

**Cleveland State University
International Politics-Spring 2020**

Class/Section: PSC 231, Section 1
Class No: 1357

Instructor: Lana Mobydeen
Office Hours: After Blackboard Collaborate
Lecture Days or by phone
at the number listed

Class time: M/W/F 11:20 AM-12:10 PM
Classroom: BH 433

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Introduction

International politics is important and impacts all of our lives. Do you ever think about the relationship between the U.S. and China? Or the U.S. and Russia? Do you wonder how the refugee crisis around the world impacts your life? To answer these questions and many others, we will examine the ways that countries interact, compete and cooperate with one another. We will look specifically at how countries try to cope with challenges like economics, security, and humanitarian aid. For example, we will explore issues such as the role and effectiveness of the U.N., the impact of migration on the world and the role of terrorist groups and their influence on international politics. We will also focus on the problems of security and strategies for enhancing security and well-being in the post-Cold War era.

Topics include strategies and instruments such as conventional and nuclear war; alternative security strategies such as economic nationalism, diplomacy, international law, and international organizations; and changes in the current international system related to economic globalization, environmental interdependence, transnational movements and nonstate actors.

Readings and assignments are designed so as to provide students with an introduction to a variety of topics and demonstrate the applicability of those topics in real-world situations. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I am here to help you further your education and understand the material and also have an enjoyable educational experience. I hope that we have a great semester together!

Course Learning Outcomes and Expectations

1. Understand and be able to identify the concepts and theories behind the study of international relations.
2. Identify and describe the major international political institutions and important actors involved in international politics such as states, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations.
3. Recognize and evaluate how these theories explain international interactions.
4. Use and apply the theoretical tools learned throughout the course to current global issues.
5. Be able to think and write critically and analytically about the concepts learned in class and be able to effectively convey such information in a coherent manner.
6. Understand and identify key terms and concepts in the field of international politics.

Required Textbook / Reading Materials

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse. (2017). International Relations. 11th Edition. Boston: Pearson. ISBN 978-0-13-440476-9.

Additional readings will be from sources outside of the textbook and will be available on Blackboard where indicated in the syllabus.

Grading Policy

Your grades will be determined on the basis of your class attendance as well as performance on the writing assignments, quizzes, a midterm examination, and a final examination. The final examination will not be comprehensive and will cover only materials given after the midterm examination. Extra credit assignments may be offered at my discretion.

The grading weights are:

- **Attendance.....10%**
- **Writing Assignments (2 total-10% each).....20%**
- **Quizzes (2 total-10% each).....20%**
- **Midterm Examination25%**
- **Final Examination.....25%**

- **Your grade will be based on the following grading scale:**

A = 95–100%	B+ = 86–89%	C+ = 75–79%	F = below 60%
A- = 90–94%	B = 83–85%	C = 70–74%	
	B- = 80–82%	D = 60-69%	

Attendance and Class Participation (10% of grade)

Attendance in class and class participation is very important to your success while we are in face to face sessions. Attendance will be taken each day that class meets. Therefore, students should read the assigned material required before the date of class and come to class prepared to actively participate in discussion for each class. Students are also expected to respect the questions, opinions and thoughts of others in our class as we will cover a variety of interesting topics. Class participation includes attendance, contributing to class discussion and brief in-class writing assignments on “debate” days (**which are not graded**) but that count toward the course participation grade.

Note: Your attendance grade will be calculated as a percentage of attended classes. For example, if a student attends 80% of classes, he/she will receive an 80% for an attendance grade.

If you have an emergency, please contact me as soon as possible so that I am aware of the situation. If you anticipate that you will be absent, please contact me via email. Arriving late and departing early interrupt my instruction, our class time and fellow students. Please expect to be on time and remain in class for the entire class time. Please be advised that arriving late and leaving early without a valid excuse (as determined by the instructor) will constitute an absence for that day. An exception can be made if you have spoken to me prior to class or have an acceptable excuse. When you miss all or part of a class for whatever reason, you remain responsible for all the material covered in class and for staying current on all matters pertaining to your obligations in this course.

Discussion Board on Blackboard (THIS WILL REPLACE OUR FACE TO FACE MEETINGS AND COUNT FOR WEEKLY ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION):

Since in the midst of this semester we have switched to online instruction, you will be required to participate in a weekly discussion board on Blackboard for your attendance/participation grade. You must complete this weekly discussion board to receive credit for attendance/participation for the week. You will be required to post a weekly response to a discussion board that I will provide a topic for each week. **You will be required to post a minimum of one (1) response to the topic for that week’s discussion board for full credit for participation/attendance for that week.** I also expect that you will follow proper behavior with regard to responses to others as discussed below.

Netiquette for Online Discussions:

- I expect that each student will have respect for others and use common courtesy.
- Be clear and concise in your word choices. Explain any ideas or questions that you have thoroughly so that it is easy for others to understand.
- Do not make remarks that are derogatory, attacking other viewpoints or using profanity. I review all discussion board posts and you will not receive credit for such post if it is offensive. In addition, any and all offensive or profane remarks will be submitted to the Academic Dean and/or any other necessary parties and proper action will be taken against the student.
- Do not present the work or ideas of others as your own. If you do use an outside source, please provide quotations or a citation to such source.

