

# IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

## POLITICAL SCIENCE 106 Introduction to International Relations

### Fall 2020 SYLLABUS

Semester: Fall 2020

Instructor: Raul Navarro, MPA

POLS 106 Intro International Relations

E-mail: [raul.navarro@imperial.edu](mailto:raul.navarro@imperial.edu)

CRN#: 11601

Office: Room 809

Room: Online

Virtual Office Hours: Wed. 11:00a.m.-12:00p.m

Class Dates: August 24-December 12, 2020

Office Phone: Elvia Camillo 760-355-6144

Class Days: Online via Canvas

Office contact if student will be out or

Class Time: Online

emergency: Elvia Camillo 760-355-6144  
or e-mail instructor

### Course Description

Why does war occur? For example, does an aggressive human nature inevitably lead us to war? Or does war occur because some types of states, perhaps fascist ones, are more prone to war? Or because of some greater general uncertainty underlying the anarchic nature of world order? Is a world full of democratic-capitalist governments the solution? Is it possible or even desirable? Can states cooperate to solve global environmental problems like climate change? This course addresses such questions in its survey of the field of international relations. The first part introduces the major theoretical traditions and their applications to world events over the past several hundred years. The second portion of the course will focus on several important issues in global politics, including: humanitarian interventions, national and global security—terrorism and nuclear proliferation, political economy, globalization, poverty and development, the environment/climate change, and global governance vis-à-vis international law and organizations. Finally, the course considers current and future challenges in the practice and study of international relations.

### Student Learning Outcome (SLO)

1. Develop an understanding of the structure and processes of the international community. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Identify the responsibilities of national governments in the international system. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Examine the significance and impact of conflict in world relations and its influence on governments and individuals. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO5)

## Course Objective

On successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Compare basic theories of international relations and their explanations for state behavior.
2. Critically analyze current international events.
3. Use the basic scientific method to test different explanations for international outcomes.
4. Identify and evaluate the role of a variety of international actors, including states, nonstate actors such as terrorists' groups, multinational corporations, international intergovernmental organizations, and international non-governmental organizations.

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1. James M. Scott, Ralph G. Carter, A Cooper Drury. *International, Economic, and Human Security in a Changing World, Thrid Edition* . ISBN: 9781506397085

## Course Requirements and Instructional Method

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, discussions question, assigned readings, videos, online quizzes, Mid-Term and Final Exam.

## Course Grading Based on Course Objective

Grading is based on your knowledge of the course content. How much effort and dedication you put into the course assignments and readings will be reflected in your grade at the end of the semester. It is encouraged that you stay current with all assignments for the best possible grade.

### Grading:

<b><u>Assignment</u></b>	<b><u>Points Possible</u></b>
Discussion Question	130
Weekly Quizzes	130
Mid-Term	200
Final Exam	200
Total Points Possible	660

### **Final Grades**

**590-660 Points= A**  
**528-589 Points= B**  
**462-527 Points= C**  
**396-461 Points= D**  
**000-395 Points= F**

### General Grading Rubric for Assignments

<b>A</b>	Focused and clearly organized. Contains advanced critical thinking and content analysis. Convincing evidence is provided to support conclusions. Language is precise and ideas are clearly communicated. Clearly meets or exceeds assignment requirements.
<b>B</b>	Generally focused and contains some development of ideas, but the writing may be simplistic or repetitive. Evidence is provided to support conclusions. May have occasional grammatical errors. Meets assignment requirements.
<b>C</b>	May be somewhat unfocused, underdeveloped, or rambling, but it does have some coherence. Some evidence is provided which supports conclusions. May have several grammatical errors. Meets minimum assignment requirements.
<b>D</b>	Unfocused, underdeveloped, and/or rambling. Minimal evidence is used to support conclusions. May contain serious grammatical errors that prevent an overall understanding. Does not respond appropriately to the assignment.
<b>F</b>	Minimal effort by student. Unfocused, underdeveloped, and/or rambling. May be too short or brief. Evidence is not used to support conclusions. May contain serious grammatical errors that block overall understanding. Does not meet assignment requirements.

### Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

### Classroom Etiquette

Imperial Valley College is maintained for the purpose of providing students in the community with programs of instruction in higher education. Students shall assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the college's function as an educational institution. Students shall observe the rules and regulations of the College and shall refrain from conduct which interferes with the College's teaching and administration, or which unreasonably interferes with the rights of others. Please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online for further information regarding student conduct. [www.imperial.edu](http://www.imperial.edu)

## Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to 'cite a source' correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

## Additional Help

- Learning Labs: There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Study Skills Center (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program.
- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the Study Skills Center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

## Disabled Student Program and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313, if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

## Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center**. A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC Student Health Center at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.

- **Mental Health Counseling Services**. Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

## Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at [http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762](http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762)

## Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

## Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

The following schedule is subject to change, as the instructor deems necessary, in order to more fully integrate the objectives of the course, and to accommodate the scheduling of lectures, quizzes, and/or student presentations.

**Discussion Questions** (130 pts. total): Weekly discussion questions via canvas are an invaluable tool for enhancing your understanding of what you have read. The questions you answer should foster deeper thought or insight about your views or understanding of the topic. Ensure you plan accordingly to complete discussion questions, there will not be retakes.

**Quiz** ( 130 pts Total ): Weekly quizzes via canvas are a vital tool to help student identify and grasp the understanding of the subject matter. Quizzes will be based on PowerPoints, readings, lectures, and supplemental canvas material. Ensure you plan accordingly to complete quizzes in a timely fashion, there will not be retakes.

**Mid-Term** ( 200 pts): The Mid-term will be on the first portion of the semester material administered via canvas. The mid-term will cover readings, lectures, discussion questions and canvas supplemental material.

**Final Examination** (200 pts): The final examination will be based on the second half of the semester readings. There will be a Final Exam Review one week before the exam. The Final will cover readings, lectures, discussion questions and canvas supplemental material.

### **Class Participation:**

Students are expected to participate in all class discussions. All students are encouraged to participate and voice their opinion in all Political issues. Do not be afraid to engage in an argument. Political opinions can be very controversial, since we each have our own values, traditions and beliefs. Just remember to be respectful of all students.

<b>Schedule Readings, Assignments, and Exams</b>		
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Readings, Assignments</b>	<b>Exams</b>
Week 1 08/24/2020	<b>Ch. 1 World Politics: Seeking Security in a Complicated and Connected World</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 2 08/31/2020	<b>Ch.2 The Players and the Playing Field: Anarchy, States, and Non-State Actors</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 3 09/08/2020	<b>Ch 3 Powerful Ideas: Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 4 09/14/2020	<b>Ch 4 Alternative Perspectives on International Relations</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 5 09/21/20	<b>Ch 5 Understanding Conflict: The Nature and Causes of Conflict and War</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 6 09/28/2020	<b>Ch. 6 Seeking Security: Managing Conflict and War</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 7 10/05/2020	<b>Ch. 7 Building Peace: Structure and Institutions of Cooperation</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 8 10/12/2020	<b>Mid-Term</b>	Midterm Ch. 1.-Ch.7
Week 9 10/19/2020	<b>Ch. 8 The Pursuit of Economic Security: Trade, Finance, and Integration</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 10 10/26/2020	<b>Ch. 9 Economic Statecraft: Sanctions, Aid, and Their Consequences</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 11 11/02/2020	<b>Ch. 10 International Development: Relations Between the Haves and the Have-Nots</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 12 11/09/2020	<b>Ch. 11 Human Rights: People, Human Security, and World Politics</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 13 11/16/2020	<b>Ch 12 The Global Environment: Transnational Environmental Issues and Human Security</b>  <b>Ch. 13 Transnational Advocacy Networks: Changing the World?</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 14 11/23 /2020	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
Week 15 11/30/2020	<b>Ch. 14 International, Economic, and Human Security in the Balance: Future Directions and Challenges</b>	Weekly Quiz Discussion Assignment
<b>Week 16 12/07/2020</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>Ch. 8- Ch. 14</b>

	***Tentative, subject to change without prior notice***	
--	---	--