



POLS 220, Intro to International Relations, Spring 2020, 16945

- Instructor: Rachel Finnell
- Department: Political Science
- Office Location: Online
- Preferred Method of Contact: email
- Office Hours: By Appt via Zoom
- Classroom Day/Time: Online
- Prerequisites: None

How to use this syllabus

This syllabus provides you with information specific to this course, and it also provides information about important university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves. Keep an eye on course announcements for any changes.

Academic Integrity

Students at Wichita State University are expected to uphold high academic standards. WSU will not tolerate a lack of academic integrity. Students are responsible for knowing and following the Student Code of Conduct http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch8_05.htm and the Student Academic Honesty policy http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch2_17.htm. When the faculty member determines sanctions are warranted for violations of academic integrity, regardless of severity, the faculty member must report the infraction to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. If you need more information about the process or wish to appeal a decision, please visit https://www.wichita.edu/about/student_conduct/AcademicDishonesty.php.

Course Description

General education social and behavioral sciences introductory course. Examines approaches to the study of international relations. Includes foreign policy, international conflict and conflict management, international organizations and law, development and globalization. *Course includes diversity content.* Either **POLS 220** or **336**, but not both, may be accepted toward a major in history.

Definition of a Credit Hour

Success in this 3 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction and preparation/studying or course related activities for a total of 135 hours.

Go to: <http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=academicaffairs&p=/definitionandassignmentofcredithours/> for the policy and examples for different types of courses and credit hour offerings.

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, a successful student will be able to:

- Reflect upon issues in international relations without overt bias stemming from their own political views.
- Explain at least one major issue in international relations clearly and with resources.
- Apply international relations ideas to a current events issue in a meaningful way.
- Discuss a variety of possible media outlets for high-quality information about international relations.
- Engage in reflective college-level discourse about issues related to international relations.

Required Texts/Readings Textbook

The book is included as part of the course and is an open educational resource. It can be found at this web address: <https://www.oercommons.org/courses/international-relations/view> and is provided as a PDF also.

I will refer to this as the textbook in the course schedule below.

Other Readings

Readings for the course (beyond the textbook) will be available on Blackboard. This is where you will find access to all the supplementary readings for the course that are not in the online textbook.

Other Equipment/Materials

Online students are required to have complete access to a functioning laptop or PC with internet capabilities. This laptop or computer must have Microsoft Word. If you do not have Microsoft Word on your PC or Laptop, Wichita State does provide free access to Microsoft Office 365 for students. Follow the instructions below to get Microsoft Office:

1. Log in to [MyWSU](#)
2. Click on Office 365 located on the “Home” tab
3. Follow the Office 365 wizard instructions

Before you begin your coursework, [ensure that your computer meets technical standards](#)

(software, computer equipment, general skills, program management skills, communication skills, and managing your WSU e-mail) for use in online courses.

Class Protocol

Though this is an online class, participation is still crucial. "Participation" involves reading the assignments thoroughly, reading any handouts provided for the week, contributing to class discussions, and completing online assignments. To be successful in this class, you should be checking your student email daily and logging in to our course at least 3 times a week.

Contact Policy

Although you may attempt to reach me by phone, email communication is always preferred. Feel free to email me any questions or concerns following these guidelines:

- Always use the course name in the subject line of the email
- Remember to sign your name.
- **Always** email me from your WSU email address. Email sent from personal email servers like Gmail, Yahoo, etc., have a tendency to end up in my spam folder, and I never see them. You may also email me through Blackboard via the Email My Instructor tab. I also offer an Ask The Instructor forum on Blackboard which allows common questions to be seen and responded to publicly.
- You should NOT contact me for tech support.
 - Any technical problems involving your computer, or issues regarding file uploading or sharing, should go through the OneStop. You can contact them at 316-978-3909. You can also fill out a request for help form at their [website](#).
 - However, if you have a problem with access or uploading assignments, you *should* let me know before your assignment is due. You will also have to accompany this notification with the file in question, so I can verify that it is completed by the due date/time.

Response Time

To Email and Ask My Professor Questions: 24-48 hours during the week. I check my email once on the weekends.

