

POL 201, GLOBAL POLITICS

SPRING 2019 / TR 11:10-12:30 / 202 MAHAR HALL / DR. CRAIG WARKENTIN

Overview

POL 201 combines a broad survey of two complementary subfields of political science: "comparative politics" (politics *within* countries) and "international relations" (politics *between* countries). We'll explore comparative politics first, then look at international relations.

Goals

If you thoughtfully complete assignments and participate in classroom activities, by the end of the semester you should be able to

- recognize the key issues, actors, and dynamics of contemporary comparative and international politics;
- discuss the main theories and approaches that are used to study comparative and international politics;
- forward workable prescriptions for effecting constructive political change, domestically and globally; and
- articulate a distinctively personal understanding of contemporary global politics, with attendant positions.

Achieving these goals requires a classroom environment conducive to learning, so be sure you're familiar with SUNY Oswego's [Non-Discrimination Policy](#).

Textbooks

Three books are required for this class:

- [Essentials of Comparative Politics](#), 6th ed., by Patrick H. O'Neil
- [Essentials of International Relations](#), 8th ed., by Karen A. Mingst, Heather Elko McKibben, and Ivan M. Arreguín-Toft
- [A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations](#), 9th ed., by Kate L. Turabian

Be sure to purchase the correct (latest) edition of each title. Physical copies are recommended, but eBooks are okay as long as you respect my policy on phones and other devices (as stated below).

O'Neil's book and Turabian's *Manual* are on course reserve in Penfield Library. You can check them out at the Circulation Desk, if needed.

News

Keeping up with relevant current events should help you get more out of the course and make some assignments easier to complete. Recommended sources are [The Guardian](#), [Reuters](#), [The Associated Press \(AP\)](#), and [Al Jazeera](#).

Phones

KEEP YOUR PHONE, LAPTOP, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES SILENCED AND STOWED OUT OF REACH WHENEVER YOU'RE IN THE CLASSROOM – even when class isn't in session or when I'm not present in the classroom. Excepted from this policy are tablet devices, which are allowed as long as they're only used to access course materials and don't cause a distraction.

If we need to use devices in class, as may happen occasionally, I'll let you know in advance so you can plan accordingly.

If you violate this policy, I may dismiss you from the classroom for all or part of the period; invalidate any extra credit you've accrued; and/or reduce your course participation grade (perhaps significantly).

Attendance

You should attend regularly and participate actively in class, and make any needed arrangements if you're absent. In the event of inclement weather, prioritize your personal safety over class attendance.

I'll let you know if I cancel class, in which case you should stay on schedule with readings and deadlines unless otherwise instructed.

Advisories

I'll hold you accountable for (knowing) the contents of this syllabus and whatever occurs in the classroom. I may modify the syllabus, but I'll consult you before making changes that could affect your grade. (I'll announce any notable revisions in class and update the course website accordingly.)

Videos we watch in this class may contain disturbing images, coarse language, or other "mature" content. If that poses a problem, you'll need to let me know before February 6 (the last day to add a Spring semester class).

Integrity

As a SUNY Oswego student, you must fully adhere to the [College Policy on Intellectual Integrity](#), according to which you're personally responsible "to assist in protecting the integrity of the degrees which this College grants by (1) not participating, either directly or indirectly, in intellectual dishonesty in any form, (2) actively discouraging intellectual dishonesty by others, and (3) reporting to the course instructor in a timely manner any known incidents of intellectual dishonesty."

By submitting your first graded assignment, you formally acknowledge that you fully understand [this policy](#), including relevant definitions, consequences, and procedures. If you cheat, plagiarize, or otherwise engage in proscribed behavior, I may take any punitive action allowed by the university. Incidents will be addressed on a case-by-case basis, but you should expect to receive a failing grade in the course for any infraction.

Grading

Your course grade will be determined by the number of points you accrue during the semester:

470-500 = A	400-419 = B-	335-349 = D+
450-469 = A-	385-399 = C+	320-334 = D
435-449 = B+	370-384 = C	300-319 = D-
420-434 = B	350-369 = C-	000-299 = E

Written assignments must be typewritten and double-spaced, use a single standard font with 1-1¼" margins, include a (typewritten) word count, and have all submitted pages stapled together. Also required are parenthetical citations and a reference list that conform fully to the author-date style detailed in Chapters 18-19 of Turabian's *Manual for Writers*.

