>Degree-Applicable Credit Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foothill GE:</td>
<td>Area IV: Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transferable:</td>
<td>CSU/UC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Type:</td>
<td>Letter Grade (Request for Pass/No Pass)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repeatability:</td>
<td>Not Repeatable</td>
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Student Learning Outcomes

- Critically analyze any of the contending theoretical formulations of International Relations: Liberalism/Neoliberalism institutionalism, Realism and Non-realism, the Radical Perspective, Constructivism, Hegemonic Stability Theory.
- Critically analyze the role of the United States in the International Political Economy.
- A successful student will understand the role of NATO, the UN and national state leaders in decision-making on intervention.

Description

Analysis of the contending theoretical formulations of international relations, the international political economy, factors of sovereignty, nationalism, relations between the core, semi-periphery and peripheral countries, the role of the World Trade Organization in international trade relations, international terrorism and global warming. The impact of international terrorism and international security on world politics are systematically analyzed in the context of an increasingly unipolar world as the struggle for hegemony ensues. The honors course is a full seminar with advanced teaching methods, focusing on major writing, reading, and research assignments, student class presentations, group discussions and interactions.

Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

a. Analyze range of theoretical formulations of international relations theory.

b. Compare and contrast contending views of international political economy.

c. Understand and utilize current research trends in international relations theory.

d. Analyze semi-peripheral and peripheral nation states’ relations with core nations in global economy.

e. Evaluate the role of the United States in the international community.

f. Analyze role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in global trade relations.

g. Analyze the impact of terrorism on international relations.

Course Content

a. Introduction to the intellectual foundations of international relations as an academic discipline

i. Liberal institutionalism

ii. Hobbesian realism and its contemporary variant of neo-liberalism

iii. Marxist and neo-Marxist thinking

iv. Contribution of dependency theory to international relations theory

v. Contribution of world systems theory to international relations theory

b. Liberal theories of international relations

i. Origins of liberalism in reaction to mercantilism

ii. Contributions of Adam Smith and David Ricardo

iii. Assumptions of liberalism as rational, utility-maximizing actors

iv. Limitations of economic role of government

c. Marxist theory of international relations

i. Origins of Marxist perspective as a reaction to liberalism

ii. Assumptions of Marxist perspective

iii. Classes as dominant actors in the political economy

iv. Classes acting in their material economic interests

v. Exploitative nature of capitalism and the international division of labor

d. The realist theory of international relations

i. Intellectual contributions of Hobbes, Machiavelli, Colbert and List

ii. Emergence of realism in the 1930s

iii. Assumptions of realism

iv. Nation-states as dominant actors

v. Nation-states as power-maximizers

vi. Nation-states as rational actors

vii. Theory of hegemonic stability

viii. Realism, political processes, and complex interdependence

ix. Roles of international organizations

e. Contribution of dependency theory to international relations theory

i. Dependency as a socio-economic and political concept

ii. Structural dependency as a socio-economic and political concept

iii. The gap between rich and poor countries

iv. Domestic inequality

v. Convergence and divergence

vi. The state, growth, and inequality

vii. Role of multilateral agencies in dependent underdeveloped states

viii. The World Trade Organization in international trade

f. World systems theory contribution to international relations theory

i. Emergence of world capitalist system in 16th century Europe

ii. Role of agriculture in the development of world capitalist system in 16th century

iii. Incorporation of areas into world system

iv. Concept of core, semi-periphery, and periphery

v. Contemporary function of world capitalist system
g. Role of non-government organizations (NGO) in the international political economy
   i. The role of the United Nations in international relations
   ii. The role of specialized agencies of the UN in international relations
   iii. The role of UNCHR in international conflict

Lab Content
Not applicable.

Special Facilities and/or Equipment
When taught as an online section, students and faculty need ongoing and continuous internet and email access.

Method(s) of Evaluation
Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

- Consistent and systematic participation in seminar
- Oral presentations (PowerPoint) of assigned topics
- Development of research paper topic, thesis, outline and analytical model utilizing the scientific method of analysis
- Development of 20 page research paper demonstrating critical, analytical, research and writing skills
- Presentation of extract of research paper assignment to seminar

Method(s) of Instruction
Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

- Formal weekly lectures
- Oral group presentations (PowerPoint) on assigned topics
- In-class seminar-style discussions on assigned topics of critical importance to class material, with intensive and systematic participation from students
- Small group discussions on current issues in international relations
- Instructor meets in extra session with all seminar students in a series of individual and small group learning communities, out-of-class, to work together on students’ research and presentation preparation

Representative Text(s) and Other Materials


Although some texts are older than the suggested “5 years or newer” standard, they remain seminal pieces of scholarship (texts) in this area of study.

World Policy Journal articles

Foreign Affairs journal

Foreign Policy Journal

Latin American Perspectives (print journal)

School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University (print journal)

Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

a. Weekly assigned readings from texts, of between 200-300 pages, on module for week
b. Five to six pages of written outline of required weekly reading assignments
c. Development of research paper topic, thesis, outline and analytic model
d. 20 page critical analytical research paper assignment utilizing the scientific method
e. Students work closely with instructor individually and in small groups on leading assigned seminar discussion topic, presentation, and research paper assignment

Discipline(s)

Political Science