

Syllabus for: Modern World Problems	
Semester & Year:	Fall 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	POLSC 3 E3795
Number of Credits/Units:	3.0
Day/Time:	M/W 11:40 – 1:05
Location:	HU 115
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 2013

3 Units

POLSC 3 E3795

MW 11:40 –1:05

HU 115

Joe Brookshire

joe-brookshire@redwoods.edu

Office hours: before and after class

Welcome to Modern World Problems; POLSC 3, an introduction to International Relations (IR). 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. This course covers a broad spectrum of theoretic approaches, generalized domains of foreign affairs, analyses 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.

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.

Readings On How The World Works, ISBN **978-0-205-63798-0**

Editor: 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 11:40 and goes until 1:05. 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/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. Chapter Quizzes – 20% 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, map locations, or a mix of these. 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. They will take only a few minutes. Late arrivals will miss the quiz. The two lowest scores (or two missed quizzes) are dropped at the end of the semester. Third and fourth missed quizzes can be given credit, but no grade, upon successful and timely completion of Readings text written assignments.

2. Exams (2) – 20% These are primarily essay exams. Each makes up 10% of the overall grade. Make note of their dates: **November 4, and November 25.**

3. Final – 10% The final is similar to the tests: primarily essay questions. The time and date of the final is Monday, **December 9** at 10:45. 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 November 6, the second between November 6 and December 4. Every presentation must be scheduled well in advance. 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 September 2 and November 11.

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

Mondays		Wednesdays	
August 26	Possible trajectories and theories	28	Theories
September 2	<i>No Class, Labor Day</i>	4	Quiz Ch 1 etc.
September 9	Quiz Ch. 2 etc	11	Foreign Policy Making
September 16	Foreign Policy Making	18	Foreign Policy Making
September 23	Quiz Ch. 3	25	War & Violence
September 30	War & Violence	2	Chap 4 etc.
October 7	Chapter 4 Paper due	9	International Law
October 14	International Law	16	Ch. 5 Paper due
October 21	Quiz Ch. 5	23	Human Rights
October 28	Quiz Ch. 6	30	Ch. 6 Paper due
November 4	Essay Exam #1	6	Last day for 1 st Presentation
November 11	<i>No class, Veterans' Day</i>	13	Ch. 7 Paper due
November 18	Transnational Challenges	20	Ch. 8 Paper due
November 25	Essay Exam #2 with Quiz Ch 8	27	
December 2	Futures	4	Last day for 2 nd Presentation
December 9	Final 10:45		