JEFFERSON COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

PSC155
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

3 credit hours

Prepared by
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Revised Date: January 2009

Arts & Science Education
Dr. Mindy Selsor, Dean
PSC155 International Relations

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A. Prerequisite: None

B. 3 semester hours credit

C. International Relations is a survey of current international politics including economic, military and other relations between nations. The course also includes the role of international organizations, multinational corporations and other non-government actors emphasizing the analysis of why nations and other actors pursue particular policies. This course will partially fulfill the social and behavioral science requirement for the Associate of Arts degrees. (S)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Classroom Discussion</th>
<th>Written Exam</th>
<th>Research Project</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discuss and understand the major model perspectives on why nations behave as they do in the international arena.</td>
<td>Classroom Discussion</td>
<td>Written Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explain current international behavior in the areas of economic, military, and political affairs.</td>
<td>Classroom Discussion</td>
<td>Written Exam</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrate information read in the textbook and heard in class discussions with information read in current news media.</td>
<td>Classroom Discussion</td>
<td>Group Discussion</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explain the role of the United States in the evolving international system of the present.</td>
<td>Classroom Discussion</td>
<td>Group Discussion</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the elements of power and their uses.</td>
<td>Written Exam</td>
<td>Classroom Discussion</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
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III. COURSE OUTLINE WITH UNIT OBJECTIVES

A. Systems in Global Politics
   1. Describe the present international power system and compare it with the cold war system
   2. Analyze the various subsystems within the overall power system (example: U.S. relationship with developing countries)
B. Contemporary World Politics
1. Explain the dynamics and results of the cold war period
2. Discuss present multipolar issues including but not limited to the Middle-East conflict, trade issues, terrorism, and nuclear proliferation
3. Assess the role of the United Nations in international relations

C. Nongovernmental Actors in World Politics
1. Discuss the role of corporations, private groups (example: Greenpeace), media, and individuals in international relations
2. Review the interaction between nongovernmental actors and individual governments and the resulting impact on nation's international policies

D. War and Conflict in World Politics
1. Compare and Contrast the present military strengths of countries (nuclear and conventional)
2. Review international agreements dealing with war and nuclear proliferation
3. Examine and explain the present regional conflicts in the Middle-East, South Africa, and other areas
4. Analyze the role of the United Nations in Peacekeeping

E. Economic Development and Competition
1. Evaluate and describe the economic strengths and weaknesses of selected nations
2. Review international trade issues and agreements
3. Describe the linkage between domestic economic issues and international economic issues (investment, trade, jobs, deficits, etc.).

F. Human Rights in World Politics
1. Examine human rights problems in selected countries
2. Explain efforts attempting to resolve human rights problems including agreements, sanctions, and private group (Amnesty International), and United Nations activities.

G. Environmental and Population Issues
1. Examine present international environmental issues such as population growth, ocean and air pollution, global warming, and nuclear waste disposal including causes and government policies
2. Analyze existing and proposed agreements to deal with these issues
3. Compare efforts by international organizations to deal with environmental and population issues

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A. Instructor lectures
B. Small group discussions
C. Research Paper/country presentations
D. Videotape presentations

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK (with publication information)

Goldstein, Joshua. *International Relations: Brief 2008-2009 Edition*

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS

Textbook

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

Library Reference materials
International Relations books on library reserve

VIII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

A. Four examinations

B. Research paper on international topic/country presentations.

C. Class attendance and participation

D. The grading scale is as follows:
   
   90-100 = A  
   80-90  = B  
   70-80  = C  
   60-70  = D  
   below 60% = F

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any statement requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-797-3000, ext. 169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College Website).