

# **POLS/INST 184: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Fall 2014

Monday/Wednesday 1:00pm – 1:50pm

Lecture Center F, Room 006

## **INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. Katharine M. Floros

BSB 1170B

phone: 312-996-8778

email: kmfloros@uic.edu

office hours: Monday/Wednesday, 2-3

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

This course is designed to be an introduction to the political science subfield of international politics. No background or prerequisites are required. The course will cover the major theories in international relations, security and economic relations between states, and global challenges states face from the environment and non-state actors.

## **EVALUATION (3 cr):**

### **10% Reading/Map Quizzes**

Throughout the semester, 8 quizzes will be given *during discussion sections* to test your comprehension of the reading material and the location of states on regional maps. All together, these quizzes will be worth 10% of the final grade.

### **10% Discussion Section Participation**

Students should arrive in discussion section every Friday having read the *entire* chapter under discussion with special attention given to the “Policy Choices” box assigned for that week. Students will be quizzed on the reading material, but they will also be assessed on their participation in debates and discussion, with special emphasis on the valued added to the discussion by the student.

### **40% Exams (each @ 20%)**

You will be required to take two exams. The first exam is tentatively scheduled for **October 20** and will cover the material from the beginning of the term until the exam day. The final exam is scheduled for **December 8** and will cover the material from the first exam until end of the semester.

**40% Current Events Papers** – An instruction sheet may be found on Blackboard with more information about these assignments and students will spend one discussion section learning about these papers in more detail. **DO NOT MISS THIS VERY IMPORTANT DISCUSSION SECTION.**

**10% January paper (October 6)**

**15% February paper (November 3)**

**15% March Paper (December 1)**

## GRADES

90-100: A      80-89: B      70-79: C      60-69: D      <60: F

## GUIDELINES:

**1. Late papers:** Late papers will be penalized 1 letter grade per day including weekends and holidays, except in the case of a verified emergency or documented medical excuse. In order for the penalty for tardiness to be waived, you must contact me **before** the due date. No exceptions! I WILL NOT accept papers via e-mail.

**2. Academic Integrity:** The University expects students to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. Any of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own and according to university and class rules. Any attempt to gain an advantage not given to all students is considered dishonest whether or not it is successful. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense subject to strong disciplinary actions, including but are not limited to failing this course. For additional information, see the Student Code of Conduct at: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/dos/docs/Student%20Disciplinary%20Policy%202011-12%20Final-1.pdf>

- There is **NO** instance or circumstance in which cutting and pasting from any material into an assignment is acceptable.
- Citations
  - When student is providing a direct quote from a resource, the author, date, and *page number* of the quote should be included in the citation. The direct quote should also be enclosed in parentheses.
  - Paraphrasing involves taking an author's words and putting them into our own words. Using a thesaurus to change a few words is **NOT** paraphrasing but may constitute plagiarism.
  - Class lecture is **NEVER** to be cited. Go back to the readings on which the lecture is based for the citation.

**3. Special provisions:** Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Please contact ODS at 312-413-2183 (voice) or 312-413-0123 (TTY). Accommodation letters should be provided to the professor as early in the semester as possible.

**4. Grade disputes:** Students must wait 24 hours after receiving a grade or graded work before approaching the professor about the grade. If a student cannot understand the comments on a paper or exam, s/he may approach the TA for clarification; however, if the student desires to challenge the grade, all challenges must be made *in writing* to the professor more than 24 hours after the grade was received. Students must be able to explain *in writing* why the grade deserves to be adjusted. Students should submit the written grade dispute along with the original graded work to the professor. The professor reserves the right to either raise or lower the grade, based on her assessment of the material. TAs should not be bothered with grade disputes.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- Kaarbo, Juliet and James Lee Ray. 2011. *Global Politics*, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

**OTHER STUDENTS IN THE CLASS:**

If you have any questions about assignments, deadlines, or other matters in the class, you may wish to contact other students before contacting the instructor or teaching assistant. Use the following space to collect information from other students in the class.

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(name)	(phone #)	(e-mail)
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(name)	(phone #)	(e-mail)
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**READING SCHEDULE:**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Exams</b>
<b>1</b>	Aug. 25	Class introduction		
	Aug. 27	Theories of IR	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 1	
<b>2</b>	Sept. 1	<b>No class – Labor Day holiday</b>		
	Sept. 3	Theories of IR, cont.	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 1	
<b>3</b>	Sept. 8	Historical Setting	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 2	
	Sept. 10			
<b>4</b>	Sept. 15	Modern Era	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 3	
	Sept. 17			
<b>5</b>	Sept. 22	States and Transnational Actors	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 4	
	Sept. 24			
<b>6</b>	Sept. 29	Foreign Policy	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 5	
	Oct. 1			
<b>7</b>	Oct. 6	International Conflict	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 6	<b>August current events paper due</b>
	Oct. 8			
<b>8</b>	Oct. 13	Ethnic Conflict and Terrorism	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 7	
	Oct. 15			
<b>9</b>	Oct. 20			<b>Mid-term exam</b>

	Oct. 22	Avoiding Conflict	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 8		
<b>10</b>	Oct. 27				
	Oct. 29				
<b>11</b>	Nov. 3	International Organizations	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 9	<b>September current events paper due</b>	
	Nov. 5	IPE of Developed Countries	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 10		
<b>12</b>	Nov. 10	IPE of Developing Countries	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 11		
	Nov. 12				
<b>13</b>	Nov. 17	Environment	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 13		
	Nov. 19				
<b>14</b>	Nov. 24	Catch up day			
	Nov. 26				
<b>15</b>	Dec. 1	Future of World Politics	Kaarbo & Ray, Ch. 14	<b>October current events paper due</b>	
	Dec. 3				
	<b>Mon., Dec. 8 1:00 – 3:00 PM</b>			<b>Final exam</b>	