Writing Assignments (2 total worth 10% each=20% of grade)

Students will have to submit two (2) writing assignments due over the course of the semester.

The overall formatting and submission requirements are detailed in the last page of this syllabus. The assignments will be posted on Blackboard. Students are required to provide a proper a well thought out response that is thorough and informed. You will be graded on how effectively you followed the directions of the assignment. You will also be graded on your writing style including but not limited to organization, structure, grammar, punctuation, syntax and spelling. I encourage students to visit me during office hours or contact me for any questions regarding such assignments. The writing assignments (each worth 10%) will count for 20% of the student's grade.

Due dates for each writing assignment: January 31st, April 24th

Quizzes (2 total worth 10% each=20% of grade)

Students will have reading assignments for most class days. On two (2) class days, students will have a multiple choice and/or short answer response quiz that is based on the reading and/or concepts that we learned in class. These quizzes will be given at the beginning of class on the announced days. The two quizzes (each worth 10%) will count for 20% of the student's grade.

Quiz dates are: February 14th, April 10th

Midterm Examination (25% of grade)

The midterm exam is scheduled for **Monday, March 2, 2020**. The midterm will consist of one or both of the following: multiple choice and/or short answer responses. I will have an in-class review before the midterm.

Final Examination (25% of grade)

The **ONLINE** final exam is scheduled for **AVAILABILITY ON BLACKBOARD ALL DAY ON Wednesday, May 6, 2020 UNTIL 11:59 PM**. The final is not cumulative and will test the material given after the midterm. The final will consist of multiple-choice questions. I will conduct a review prior to the final exam.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change with notice to the class. All changes, including new or amended assignments, will be announced in class. Quizzes and writing assignments must be completed on the assigned day before the start of class, unless there are emergency/extenuating circumstances.

NOTES FROM THE UNIVERSITY

Transferable Skills

This course fulfills the following skills under the CSU General Education requirements: knowledge of global issues, written and oral communication skills, ability to work in a team, critical thinking/analytical reasoning skills, being detail oriented and information literacy. For a more detailed explanation of the transferable skills associated with these categories, please go to <http://www.csuohio.edu/class/classedge/transferrable-skills>. Knowing about transferable skills is useful in writing a resume and in articulating the abilities you have acquired to a prospective employer. Also see “**Acquired Skills for Use in Resume**”

<http://www.csuohio.edu/class/students/acquired-skills-for-use-in-resume> that helps you put your skills into words, and “**Skills by Major**” <http://www.csuohio.edu/class/students/skills-major> to see examples of how you can talk about your abilities in a paragraph.

Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services provides coordination for the accommodation needs of individuals with disabilities. Anyone who is requesting accommodations due to a disability is required to make that request through the Office of Disability Services. Once a person has been identified to the Office of Disability Services, they will engage in an interactive process with that person to determine what accommodations, if any, are needed to ensure equal access and participation in the campus community. The Office of Disability Services is located in Main Classroom, room 147. Their contact phone number is 216-687-2015 or you can visit the following website: <https://www.csuohio.edu/disability/disability> for more information.

Student Cheating and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is **not permitted** at Cleveland State University. The CSU Student Handbook describes plagiarism as, “stealing and/or using the ideas or writings of another in a paper or report and claiming them as your own. This includes but is not limited to the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment.” According to university policy, a “minor infraction” is one involving an assignment of less than 25% of the course’s grade, while a “major infraction” involves an assignment worth 25% or more, or multiple minor infractions. A minor infraction will result in a grade of zero for the assignment involved; a major infraction or series of multiple minor infractions will result in an F for the course and an entry on your permanent academic record indicating academic misconduct. Please see <https://www.csuohio.edu/writing-center/plagiarism> for more information.

Registration

The official registration deadline for this course is **January 19, 2020**. University policy requires all students to be officially registered in each class they are attending. Each student must confirm enrollment by checking his/her class schedule prior to the deadline indicated. Registration errors must be corrected prior to the deadline.

- The last day to drop the class without the “W” grade is **January 24, 2020**. **THE UPDATED LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM COURSES IS April 24, 2020.**
- For the academic calendar which includes important registration dates please see: <https://www.csuohio.edu/enrollmentservices/registrar/calendar/>

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media material remain the intellectual property of the professor/lecturer/instructor. Students may not distribute, publish or provide such intellectual property to any other person or entity for any reason, commercial or otherwise, without the express written permission of the professor.

