

Syllabus for: Modern World Problems	
Semester & Year:	Fall 2012
Course ID and Section Number:	POLSC 3 E1546
Number of Credits/Units:	3.0
Day/Time:	T/Th 1:15 – 2:40
Location:	FM 100
Instructor's Name:	Joe Brookshire
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: before and after class Phone:707 476 3070 Email: joe-brookshire@redwoods.edu
Course Description: An introductory analysis of international political systems emphasizing the causes and ramifications of contemporary international issues such as war, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, ethnic and religious conflict, peace keeping, terrorism, political and economic globalization, and environmental conflict.	
Student Learning Outcomes: Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss the major theories of international relations and apply them to contemporary issues. 2. Analyze the role of major international political and economic institutions in world problems. 3. Outline the causes and processes of modern international issues such as war, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, ethnic conflict and peacekeeping, terrorism, globalization and international trade and finance, and environmental conflict. 4. Craft projections and arguments about future international problems and resolutions based on the work of various scholars. 5. Locate major countries on a map and describe the problems they face and the causes of those problems. 	
Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.	
Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an "F" in the course.	
The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf	
Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods homepage.	
College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.	

Modern World Problems

Fall 2012

3 Units

POLSC 3 E1546

T/Th 1:15 – 2:40

FM 100

Joe Brookshire

joe-brookshire@redwoods.edu

Office hours: before and after class

Welcome to Modern World Problems; POLSC 3. This course serves as an introduction to the field of International Relations. This area of study covers the broad spectrum of theoretic approaches, generalized domains of foreign affairs, overviews of different organizational structures, and a great deal of specific actual cases in which the patterns and methods of International Relations are observed or applied.

The course is an introductory analysis of international political systems emphasizing the causes and ramifications of contemporary international issues such as war, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, ethnic and religious conflict, peace keeping, terrorism, political and economic globalization, and environmental conflict.

Course Learning Outcomes: Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the major theories of international relations and apply them to contemporary issues.
2. Analyze the role of major international political and economic institutions in world problems.
3. Outline the causes and processes of modern international issues such as war, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, ethnic conflict and peacekeeping, terrorism, globalization and international trade and finance, and environmental conflict.
4. Craft projections and arguments about future international problems and resolutions based on the work of various scholars.
5. Locate major countries on a map and describe the problems they face and the causes of those problems.

Format: The class is a combination of lecture, discussion, presentations, and activities.

Texts: How The World Works, 2nd edition ISBN **978-0-205-08240-0**

Author: Russell Bova Published by Longman.

Daily access to detailed world news, via internet or printed copies of newspapers or magazines

Handouts distributed in class

Expectations:

1. On-time attendance is expected throughout the semester. Class begins at 1:15 and goes until 2:40. Please commit to these times.

2. Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an “F” in the course.

3. Students are expected to take quizzes, exams, and the final, on the schedule dates. Three papers are required which are to be submitted in class before or on their specific dates. Do not submit these by email. Two presentations are expected to be given to the class; these can be done in pairs of students or individually.

4. I ask all of us to honor the rights of free speech. Furthermore I ask each one of us to help maintain our class as a forum for thoughtful, respectful, and courteous true discussion. Inappropriate behavior will result in consequences as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, see

<http://www.redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/Chapter5/Ap5500.pdf>

Note: students with appropriate paperwork from DSPS should notify the instructor of any particular accommodations they may require. Please do so as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Grading:

1. Frequent Quizzes – 10% Quizzes will be given on each chapter, (except Chapter 9). They are based on the text, lectures, discussions, activities, videos, other readings - in short, everything that we cover in class. They can be identifications, multiple choice, true/false, short essay, or a mix of these. The two lowest scores (or two missed quizzes) are dropped at the end of the semester. There are no make-ups. Let me know in advance if you need to take a quiz early. All quizzes will be given at the beginning of class on Tuesdays. They will take only a few minutes. Late arrivals will miss the quiz.

2. Exams (3) – 30% These are primarily essay exams. Each makes up 10% of the overall grade.
Make note of their dates: **September 25, October 23 and November 27.**

3. Final – 10% The final is similar to the tests: primarily essay questions. The time and date of the final is **December 13** at 1:00. Make sure that you reserve that time for your final.

4. Papers (3) – 30 % Three college level papers, worth 10% each, are expected to be submitted in class on or by the scheduled dates. Late papers lose one letter grade up to one week late; no credit is given beyond one week late. See instructions of each for details. Students need only to address three of five chapters (4-8).

5. Presentations (2) 20% Two presentations, worth 10% each, will be given by students, the first by October 30, the second between November 1 and December 6. See handout for guidelines.

Scales: Modern World Problems uses the following grading scale:

92. - 100	A	77 - 79.4	C+
89.5 - 91.9	A-	72 - 76.9	C
87 . - 89.4	B+	69.5 - 71.9	C-
82 - 86.9	B	59.5 - 69.4	D
79.5. - 81.9	B-	Below 59.5	F

Extra Credit – Independent extra credit assignments are not available for this class. However, points earned in activities go toward raising the following exam or final scores.

Schedule: We try to follow the schedule below, however, we may need to make some adjustments during the semester. Classes will be held each day indicate below, except for November 22 (Thanksgiving).

Please take note of any changes announced in class and posted on MyCR.

Tuesdays	Thursdays
August 28	30
September 4	6
September 11 Quiz Ch. 1	13
September 18 Quiz Ch. 2	20
September 25 Essay Exam #1 with Quiz Ch. 3	27
October 2	4 Ch. 4 Paper due
October 9 Quiz Ch. 4	11
October 16	18 Ch. 5 Paper due
October 23 Essay Exam #2 with Quiz Ch. 5	25
October 30 Quiz Cp. 6 Last day for 1 st Presentation	1 Ch. 6 Paper due First day for 2 nd Presentation
November 6	8 Ch. 7 Paper due
November 13 Quiz Ch. 7	15 Ch. 8 Paper due
November 20 Quiz Ch. 8	22 No Class! <i>Thanksgiving!</i>
November 27 Essay Exam #3	29
December 4	6
	December 13 Final 1:00