

PSCI 4183 PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FALL 2009

CLASS TIME: MWF 10:00-10:50am
CLRE 207

PROFESSOR: Anita M. Halvorssen

OFFICE: Ketchum 121A

OFFICE HOURS: MW 1:00-2:00 P.M. AND BY APPOINTMENT

EMAIL: amhalvorss@aol.com (note: it is an AOL address)

PHONE: (303) 492-7871 (departmental office); (303) 499-2368 (home office)

Call anytime between 7am and 8pm.

TA: Tim Hundsdorfer

Office hours: By appointment

E-mail: thundsdo@gmail.com (Skype: Tim.Hundsdorfer)

This class will be taught as a seminar. The sessions will be organized around certain problems some of which you will suggest in the first couple of classes. The course will emphasize discussion of the topics raised in the readings related to the problems. There will be few if any lectures. The instructor will only be there to moderate and suggest topics for discussion. The discussions will look at *why* problems have arisen and how different elements of the arguments connect. *Who* are the parties involved in the problem – different stakeholders will be addressed. *Which* international organizations are involved. Current status of the problem and suggested policy solutions. **If there is a tendency to skip the readings, quizzes will be incorporated.**

This is a class with no final exam – it has a group project and a final paper.

As participation is part of your grade, I will be taking a roll-call several times during the semester – not being in class at that time will have consequences for your grade.

Grading:

45% - group project

45% - final paper

10% - class participation

Required reading

Global issues –Selections from CQ Researcher – 2009 Edition

Suggested readings:

Lexis and the Olive Tree

(Others will be mentioned in class)

GROUP PROJECT

Groups of 5-6 students give a 15 minutes presentation of a topic of their choosing (approved by the instructor) based on a paper produced by the group. 10 page paper, double-spaced, font size 12, with footnotes. Focus on the source of the problem, the history, the actors, the interests of the various actor, whether sovereignty is a big issue, whether security is a big issue, current status of the problem, international organizations or NGOs involved. Suggest some policy solutions. I will set up a list of dates to choose from during the last few weeks of class for presenting papers. You can use power point for the presentation, but it needs to be e-mailed to instructor 3 days before presentation. Group paper guidelines will be posted on CU Learn on second week of class.

Topic due: August 31

Proposal due: September 14

First draft due: 1 week before date of presentation

Final paper due: 1 week after presentation

FINAL PAPER

10 page paper, double-spaced, font size 12, with footnotes. Focus on the source of the problem, the history, the actors, the interests of the various actor, whether sovereignty is a big issue, whether security is a big issue, current status of the problem, international organizations or NGOs involved. Suggested policy solutions. Term paper guidelines will be posted on CU Learn on second week of class.

Topic due: September 9

Proposal due: September 30

First draft due: October 15

Final paper due: Friday, December 11

UNIVERSITY AND CLASS POLICIES

Students who have not taken the prerequisite class (2223) or are signed up for it this term, have to wait until next semester to take this class.

Academic honesty: Any violations of University of Colorado's academic integrity policy, including cheating, plagiarism, academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior is grounds for an automatic F, expulsion from the class, and referral to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Cheating specifically includes use of unauthorized materials or others' work during exams (you can only bring your textbook, your chart of the UN System, UN Security Council Resolutions, any treaties you have download off the internet (no commentaries to the treaties), and the Stockholm and Rio Declarations- NO CLASS NOTES or other materials). If you have questions about what is or is not permissible, ask first. Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>.

TURNING IN WORK

Normally you will turn in your work (hard copy) at the beginning of class on the day it is due. If you have received special permission to e-mail the assignment, be sure to save a copy of the e-mail as proof that you actually sent the work. It's your responsibility to make sure your assignments are handed in. Use this e-mail: amhalvorss@aol.com. **Papers will not be accepted if put under my office door, they need to be handed in to the PSCI Office, if I'm not in the office.**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have specific circumstances or disabilities that require accommodation, please bring me a letter from Disability Services early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will be required to provide documentation of your special circumstances or disability to the Disability Services Office in Willard 322 (telephone: (303) 492-8671). www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. If applicable, please let me know in a timely manner. http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

APPROPRIATE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at:

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at

http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

CAMPUS POLICY ON DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

(<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>) The University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus

resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1 – Starting August 24

Globalization – What is that?

Conflict, Security and Terrorism

U.S Policy in Iran pp.57-76

Week 2 Conflict, Security and Terrorism (continued)

Radical Islam in Europe pp.81-107

Week 3 Human Rights

Torture Debate pp.115-135

Information-gathering or punishment

Week 4 Human Rights (continued)

Crisis in Darfur pp.143-165

Week 5 Human Rights

Women's Rights pp.173-199

Week 6 Human Rights

Human Rights in China pp.209-228

Week 7 Environment

Climate change – your own research on the internet

Week 8 Energy and the Environment

Energy Nationalism pp.257-280

Week 9 Energy and the Environment (continued)

Oil Jitters pp.289-308

Week 10 Democratization

Dealing with a 'New' Russia pp.313-331

Week 11 Democratization (continued)

The New Latin America pp.337-360

Week 12 International Political Economy

China in Africa pp.421-441

Week 13 Presentations Group Projects

Week 14 Fall/ Thanksgiving Break

Week 15 Presentations Group Projects

Week 16 Last week of class

The listed topics are not set in stone. I'd like to add your suggestions.

Here are additional topics:

International Criminal Court

Piracy

International organizations – United Nations

Non-governmental organizations and their influence on international relations

Slavery and human trafficking

Refugees

Sustainable development

World Trade Organization

Sovereign Wealth Funds

Transnational pollution

Nuclear Proliferation

Transnational Corruption and Organized Crime