Feedback on Assignments: One week

Grading Scale

WSU uses a +/- grading scale for final grades and to calculate grade point averages. In this class, grades are assigned according to the following chart. (Other classes might assign grades differently: Be sure to understand the different grading scales in all of your classes.)

Points/Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Points	Interpretation
94% - 100%	A	4.00	A range denotes excellent performance
90% - 93%	A-	3.70	
87% - 89%	B+	3.30	
83% - 86%	B	3.00	B range denotes good performance
80% - 82%	B-	2.70	
77% - 79%	C+	2.30	
73% - 76%	C	2.00	C range denotes satisfactory performance
70% - 72%	C-	1.70	
67% - 70%	D+	1.30	
63% - 66%	D	1.00	D range denotes unsatisfactory performance
60% - 62%	D-	0.70	
0% - 59%	F	0.00	

Assignments

There are discussion boards, an introduction activity, syllabus quiz, two unit papers, a midterm and final exam, a reflection paper, and a final paper in this class. The percentage values are as follows:

- One Introductions discussion: 5%
- One Syllabus Quiz: 5%
- Weekly discussion posts and replies: 15%
- Two unit papers: 20% (2 at 10% each)

- Midterm and Final Exam: 35% (2 at 17.5% each)
- One final paper: 15%
- Reflection Paper: 5%

Introduction: Week one, a prompt will be posted on the discussion board that introduces yourself to your classmates. As this is an online course, this will be the time to introduce yourself to your classmate and your instructor. Introductions will be posted to a thread on Blackboard. Introductions are due **Monday January 27th at 11:59pm (CST)** and is worth 5% of your total grade.

Syllabus Quiz: Week one, you will complete a syllabus quiz. The purpose of this quiz is to ensure that you have read through and understand the syllabus. This quiz will be on Blackboard and is worth 20 points. The quiz must be completed by **Monday January 27th at 11:59pm (CST)**. This quiz is worth 5% of your total grade.

Weekly Discussion Posts: Students will be expected to participate in classroom discussions. This grade will take into account level of participation, mastery of discussion topics, quality of questions asked and overall discussion. Do not simply post one sentence in a post or reply. Be sure to cite the readings for the week and bring something meaningful to the discussion. The more in-depth your posts/replies, the better the discussion and your grade will be. You must post one response and respond to two of your classmates each week. The first response should be completed by **Friday of the week assigned by 11:59pm (CST)**. The two responses to your classmates must be completed by the **Monday of the week assigned by 11:59pm (CST)**. In total, these posts are worth 15% of your total grade.

Unit Papers: At the end of each unit, a paper will be due that ensures the content from that unit is able to be synthesized. These paper prompts will be posted on Blackboard along with rubrics. The first unit paper is due on **Monday February 17 at 11:59pm (CST)**. The second unit paper is due on **Monday April 6 at 11:59pm (CST)**. These are worth 10% each, or 20% of your total grade.

Midterm and Final Exams: There will be two exams in this course. Each will test you on the material learned in the course. Multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions will be asked. The Midterm is due on **Monday April 6 at 11:59pm (CST)**. The final is due on **Thursday May 14 at 11:59pm (CST)**. These are worth 17.5% each or 35% of your total grade.

Final Paper: At the end of the semester, a final paper that synthesizes the course will be due. The final paper prompt will be posted on Blackboard with a rubric and is due **Thursday May 14 at 11:59pm (CST)**.

Reflection Paper: Reflection papers are due **Thursday May 14 by 11:59pm (CST)**. These papers are for students to reflect on the course and anything they've learned from it. It's also a useful avenue to provide thoughts on what worked and didn't work in this course. An outline for these reflection papers will be available via Blackboard. The reflection papers are worth 5% of your total grade.