To receive a grade of A or A- on a written assignment, the quality of your content and presentation must be outstanding. Content that's outstanding must be demonstrably more well informed, thoughtfully considered, and analytically sophisticated than above average (B-/B/B+) or average (C-/C/C+) content. Outstanding presentation comprises clearly articulated and well organized points, ideally with no more than a handful of honest writing mistakes. (Lower writing standards may apply for non-native English speakers.) Outstanding (A or A-) written work also must meet relevant structural requirements, including (fully) proper citation formatting.

I reserve the right to give you a zero on any late or missed assignment. Submissions that don't meet stated requirements are subject to a score reduction or other penalty, to be levied at my discretion.

Assignments

Graded assignments and point values are as follows:

- Participation (100 points) – Attendance rate and classroom contributions
- Exams (300 points) – Four tests, each covering roughly half a textbook
- Quizzes (50 points) – Short pop quizzes that address assigned readings
- Analyses (50 points) – Commentaries on two recent/current news stories

Assignment requirements and expectations will be discussed in class.

I'll be glad to read, discuss, or provide feedback on Analyses assignments at any stage in the process, before or after they're due. But I'll only do this in a face-to-face meeting, not via email. So make sure to allow enough time for a meeting, and possible redrafting, before any assignment deadline(s).

Assistance

I'll assume you're doing as well as you'd like to in this class unless you tell me otherwise. If you need some extra help, just let me know and I'll do my best to assist you; I'll be glad to discuss with you any course-related questions or concerns you might have. You can stop by during office hours, catch me after class, schedule an appointment, or send me an email.

My contact information and office hours, this semester, are:

Hours: 12:30-2 pm on Tue/Thu, 3-4 pm on Wed, and by appointment

Office: 437 Mahar Hall

Phone: 315.312.4080

Email: craig.warkentin@oswego.edu

Website: warkentin.xyz/201

If you have a disabling condition that could interfere with your ability to successfully complete this class, please contact [Accessibility Resource Services](#) (155 Marano Campus Center, 315.312.3358, access@oswego.edu).

Readings

Complete each assigned reading before coming to class on the date listed below, and always bring a copy of the day's reading to class with you.

TUE, JAN 29

Turabian: Ch. 7, Drafting Your Report (75–85); Ch. 11, Revising Sentences (113–123); Ch. 15, General Introduction to Citation Practices (139–148); Ch. 18, Author-Date Style: The Basic Form (223–235)

THU, JAN 31

CP: Ch. 1, Introduction (2–29)

TUE, FEB 5

CP: Ch. 2, States (30–61)

THU, FEB 7

CP: Ch. 3, Nations and Society (62–95)

TUE, FEB 12

CP: Ch. 4, Political Economy (96–133)

THU, FEB 14

CP: Ch. 5, Democratic Regimes (134–171)

TUE, FEB 19

CP: Ch. 6, Nondemocratic Regimes (171–203)

THU, FEB 21

Exam 1

TUE, FEB 26

CP: Ch. 7, Political Violence (204–233)

THU, FEB 28

CP: Ch. 8, Developed Democracies (234–265)

TUE, MAR 5

CP: Ch. 9, Communism and Postcommunism (266–303)

THU, MAR 7

CP: Ch. 10, Developing Countries (304–337)

TUE, MAR 12

CP: 11, Globalization and the Future of Comparative Politics (338–367)

THU, MAR 14

Exam 2

TUE, MAR 19

Spring Recess

THU, MAR 21

Spring Recess

TUE, MAR 26

IR: Ch. 1, Approaches to International Relations (2–17)

THU, MAR 28

IR: Ch. 2, The Historical Context of Contemporary International Relations (18–65)

TUE, APR 2

IR: Ch. 3, International Relations Theories (66–105)

THU, APR 4

IR: Ch. 4, Levels of Analysis (106–147)

TUE, APR 9

IR: Ch. 5, The State and the Tools of Statecraft (148–185)

THU, APR 11

IR: Ch. 6, War and Security (186–231)

TUE, APR 16

Exam 3

THU, APR 18

IR: Ch. 7, International Cooperation and International Law (232–267)

TUE, APR 23

IR: Ch. 8, International Political Economy (268–317)

THU, APR 25

IR: Ch. 9, Intergovernmental Organizations and Nongovernmental Organizations (318–363)

TUE, APR 30

IR: Ch. 10, Human Rights (364–399)

THU, MAY 2

IR: Ch. 11, Human Security: Migration, Global Health, and the Environment (400–442)

TUE, MAY 7

TBA

THU, MAY 9

TBA