

INR 2002.001

Summer 2017, 3 credits

Meeting Time: TR 1:45–4:55pm

Meeting Place: ED119

Course website: <https://canvas.fau.edu/>

My website: <http://angeladnichols.weebly.com>

Professor: Angela D. Nichols

Office: SO384D

Office Hours: T&R, 11:30am–1pm

Email: nicholsa@fau.edu

Phone: 561.297.4614

Introduction to World Politics

Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces students to the study of international politics. As an introductory course, no background in international relations is assumed. Students should acquire the basic analytic tools necessary to understand and explain a variety of international phenomena—war, terrorism, globalization, environmental degradation, human rights practices, etc... Current events will often be used when discussing the theories and subjects covered in this course, but the objective is to provide the necessary analytic frameworks to understand and critique these events not to recount them.

Students who successfully complete INR 2002 will be able to:

- define and understand the modern international system
- identify the challenges we face globally
- understand how states and non-state actors compete and interact
- identify the characteristics that shape behavior in the international system

Course Materials

There is one text book required for the course:

Goldstein, Joshua S. and Jon C. Pevehouse (GP). 2014. *International Relations*, Tenth Edition.

Teaching Assistant

Name: Juan Perdomo

Phone: (954) 809-5690

Email: jperdom4@fau.edu

Office: SO 393

Hours: Tuesdays 11:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

Student Assignments & Responsibilities

Exams: Sixty percent of your grade will be determined by two (non-cumulative) exams. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions. Some questions on the exam will come directly from the reading. To prepare for exams, please read the assigned

chapter(s) before the class in which they are discussed, attend lecture and take good notes (not just what I write down), discuss material with peers, read a major newspaper at least three times a week, and review all of the above. I also suggest making notecards with key terms on one side, and definitions, significance, and examples on the other. Each exam is worth 30% of your final grade.

Make-up Exams: If you cannot attend one of the exams, you need to notify me as soon as possible by email and in person. Make-up exams will only be given to students who have been unable to sit for the examination as a consequence of illness requiring medical care, required university activities, or a personal emergency of a serious nature. To be excused without penalty, documentation and/or prior permission is required. Additionally, an alternative exam will be provided.

Please note that once the first exam is completed/handed in on exam day, no other exams will be given out to students arriving late. Please show up to class at the scheduled time to take your exams.

Documentaries & Short Writing Assignment: You will be responsible for watching a documentary related to world politics and writing a short (750 - 1000 words) reaction paper to this film. You can find a list of approved documentaries as well as more detailed assignment instructions here: <http://angeladnichols.weebly.com/teaching.html>. The paper is worth 20% of your final grade.

Attendance & Participation: While this course will have a substantial lecture component, participation in classroom exercises and discussions is necessary for this class to achieve the highest level of success. To this end, attendance and participation is worth 20% of your final grade.

I will take attendance daily throughout the semester. This will account for 10% of your grade. We only meet 10 times for this class making your attendance even more crucial. Please note, I do not want emails regarding appointments and other commitments. If you have a university sponsored event or a religious holiday that prevents you from attending class, please send me an email. Make sure to include your name, documentation of your absence, and the date(s) impacted, as well as attend the following week's office hours to inquire as to what you missed. (Please DO NOT send me an email asking me what you missed.)

This portion of your grade will be assigned as follows:

Attend 10 of 10 classes, 100
Attend 9 of 10 classes, 95
Attend 8 of 10 classes, 80
Attend 7 of 10 classes, 70
Attend 6 of 10 classes, 50
Attend 5 of 10 classes, 40
Attend 4 of 10 classes, 30
Attend 3 of 10 classes, 20
Attend 2 of 10 classes, 10
Attend 1 of 10 classes, 0

Participation will be assessed through pop-quizzes and in-class assignments. These are unannounced and subject to my discretion. Participation is worth 10% of your final grade.

Extra Credit: You will have several extra credit opportunities during this class. Please see my website for updated opportunities.