Discussion Forum Grading Rubric:

Discussion Forum Rubric (Student Post Points/Response Points – 2 Responses per forum)

Criteria	Non-Performance (0 pts)	Basic (1-3/1-2 points)	Proficient (4-9/3-4)	Distinguished (10/5 pts)
Includes and applies relevant course concepts, theories, or materials correctly.	Does not explain relevant course concepts, theories or materials. Offers a weak reply that states general agreement or disagreement, without stating reasons why or being substantive.	Summarizes relevant course concepts, theories or materials.	Applies and analyzes relevant course concepts, theories, or materials correctly.	Evaluates and synthesizes course concepts, theories or materials correctly, using examples, supporting evidence, or relevant real world application. Consistently provides substantive comments.
Responds to fellow learners, relating the discussion to relevant course concepts and providing substantive feedback.	Does not respond to fellow learners.	Responds to fellow learners without relating discussion to the relevant course concepts, or provides response with a weak reply that states general Agreement or disagreement, without stating reasons why or being substantive.	Responds to fellow learners, relating the discussion to relevant course concepts. Feedback is substantive most of the time.	Responds to fellow learners, relating the discussion to relevant course concepts and consistently extends the dialogue through provision of substantive feedback.
Applies relevant, professional, personal, or other real world experiences.	Does not contribute professional, personal, or other real-world experiences.	Contributes some professional, personal, or other real-world experiences that may or may not relate to course content.	Applies relevant professional, personal, or other real-world experiences.	Applies relevant professional, personal, or other real-world experiences and extends the dialogue by responding to the examples of peers.

Late Assignments

Late discussion board postings are not accepted for any reason at all. No other late work will be accepted past 3 days. You'll lose 25% each day. Once past the third day, you will not receive credit. So, 1 day late (75% credit), 2 days late (50% credit) 3 days late (25% credit), 4 days and beyond (no credit). In the rare event accommodations are needed, you must notify me beforehand (this does not mean after the fact) and receive written consent that I have given you an extension

If you send me your favorite meme via email prior the end of the first week of the course, you will receive an extra two points on an exam of your choice.

Missed Assignments and Exams

No missing exams will be accepted after the due date. Missed assignments will not be accepted.

Important Academic Dates

For the spring semester 2020, classes begin January 21, 2020, and end May 14, 2020. The last date to drop a class and receive a W (withdrawn) instead of F (failed) is April 3, 2020. There

are no classes on March 23-29, 2020. The final exam period is May 9-14, 2020.

Disabilities

If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, I encourage you to contact the Office of Disability Services (DS).

The office is located in Grace Wilkie, room 203, (316) 978-3309 (voice/tty) (316-854-3032 videophone). DS will review your concerns and determine, with you, what academic accommodations are necessary and appropriate for you. All information and documentation of your disability is confidential and will not be released by DS without your written permission.

Counseling & Prevention Services

WSU Counseling & Prevention Services (CAPS) provides quality mental health services to enrolled students by licensed providers and presents programs and trainings on topics promoting personal growth and optimal wellbeing. Services are by appointment, low cost and confidential. They are located in room 320 of Grace Wilkie Hall and will move to the new YMCA/Student Wellness Center in January. Their phone number is (316) 978-3440. CAPS is open during regular University business hours. If you have a mental health emergency while Counseling & Prevention Service is not open, please call 911 or COMCARE Crisis Services at (316) 660-7500 for 24 hour assistance.

Diversity and Inclusion

Wichita State University is committed to being an inclusive campus that reflects the evolving diversity of society. To further that goal, Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age (40 years or older), ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260, telephone 316-978-3187.

Intellectual Property

Wichita State University students are subject to Board of Regents and University policies (see http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch9_10.htm) regarding intellectual property rights. Any questions regarding these rights and any disputes that arise under these policies will be resolved by the President of the University, or the President's designee, and such decision will constitute the final decision.

Shocker Alert System

Get the emergency information you need instantly and effortlessly! With the Shocker Alert

System, we will contact you by email the moment there is an emergency or weather alert that affects the campus. Sign up at www.wichita.edu/alert.

Student Health Services

WSU's Student Health Services (SHS) provides professional medical care and health education to enrolled students by licensed health care providers. General health care services are available ranging from routine and preventive care to managing acute illnesses and minor injuries. SHS offers convenient onsite laboratory and medication services including vaccinations. Staff are available to provide health education on a variety of topics, both in and out of the classroom setting. SHS is located in 209 Ahlberg Hall and will move to the new YMCA/Student Wellness Center in January 2020. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the phone number is (316) 978-3620. Check out www.wichita.edu/shs for health information and access to myShockerHealth, the online patient portal where students can schedule appointments, send a secured message to a healthcare provider, check immunizations and more. All services are confidential.

