

# PSCI 2223, Introduction to International Relations

MWF 1 to 2 PM

## Course Description

Introduces the field of international relations, with general survey of the theories, histories, and problems of historical and contemporary relations among state and non-state actors.

## Course Objectives

At the end of the semester, students should be able to:

1. Explain the core tenets of the major theories (realism, liberalism, Marxism) of international relations.
2. Understand the criticism presented by constructivism and feminism.
3. Discuss the development of foreign policy and be able to apply to specific cases.
4. Evaluate the roles of different international actors (IGOs, NGOs, states).
5. Explain the different views of security and threats in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
6. Evaluate the effect of globalization on:
  - a. Developed states
  - b. Developing states
  - c. Individuals
7. Discuss the effect of change in the physical environment on international politics

## Grades

Grades will be based on a scale of 100 points. Your final grade will be a function of the number of points that you achieve.

<b>A</b>	<b>94-100</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>87-89</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>77-79</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>67-69</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>0-59</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>90-93</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>83-86</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>73-76</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>63-66</b>		
		<b>B-</b>	<b>80-82</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>70-72</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>60-62</b>		

Points are allocated based on the following:

Attendance	10 points
Taking Sides Papers (4) – 5 points each	20 points
Comprehensive Paper	10 points
Exam 1: Foundation and Theory	15 points
Exam 2: Global Actors	15 points
Exam 3: Global Issues: Security	15 points
Exam 4: Political Economy	15 points
Total	100 points

## Attendance

Ten percent of success in life is showing up. The same is true for this course.

## Taking Sides Papers

Students are required to turn in three analytic papers based on issues presented in *Taking*

*Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issue* during the semester. Papers will be due the day that the issue is scheduled. Late Papers will not be accepted.

These papers will answer the following questions:

1. What is the problem?
2. What are the key elements (causes) of the problem?
3. What alternative views have been presented by the authors?
4. Which view do you think is the most valid and why?

These papers should use the positions presented in each issue and do not require additional research.

Papers will be two pages, typed and double spaced. Students should include their name and the issue number on first page.

### Comprehensive Paper

The comprehensive essay will consist of the analysis of a contemporary problem. The paper will be approximately 4-6 double-spaced pages. It will be due on 15 April 2010. Specific instructions and the question will be posted NO LATER THAN 1 April 2010. **Late papers will not be accepted.**

### Exams

Exams will be given at the end of each major block of the course. They will be a mix of multiple choice and short answer (3-5 sentences). A review sheet will be posted a week in advance.

### Course material

There are two required textbooks:

Steven L. Lamy, John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens. 2010. *Introduction to Global Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press.

(Readings from this in the Course Outline/Schedule and CULEARN's CALENDAR will be referred to in the schedule as IGP, and chapter number)

James E. Harf, Mark Owen Lombardi. 2010. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Global Issues, 6th Edition*. New York: McGraw Hill.

(Readings from this in the Course Outline/Schedule and CULEARN's CALENDAR will be referred to in the schedule as TS, and chapter number)

Recently published articles will also be included. These will be listed by the author's last name and be available on CULEARN (the posting will be as a link under CALENDAR on the day the reading is assigned).

The text website will also be a consistent element of the course. It can be reached at [www.oup.com/us/lamy](http://www.oup.com/us/lamy) or at <http://www.oup.com/us/companion.websites/9780195385274/student/?view=usa>

### Class Routine

Classes will start on time with a few comments on the subject of the day. This will be followed

by discussions or a class exercise on some aspect of the issue. Class exercises may involve anything from a role playing scenario to group presentations.

Your preparation for class should include doing the readings (most are rather short) and looking over the class notes for the day. Notes will be published in advance on CULEARN.

### Course Outline/Schedule

January				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10- Introduction	11	12 – IGP 1	13	14 – IGP 2
17 – MLK Birthday (no class)	18	19 – TS 16	20	21 – Sloman (available at CULEARN)
24 – IGP 3 (pp. 64-74)	25	26 – Oren (available at CULEARN)	27	28 – IGP 3 (pp. 75 – 91)
31 – IGP 4				
February				
	1	2 – Snyder (available at CULEARN) Review	3	4 – Exam 1
7 – IGP 5 (pp. 116-138)	8	9 – IGP 5 (pp. 139-154)	10	11 – TS 19
14 – TS 20	15	16 – IGP 6	17	18 – Chertoff (available at CULEARN)
21 – Barnett (available at CULEARN)	22	23 – IGP 7	24	25 – TS 11 Review
28 – Exam 2				
March				
	1	2 – IGP 8 (pp. 222-232)	3	4 – IGP 8 (pp. 233-254)
7 – TS 10	8	9 – TS 17	10	11 – IGP 9
14 – TS 18	15	16 – IGP 10	17	18 – Paris (available at CULEARN)
21 - Break	22 - Break	23 - Break	24 - Break	25 - Break
28 – TS 12 Review	29	30 – Exam 3	31	
April				
				1 – IGP 11
4 – TS 13	5	6 – TS 14	7	8 – IGP 12
11 – TS 15	12	13 – IGP 13	14	15 – TS 2 Comprehensive Paper Due
18 – TS 7	19	20 – IGP 14	21	22 – Hardin (available at CULEARN)

25 – TS 1

26

27 – TS 5  
Review

28

29 – Exam 4

**Policies****Technology in Classroom**

While technology adds to the classroom, some limits are necessary.

- \* Cell phones are not to be used during class. This includes texting, calling or any other communication. Devices should be turned off or in silent mode
- \* Unless you have a disability that requires the use of a computer (see below on accommodation), computers will not be used in class. My own experience as well as the findings of organizations GOOGLE.COM, EMI and the Department of State is that too often they are more of a distraction than a benefit.

**Incompletes.**

Incompletes are not used as a substitute for poor performance or the inability to schedule your own workload. Their purpose is to provide a means for students that have personal problems to complete the work without damaging their grade point average. Requests for incompletes will be considered on a case by case basis and rarely granted. If you do not think you can handle the course load outlined in the syllabus, drop the course.

However, I also understand that conditions change. If changes do occur, see me as soon as possible. The earlier I am informed of your problems, the sooner we can come to a settlement. If at any time during the course you think you are having problems, LET ME KNOW!

**The following policies are established by the University. The language here is that recommended by various parts of the University administration.**

**Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>

**Religious Observances**

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, notify me as soon as possible. See full details at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html)

A comprehensive calendar of the religious holidays most commonly observed by CU-Boulder students is at <http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/>

### **Classroom behavior**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, 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](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code)

### **Honor Code**

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu), 303-735-2273). 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). 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/>

### **Sexual Harassment**

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, 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, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

### **Contact Information**

#### **Office visits**

Office – Ketchum 4B

Hours – Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11 AM to Noon (or by appointment)(not on campus Tuesday or Thursday)

#### **Discussion Board**

General questions should be posted to CULEARN's Discussion section on the Questions board.

#### **E-mail within the course**

Course e-mail lets me know that you are contacting me related to this course. It also means that if we agree that this is an issue for the entire course, it can be forwarded to the class.

**E-mail to my University Account**

[michael.kanner@colorado.edu](mailto:michael.kanner@colorado.edu) – Use this account if it is specific to you (e.g., problems) or you are not getting a response to the course e-mail. I generally answer any e-mails within 5-6 hours.

**IM**

You are also free to IM me if I am on-line by sending an invitation from the 'Who's Online' tool. Because I may be working on other projects/classes, I maintain the right to not answer (or to do so only briefly).