

JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSC155

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

3 Credit Hours

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PSC155 International Relations

I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

- A. Prerequisite: None
- B. 3 semester hours credit
- C. International Relations is a survey of current international politics, including economic, military, and other relations between nations. The course also includes the role of international organizations, multinational corporations, and other non-government actors, emphasizing the analysis of reasons nations and other actors pursue particular policies. This course will partially fulfill the social and behavioral science requirements for the Associate of Arts degrees. (S)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/CORRESPONDING ASSESSMENT MEASURES

Expected Learning Outcomes	Assessment Measures
Discuss and understand the major model perspectives on why nations behave as they do in the international arena	Classroom discussion Written exam
Explain current international behavior in the areas of economic, military, and political affairs	Classroom discussion Written exam Research project
Integrate information read in the textbook and heard in class discussions with information read in current news media	Classroom discussion Group discussion Research project Written exam
Explain the role of the United States in the present evolving international system	Classroom discussion Group discussion Research project
Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the elements of power and their uses	Written exam Classroom discussion Research project

III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- A. Systems in global politics
 - 1. The present international power system compared with the cold war system
 - 2. Subsystems within the overall power system

- B. Contemporary world politics
 - 1. Dynamics and results of the cold war period
 - 2. Present multipolar issues
 - a) The Middle- East conflict
 - b) Trade issues
 - c) Terrorism
 - d) Nuclear proliferation
 - 3. Role of the United Nations in international relations

- C. Nongovernmental actors in world politics
 - 1. The role of corporations, private groups, media, and individuals in international relations
 - 2. The interaction between nongovernmental actors and individual governments and the resulting impact on nations' international policies

- D. War and conflict in world politics
 - 1. Present military strengths of countries
 - a) Nuclear
 - b) Conventional
 - 2. International agreements dealing with war and nuclear proliferation
 - 3. Present regional conflicts
 - a) The Middle-East
 - b) South Africa
 - c) Others
 - 4. The role of the United Nations in peacekeeping

- E. Economic development and competition
 - 1. Economic strengths and weaknesses of selected nations
 - 2. International trade issues and agreements
 - 3. Linkage between domestic economic issues and international economic issues
 - a) Investment
 - b) Trade
 - c) Jobs
 - d) Deficits

- F. Human rights in world politics
 - 1. Human rights problems in selected countries
 - 2. Efforts to resolve human rights problems
 - a) Agreements
 - b) Sanctions
 - c) Private groups (e.g., Amnesty International)
 - d) The United Nations

- G. Environmental and population issues
 - 1. Present international environmental issues
 - a) Population growth
 - b) Ocean and air pollution
 - c) Global warming
 - d) Nuclear waste disposal
 - 2. Existing and proposed agreements to deal with these issues
 - 3. Efforts by international organizations to deal with environmental and population issues

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Instructor lectures
- B. Small group discussions
- C. Research paper/country presentations
- D. Videotape presentations

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Goldstein, Joshua, and Jon Pevehouse. *International Relations Brief, 2013-2014 Update, 6th Edition*. Pearson Publishing, 2014.

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS

None

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

- A. Library reference materials
- B. International relations books on library reserve

VIII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Four examinations
- B. Research paper on international topic/ country presentations.
- C. Class attendance and participation

The grading scale is as follows:

- A 90%-100%

B	80%-90%
C	70%-80%
D	60%-70%
F	below 60%

IX. ADA AA STATEMENT

Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-481-3169)

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College website, <http://www.jeffco.edu>).

XI. ATTENDANCE STATEMENT

Students earn their financial aid by regularly attending and actively participating in their coursework. If a student does not actively participate, he/she may have to return financial aid funds. Consult the College Catalog or a Student Financial Services representative for more details.

XII. OUTSIDE OF CLASS ACADEMICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES

The U.S. Department of Education mandates that students be made aware of expectations regarding coursework to be completed outside the classroom. Students are expected to spend substantial time outside of class meetings engaging in academically related activities, such as reading, studying, and completing assignments. Specifically, time spent on academically related activities outside of class, combined with time spent in class meetings, is expected to be a minimum of 37.5 hours over the duration of the term for each credit hour.