***Students may NOT audio record ANY course lectures/discussions without written permission of the professor. As a courtesy to the instructor and other students I ask that you refrain from cell phone use and texting during class.**

COURSE TOPICS/READING SCHEDULE

NOTE TO REVISED COURSE LECTURE / READINGS FOR ONLINE CLASS:

Please continue to do the textbook readings as well as the additional readings according to the updated syllabus for the course. Lectures on these readings will be on Mondays and Wednesdays via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (as noted below). Fridays we will not meet so you can work on your other classes and also complete your discussion board responses/and any assignments (with the exception of the review session for the final examination on May 1, 2020 from 11:20 am-12:10 pm). **I will be holding live lectures on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra on the designated days DURING OUR NORMAL CLASS TIME on Mondays and Wednesdays (11:20 am-12:10 pm) so that whoever wants to join is able to join. If you cannot join, I completely understand and you can view the recordings of such lectures on your own time (the recordings will be located on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra). I am giving you an option since some people voiced that they would like to continue to have live instruction and others cannot join in live instruction. This is the best of both worlds, whoever wants live instruction can join via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra during our normal class time and those who cannot join can view the recordings at their own pace (NOTE: I will NOT be taking attendance in these sessions so if you cannot attend I understand). Also, you do not have to use the video option if you do not want to, you can close your camera/mic and just attend if you like. I will also continue to post the Powerpoint lectures that I use in the live lectures (in the Powerpoint Lecture folder on Blackboard) so that you all have access to those as well.**

Please look at the following resources to help navigate Blackboard Collaborate Ultra:

https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Interact/Blackboard_Collaborate/Blackboard_Collaborate_With_The_Ultra_Experience

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1W4sGpVmJaY>

Contact information for ELearning Center at CSU:

- **Email:** elarning@csuohio.edu
- **Phone:** 216-687-5050

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONTINUED

Mon., March 23rd – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 7, pp. 216-222

- Class Discussion/Exercise: Sources and Enforcement of International Law, The World Court

Wed., March 25th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 7, pp. 223-235

- Class Discussion/Exercise: International Criminal Court (ICC), Human Rights

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- **SKIM:** Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

Fri., March 27th – **DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSE TO THIS WEEK’S MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY TODAY AT 11:59 PM**

Mon., March 30th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 8, pp. 240-250

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Excerpt from: Stiglitz, Joseph, and Andrew Charlton. 2006. *Fair Trade for All: How Trade Can Promote Development*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Wed., April 1st – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 8, pp. 250-258, pp. 262-267

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Article re: Rivoli, Pietra. 2014. *The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy: An Economist Examines the Markets, Power, and Politics of World Trade*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc..
- Excerpt of Video: NPR: Planet Money Makes a T-Shirt

Fri., April 3rd – **DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSE TO THIS WEEK’S MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY TODAY AT 11:59 PM**

GLOBAL FINANCE AND BUSINESS

Mon., April 6th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 9, pp. 272-282

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Book Review re: Rodrik, Dani. 2007. *One Economics, Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions and Economic Growth*. Princeton, N.J. Princeton University Press.

Wed., April 8th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 9, pp. 282-296

- Class Discussion/Exercise: Bretton Woods, Washington Consensus, World Bank, IMF, SAPs

Fri., April 10th – **DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSE TO THIS WEEK’S MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY TODAY AT 11:59 PM**

*** QUIZ 2 DUE BY 11:59 PM ON BLACKBOARD**

ENVIRONMENT AND POPULATION

Mon., April 13th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 11, pp. 330-342

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Excerpt from: Klein, Naomi. 2014. *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate*. New York: Simon & Schuster, Inc.

Wed., April 15th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 11, pp. 343-357

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Excerpt from: Ross, Michael L. 2004. “What Do We Know About Natural Resources and Civil War?” *Journal of Peace Research* 41(3): 337-356.

Fri., April 17th – **DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSE TO THIS WEEK’S MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY TODAY AT 11:59 PM**

THE NORTH-SOUTH GAP

Mon., April 20th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 12, pp. 362-369

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Excerpt from: Collier, Paul. 2007. *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Wed., April 22nd – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 12, pp. 370-388

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Excerpt from: Wallerstein, Immanuel. 2004. *World Systems Analysis: An Introduction*. Durham, NC, Duke University Press.

Fri., April 24th – **DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSE TO THIS WEEK’S MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY TODAY AT 11:59 PM**

***Assignment Due: Writing Assignment 2 Due by 11:59 PM on Blackboard**

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mon., April 27th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 13, pp. 393-404

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Excerpt from: World Bank. 1993. *The East Asian Miracle: Economic Growth and Public Policy*
- Excerpt from: Rodrik, Dani. 1994. “King Kong Meets Godzilla: The World Bank and the East Asian Miracle,” in *Miracle or Design? Lessons From the East Experience*, edited by Albert Fishlow, et al. Washington: Overseas Development Council, 1994. (criticizes the World Bank Report)

Wed., April 29th – **BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA LECTURE 11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

Chapter 13, pp. 404-423

Case Study: Development Successes and Failures

Additional Reading (located on Blackboard):

- Baer, Werner. 1984. “Industrialization in Latin America: Successes and Failures.” *The Journal of Economic Education* 15(2):124-135.
- The Saylor Foundation. *Economic Development in East Asia*.

Fri., May 1st – **DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSE TO THIS WEEK’S MATERIAL MUST BE COMPLETED BY TODAY AT 11:59 PM**

**BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE ULTRA SESSION FINAL EXAM REVIEW
11:20 AM-12:10 PM**

***** FINAL EXAMINATION- AVAILABLE ON BLACKBOARD ALL DAY ON Wednesday,
May 6, 2020 UNTIL 11:59 PM**