

CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number and Title: POLS 1020, section 01; Issues in Foreign Relations I

Semester/Year: Fall 2015 (Spring 2016 POLS 1030)

Lecture Hours: 3 **Lab Hours:** N/A **Credit Hours:** 3

Class Time: 7-10 pm **Days:** TH **Room:** LH 171

Instructor: Erich Frankland

Instructor's Office: LH 175-I

Phone #: 268-2490

E-mail: efrankland@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: Monday and Friday 9:00-10:00am; Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-11:00am; Wednesday 11:00am-12:00pm; if these times and/or days are inconvenient, please make an appointment to see me. In case of an emergency please contact Crystal Sosalla, School Academic Assistant, in LH 166, 268-2368 or csosalla@caspercollege.edu

Course Description: This yearlong seminar entails an introduction to the concepts, institutions and issues of contemporary foreign relations from the perspective of the United States. Please note this yearlong seminar is 6 credits, POLS 1020 for Fall, POLS 1030 for Spring.

Statement of Prerequisites: Each student must have completed the course application process before enrolling in this course.

General Objectives (Goals): This course is a theoretical and practical survey of the contemporary foreign relations environment and the role(s) of the United States in it. The course will provide an essential foundation of the theories, histories, and approaches that affect foreign relations. This foundation will serve to enhance the research of each group in the spring semester (there will be three groups whose members will be randomly selected by the instructor) on the issue of foreign relations that it has selected. The end of the Cold War, the rise and fall of the New World Order, the emergence of globalization, and other forces have dramatically affected foreign relations, and the United States' place in the world. This new and ever-changing global environment has challenged both decision makers as well as citizens, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. This course will selectively explore the changes in foreign relations and the key issues that have emerged with an eye towards the views and options of the United States as well as the broader scope of 21st century foreign relations.

Specific Objectives (Outcomes): It is expected that completion of this course will assist each student in becoming:

1. more aware of the role of theories, values, histories, and principles involved in the study of foreign relations (this connects to the college's #4 outcome of "Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives");
2. familiar with the array of actors in contemporary foreign affairs and the various forms of interaction in which they are involved;
3. familiar enough with the tools of professional analysis to understand contemporary foreign relations as well as future possibilities (this connects to the college's #6 outcome of "Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research");
4. better able to meet the reading, writing, researching, and speaking demands essential for a college experience (this connects to the college's #1 outcome of "Demonstrate effective oral and written communication");
5. familiar with the professional literature covering American and non-American foreign policy concerns;
6. thoroughly knowledgeable of the primary issues that confront the contemporary foreign relations environment.

*Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above college outcomes. Any personal identifying information will be removed from collected student work.

Methodology/Evaluation Criteria:

Examinations (300 points total)- There will be three exams for this semester, which will be equally weighted (100 points each). Each exam will be composed of two parts that will draw from the readings, lectures, and discussion. Part one will contain a selection of short identification or definition questions that will draw from key points raised by speakers, readings, and lectures. Part two will consist of one essay that will require you to integrate the materials learned into a sophisticated response. Each part of the exam will include some choice of questions. These will be take-home exams and your answers may be handwritten or typed.

Participation and Discussion (75 points)- In addition to regular attendance, you are encouraged to participate in class discussion (50 points). Also, you will act as a discussion leader (25 points) during the course of the class. Your discussion will center on one of the readings selected from the course text. You should prepare approximately 3-5 questions for us to discuss after you deliver a **brief** overview of the reading in question. Please do not come late to class as this disrupts lectures and discussion. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the notes for that class session.

Dinners Attendance (50 points)- A major portion of this course is your attendance and participation at the monthly dinners of the Casper Committee on Foreign Relations. Typically, these are on Thursday evenings starting around 6:15pm at the Casper Petroleum Club. The cost of the dinners is covered by Casper College.

Reviews (50 points)- You are required to submit a brief review (2-3 typed pages) of two issues (25 points each) taken from a professional journal or magazine. Some noteworthy journals are Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, International Political Science Review, Orbis, and World Politics. Possible magazines include The Economist, U.S. News and World Report, Time, or other weekly/monthly magazine. Please see me if you are planning on using a source other than those listed above. Each review should address the particular issue raised in the article as well as include some analysis and/or criticism. In addition, each review should include a title page and a full bibliographic listing at the start of the review. One review should deal with an issue involving American foreign policy and the other should focus on a non-American foreign policy issue (you may select the order in which you submit these).

Grade Distribution:

Exam #1	100 points	Review #1	25 points
Exam #2	100 points	Review #2	25 points
Exam #3	100 points	Dinners Attendance	50 points
Attendance & Participation (inc. discussion)			75 points

Total of 475 points with grades distributed according to the following: 90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 59% or less is failing

Contact the Instructor: Please feel free to stop by during our office/contact hours, or make an appointment to see me. I am willing to discuss the course readings and assignments with you anytime. Please note that excuses for late assignments and missed exams will only be accepted in extreme cases and at the discretion of the instructor.

Student Rights & Responsibilities- If you have any questions regarding your rights and responsibilities, please refer to the Casper College Student Handbook.

Chain of Command- If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty (Cheating & Plagiarism)- Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication- Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College e-mail account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

ADA Accommodations Policy- If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform the instructor as soon as possible privately after class or during office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college's Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, 307-268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

Committee on Foreign Relations meetings: You are required to attend the monthly dinner meetings of the Casper Committee on Foreign Relations which are held at the Casper Petroleum Club generally on Thursdays at 6:15pm. The presentation from each meeting will be discussed in the following class. Also, remember that the members of the class will attend the national meeting of the American Committees on Foreign Relations in April 2016 in Washington, D.C. Most legitimate expenses for this excursion and others associated with this course (CCFR/ACFR membership, CCFR meals, travel, etc.) are paid for by Casper College.

Required Text, Readings, Materials: You will need the following text materials for this class, but additional readings and hand-outs may also be utilized. Along with your yearlong packet, an additional book, Global Issues, will be used for POLS 1030 in the Spring semester.

Frankland, Erich, ed. 2015. POLS 1020-1030 Readings Packet.

Weiner, Robert, ed. 2015. Annual Editions: Global Issues. 31st ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Course Outline*:

August 27; September 3, 10, 17, 24: Introduction and Conceptual Background
Read Packet sections 1 & 2; Jackson articles 1.1-1.7, 2.1-2.6, 3.1.-3.9
September 24- Phil French
September 7 No classes due to Labor Day

October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Historical Context and the New World Order
Read Packet section 3; Jackson articles 4.1.-4.5, 5.1-5.9
Review #1 due October 1
Exam #1 distributed October 1 (due October 8)
October 19 and 20 No classes due to Fall Break

November 5, 12, 19: American Foreign Policy and Key Actors
Read Packet section 4; Jackson articles 6.1-6.3
Review #2 due November 5
Exam #2 distributed November 5 (due November 12)
November 6 No classes due to Advising Day
November 25-27 No classes due to Thanksgiving Break

December 3 and 10: Other Actors in American Foreign Policy

Read Packet section 5; Jackson articles 7.1-7.5

Exam #3 distributed December 10 (due December 17 or earlier)

January-May, 2016: POLS 1030 schedule forthcoming

*This schedule may be modified due to unforeseen circumstances.