POLITICAL SCIENCE 2057; M, T, W, T, F 12.10-01.10 PM TUREAUD 225 — INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (June 10th – July 29th )

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Office hours: M,W 1.30 - 2.30 PM, and by appointment

OBJECTIVE

The aim POLI SCI 2057 is to introduce the students to the problems and processes that are relevant to the conduct international politics. The course will also provide the students with the basic information on the main disputes present in the academic literature dealing with this subject. The course will focus particularly on concepts of sovereignty, power, national interest and patterns of conflict and cooperation. It will also address the issue of the impact of internal politics of sovereign actors on their international politics. On the completion of the course the students are expected to be able to explain and analyze trends and events that shape the global international relations.

POLI SCI 2057 is a general education requirement course for social science undergraduates.

The University names the following objectives for such general education courses:

Objective 1: to demonstrate mastery of factual knowledge of the subject matter;

Objective 2: to demonstrate an understanding of the levels of association ranging from friends and family to civilizations of global significance;

Objective 3: to demonstrate an understanding of diversity of cultures across time and space as well as universal social characteristics and global networks.

All three objectives will be taken into account during the lecture and guided discussions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

"Academic Misconduct" includes, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give an unfair academic advantage to the student (e.g., submission of the same written assignment for two courses without permission of the instructors, providing false information to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, or other assignment) as well as attempts to commit such an act. Students should be familiar with the definition of academic misconduct and the Code of Student Conduct, available at http://www.lsu.edu/judicialaffairs/code.htm. If a student is found to have committed an act of academic misconduct, s/he will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs and penalized appropriately.
GRADING

Participation: 10% (5% attendance, 5% questions)
Reaction papers: 30%
Midterm: 20%
Final: 40%

ASSIGNMENTS

Participation: You are expected to actively participate in the in-class discussion. You are responsible for reading the assigned texts and coming to class prepared. Class attendance will be taken on at least 10 randomly selected dates. You can earn additional attendance points by asking questions. All students who ask questions are kindly asked to turn in a sheet of paper with their question at the end of the class (this will serve as a proof of your participation). The same pertains to those students, who for some reasons did not have the time to ask their question during the class. Each student is expected to ask at least 5 relevant questions during all our meetings.

Reactions papers: You have to write three 2-3 page papers that will describe your reactions to the assigned articles. The reaction papers have to summarize the author’s/authors’ argument and assess the conclusions of the article focusing on their usefulness for the understanding of international politics. You may not write more than one paper on the same article. In a single paper you can discuss one or two articles.

Midterm and final: The midterm and the final will consist of a number of short-answer questions and multiple choice questions based on the lectures and the readings from the course book.
COURSEBOOK AND STUDY MATERIALS:

1. The main course book for this class is the following:


2. A selection of peer reviewed articles on international relations will serve as a supplementary reading. The required articles are accessible through the LSU Libraries’ databases. The articles are listed below in the order, in which they will be discussed.


**SCHEDULE:**

**Week 1: Introductions to Problems and Questions in International Politics**
- Jun.10: Introduction to the Course.
- Jun.11: D’Anieri, Chapter 1.

**Week 2: Theoretical Approaches: Explaining System and State Behavior**
- Jun.17: Cont.
- Jun.20: D’Anieri, Chapter 4.
- Jun.21: Cont. **REACTION PAPER 1 DUE**

**Week 3: Continued**
- Jun.26: Cont.
- Jun.28: Cont.

**Week 4: International Conflict and Security**
- Jul.2: Amos and Tversky, “Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk.”
- Jul.3: D’Anieri, Chapter 7. **REACTION PAPER 2 DUE.**
- Jul.5: D’Anieri, Chapter 8. **REVIEW (additional duty hours-TBA)**

**Week 5: International Political Economy and Revolutions**
- Jul.8: MIDTERM.
- Jul.9: D’Anieri, Chapter 9.
- Jul.10: Cont.
- Jul.11: D’Anieri, Chapter 10.
- Jul.12: Cont.

**Week 6: Continued**
- Jul.16: Michael Mousseau, “Market Civilization and Its Clash with Terror.”
- Jul.17: D’Anieri, Chapter 11.
- Jul.18: cont.
- Jul.19: D’Anieri, Chapter 12. **REACTION PAPER 3 DUE**
Week 7: International Organizations and Global Politics
    Jul.22: D'Anieri, Chapter 13
    Jul.23: cont.
    Jul.25: cont.
    Jul.26: D'Anieri, Chapter 15.

Week 8: Conclusions
    Jul. 28: REVIEW.
    Aug.1: FINAL EXAM (4:00-6:00 PM).