Grading & Evaluation

Equation:

$$grade = (((exam1 + exam2)/2) * .6) + (paper * .2) + (attendance * .1) + (participation * .1)$$

Grades are assigned in accordance with the following scale:

93 - 100% = A	86 - 89% = B+	76 - 79% = C+	66 - 69% = D+	below 60% = F
90 - 92 % = A-	83 - 85% = B	73 - 75% = C	63 - 65% = D	
	80 - 82% = B-	70 - 72% = C-	60 - 62% = D-	

Other Policies

- Lecture notes and slides will not be posted online or otherwise handed out to students under any circumstances.
- Materials handed out in class by the instructor (e.g., review sheets, simulation materials, etc.) will under no circumstances be distributed electronically or outside of class.
- Allow a reasonable amount of time for a response when you send me an email. Do not email me an hour before an exam and expect me to respond or receive the email before class. I will not answer questions that can be answered by reading the syllabus or accessing blackboard via email. I encourage students to utilize office hours to answer their questions whenever possible.
- Grades will not be released to any student via email, phone, or other electronic means. If you wish to discuss your grades, report to the appropriate office hours or make an appointment, and come prepared with your university identification.
- You can expect to be graded solely on your academic performance. This includes clarity of thought, knowledge of the material, composition, spelling, and grammar.

Academic Honor Code

Code of Academic Integrity policy statement: Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see http://wise.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg_4.001_5-26-10_FINAL.pdf

Accommodations

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 203 (954-236-1222); or in Jupiter, SR 110 (561-799-8585) and follow all SAS procedures.

Attendance Policy Statement

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

Classroom Conduct

Classroom courtesy is an essential component of creating an effective learning environment. All students have the right to learn without unnecessary distractions. These distractions include: laptops, cell phones, and the like, talking during lectures (unless recognized by the instructor), reading newspapers, falling asleep, etc. If you use a laptop to take notes during class, turn off the sound and restrain yourself from unnecessary surfing. I reserve the right to suspend the use of laptops if this policy is abused. If you need a phone for *emergency purposes*, leave it on vibrate. Entering and leaving are also significant sources of distraction. It is your responsibility to be on time and to stay for the entire class. In circumstances where you need to leave early, tell the professor beforehand. Repeated disruptions of class will lead to a reduction in your final grade.

Class discussions of political issues can often stimulate strong feelings and heated debate. I ask all of you to respect the opinions of your fellow students, even if you do not agree with them. In simple terms, that means not interrupting other students while they are speaking and not verbally attacking them for their beliefs. While I believe that it is essential to connect theory to current events, I will cut short debates of current events that do not enhance the understanding of course concepts. I expect you to offer substantive comments and questions when appropriate in class. I also expect you not to dominate a discussion, but to allow free discussion and exchange of ideas. If this is unclear or you would like to discuss it further, please attend office hours.

Course Content & Schedule

The following is an approximate calendar of class discussions. Departures from the schedule may occasionally occur. Exam dates should be considered firm and you should arrange your personal schedule to be present at the appointed dates and times.

Tuesday, 6/27

- Introduction: No required reading
- Political Science is not politics or punditry.
- Critical thinking
- Electronic resources
- Current Events
- Pre-Quiz
- Groups

Thursday, 6/29

- GP 1 & 2

Tuesday, July 4, NO CLASS: Happy 4th of July!

Thursday, 7/6

- GP 3

Tuesday, 7/11

- GP 4 & 5

Thursday, 7/13

- GP 6

Tuesday, 7/18

- Exam 1

Thursday, 7/20

- GP 7

Tuesday, 7/25

- GP 8 & 9

- Documentary writing assignment due

Thursday, 7/27

- GP 10 & 11

Tuesday, 8/1

- GP 12 & 13

- ALL EXTRA CREDIT DUE TODAY

Thursday, 8/3

- Final Exam

This syllabus is a guideline and is subject to change at any time.