Title IX

Wichita State University is committed to the elimination of sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking within the University community. These incidents may interfere with or limit an individual's ability to benefit from or fully participate in the University's educational programs. Students are asked to immediately report incidents to the University Police Department, (316) 978-3450 or students may contact Sara Zafar, J.D., Title IX Coordinator at (316) 978-5177 or Sara.zafar@wichita.edu.

Students may also report incidents to an instructor, faculty or staff member, who are required by law to notify the Title IX Coordinator. If a student wishes to keep the information confidential, the student may speak with staff members of the Counseling and Prevention Services (316) 978-3440 or Student Health Services (316) 978-3620. For more information please refer to the Title IX Policy at https://www.wichita.edu/about/policy/ch_08/ch8_16.php.

The Heskett Center and Campus Recreation

Whether you are wanting to be active on campus, relieve the stress from classes or take care of your body, Wichita State Campus Recreation is the place for you. Campus Recreation, located inside the Heskett Center, contributes to the health, education, and development of Wichita State University students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members by offering quality programs and services. With many programs and facilities which are free to all students and members, Campus Recreation offers its members limitless opportunities. For more information about our services see www.wichita.edu/heskett.

Video and Audio Recording

Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is prohibited. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course.

CARE Team

Wichita State University is committed to the safety and success of and cares about all members of the University community. If you or someone you know needs support, is distressed, or exhibits concerning behavior that is interfering with their own or others' academic or personal success or the safety of members of our community, resources and assistance are available. As your Faculty, I may seek support for you. If you or another member of our campus community is in need of help, please submit a concern at www.wichita.edu/ubit or call any CARE team member listed on that webpage. In case of emergency, please call the University Police Department at (316) 978-3450 or 911.

Concealed Carry Policy

The Kansas Legislature has legalized concealed carry on public university campuses. Guns must be out of view, concealed either on the body of the carrier, or backpack, purse or bag that remains under the immediate control of the carrier. Gun owners must familiarize themselves with WSU's Concealed Carry Policy at http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=wsunews&p=/weapons_policy_documents and the Kansas Board of Regent's policy at http://www.kansasregents.org/about/policies-by-laws-missions/board_policy_manual_2/chapter_ii_governance_state_universities_2/chapter_ii_full_text#weapons. If you believe that there has been a violation of this policy, please contact the University Police Department at 316 978-3450

Names and Pronouns

Everyone has the right to be addressed as and referred to by the name and pronouns (including non-binary pronouns) that they choose and that correspond to their gender identity. Class rosters have a student's legal name and do not include pronouns, therefore, all students will be asked in class to indicate the names and pronouns they use for themselves. A student's chosen name and pronouns are to be respected at all times in the classroom.

First Generation Students

A first-generation (FGEN) college student is a student whose parents did not complete a four-year college degree. WSU strongly supports First Generation students and offers the following resources https://www.wichita.edu/student_life/firstgen/index.php.

Tentative Schedule for 16 week class –

Note that most weeks there will be documents that outline topics from the readings and supplementary materials that I want to add to each week's readings. These are **required readings** and will help each of you better understand the topics and ideas that are being covered each week.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		UNIT 1: Introduction to Theories of International Relations and Global Actors
1	1/21	<p>Introduction to IR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 1- Making of the Modern World o Francis Gavin, “It’s Never Been a Better Time to Study IR” <i>Foreign Policy</i>, https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/02/20/its-never-been-a-better-time-to-study-international-relations-trump-foreign-policy/ - Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Introduction Activity due 1/27/2020 at 11:59pm CST o Syllabus Quiz due 1/27/2020 at 11:59pm CST
2	1/28	<p>Introduction to International Relations Theory (Realism and Liberalism)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 4: International Relations Theory o Jack Snyder, “One World, Rival Theories” <i>Foreign Policy</i>, Nov/Dec. 2004 - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion Board Posts
3	2/4	<p>Constructivism, Feminism, and Critical Theories in IR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Sarina Theys, “Introducing Constructivism in International Relations Theory” <i>e-IR</i>, https://www.e-ir.info/2018/02/23/introducing-constructivism-in-international-relations-theory/ o Sarah Smith, “Introducing Feminism in International Relations Theory” <i>e-IR</i>, https://www.e-ir.info/2018/01/04/feminism-in-international-relations-theory/ - Assignments:

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion Board Posts ○ Work on Unit 1 Paper
4	2/11	<p>Levels of Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Textbook: Chapter 3: One World, Many Actors - Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion Board Posts ○ Unit 1 Paper: Theory due 2/17/2020 by 11:59pm CST
		UNIT 2: Global Issues: Conflict, Human Rights, and International Organizations
5	2/18	<p>Why Some Nations Fight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Why Are There Wars?”, Chapter from <i>World Politics 3rd Edition</i>, Frieden, Lake, and Schultz ○ Paul Collier, “The Market for Civil War” <i>Foreign Policy</i>, May/June 2003 - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion Board Posts
6	2/25	<p>Protecting People and Human Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Textbook: Chapter 11: Protecting People ○ Keith Bradsher and Tariq Panja, “In China, FIFA’s Focus is Soccer, Not Human Rights” <i>New York Times</i>, Oct. 24, 2019, https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/24/sports/soccer/fifa-china-soccer-human-rights.html ○ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/ - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion Board Posts

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
7	3/3	<p>International Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 5: International Law o How the Court Works (ICC): https://www.icc-cpi.int/about/how-the-court-works o Bruce Baker, “Twilight of Impunity for Africa’s Presidential Criminals” <i>Third World Quarterly</i>, 2004 - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion Board Posts
8	3/10	<p>International Organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 6: International Organizations o Jayshree Bajoria and Robert McMahon, “The Dilemma of Humanitarian Intervention” <i>Council on Foreign Relations</i>, June 12, 2013, https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/dilemma-humanitarian-intervention o Gareth Evans, “From Humanitarian Intervention to the Responsibility to Protect” <i>Wis. Int’l L.J.</i>, 2006, http://www.gevans.org/speeches/speech211.html - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion Board Posts
9	3/17	<p>Terrorism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 14: Transnational Terrorism - Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Work on Unit 2 Paper o Discussion Board Posts
10	3/24	<i>SPRING BREAK—No Coursework Assigned</i>
11	3/31	MIDTERM

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Midterm due 4/6/2020 by 11:59pm (CST) - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Unit 2 Paper: International Organizations due 4/6/2020 by 11:59pm (CST)
		UNIT 3: International Actors and the Global Political Economy
12	4/7	<p>Global Political Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 8: Global Political Economy o CQ Researcher, “Euro Crisis” October 5, 2012 - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion Board Posts
13	4/14	<p>Global Poverty and Wealth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 10: Global Poverty and Wealth o CQ Researcher, “Rethinking Foreign Aid” April 14, 2017 - Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion Board Posts o Work on Final Paper
14	4/21	<p>Global and Food Security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Textbook: Chapter 16: Feeding the World o Textbook: Chapter 17: Managing Global Security Beyond ‘Pax Americana’ - Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion Board Posts o Work on Final Paper
15	4/28	<p>The Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading:

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Textbook: Chapter 15: The Environment ○ Claudia Ringler, “How We Can Protect the World’s Most Vulnerable Countries Against Climate Shocks” <i>The Telegraph</i>, July 26, 2019, https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/climate-and-people/can-protect-worlds-vulnerable-countries-climate-shocks/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion Board Posts ○ Work on Final Paper
16	5/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Final Paper Due: Zombie Apocalypse due 5/14/2020 at 11:59pm (CST) ○ Reflection Paper due 5/14/2020 at 11:59pm (CST)
Final	5/9-5/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final Exam due 5/14/2020 at 11:59pm (CST)

Updated for accessibility on October 11, 2017 from content that was updated on August 13th, 2017