

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2021

Course ID & Section #: POLSC-3 E1919

Instructor's name: Joe Brookshire

Day/Time of required meetings: T/ Th 11:40 -1:05

Location: HUM 115

Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office hours: before / after class or by appointment

Phone number: 476-4100

Email address: joe-brookshire@redwoods.edu

Catalog 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.

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Describe the major theories of international relations and apply them to contemporary issues in international politics.
2. Analyze the role of major international political and economic institutions in international political 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.

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the

Redwoods website. 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 website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. 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 website](#).

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.

5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Modern World Problems

Fall 2021

3 Units

POLSC 3 E1919

Joe Brookshire

MW 11:40 –1:05

joe-brookshire@redwoods.edu

HUM 115

Office hours: before class or by

appointment

Modern World Problems, POLSC 3, is 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 WMD, ethnic and religious conflict, peace keeping, terrorism, political and economic globalization, and environmental conflict. We cover a broad spectrum of theoretic approaches, general domains of IR, analyses of different organizational structures, and a great deal of specific actual cases in which the patterns and methods of IR are observed or applied.

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

1. Describe the major theories of international relations and apply them to contemporary issues in international politics.
2. Analyze the role of major international political and economic institutions in international political 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.

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

Text: How The World Works, 3rd edition ISBN **978-0-13-437884-8** by Russell Bova. Published by Pearson.

Supplementary Readings: Distributed in class.

Expectations:

1. On-time and consistent attendance is expected throughout the semester. Class starts at 11:40.
2. Students are expected to take quizzes, exams, and the final, on the schedule dates. Three papers are required to be submitted in class, not by email, by specific dates. Two presentations are expected to be given to the class.
3. 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 discussion.

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, readings, student presentations - in short, everything that we cover in class. They can be short essay, identifications, multiple choice, true/false, map locations, or a mix of these. Keep in mind that they can be cumulative, meaning that they can contain questions from earlier chapters. 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 and have time limits. Late arrivals will miss the quiz. The two lowest scores (or two missed quizzes) are dropped at the end of the semester.

2. Exams (2) – 20% These are primarily essay exams. Each makes up 10% of the overall grade.

Make note of their dates: **October 19, and November 9.**

3. Final – 10% The final is similar to the exams: primarily an essay question. The time and date of the final is Tuesday, **December 14** 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 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 are to address any three of chapters 4-8.

5. Presentations (2) 15% Two presentations (the first worth 5%, the second worth 10%) will be given by students: the first by October 21, and the second by December 9. Every presentation must be scheduled well in advance in order to ensure adequate preparation and presentation time. See handout for guidelines.

6. In-Class Response (1) 5% Early in the semester students will respond in writing to a prompt which relates to current topics under discussion. This will be brief, consisting of one, two, or three paragraphs.

Scales: Modern World Problems uses the following grading scale:

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

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

Schedule: Please take note of any changes announced in class or posted on Canvas. Classes are scheduled for each day as indicated below, except for Nov. 11, 23, and 25. The symbol || indicates that day's discussion topic.

Tuesdays	Thursdays
Aug. 24 Intro, Possible Trajectories, and Theories	26 Theories
Aug. 31 Theories, Historical Perspectives	Sept. 2 Quiz Ch. 1 Historical Perspectives
Sept. 7 Quiz Ch. 2 Foreign Policy Making	9 Foreign Policy Making
Sept. 14 Foreign Policy Making	16 Foreign Policy Making
Sept. 21 Quiz Ch. 3 War & Violence	23 War & Violence
Sept. 28 War & Violence	30 War & Violence
Oct. 5 Quiz Ch. 4 Int'l Law	7 Chapter 4 Paper due , International Law
Oct. 12 International Law	14 International Law, Ch. 5 Paper due
Oct. 19 Quiz Ch. 5 and Essay Exam #1	21 Human Rights, Last day for 1 st Presentation,
Oct. 26 Human Rights	28 Human Rights, Ch. 6 Paper due

Nov. 2 Quiz Ch. 6 Economic Globalization	4 Econ. Globalization Ch 7 Paper due
Nov. 9 Quiz Ch. 7 and Essay Exam #2	11 Veterans Day – No Class
Nov. 16 Transnational Challenges	18 Transnational Challenges
Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Break	25 Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 30 Transnational Challenges	Dec. 2 Ch. 8 Paper due Transnational Challenges
Dec. 7 Quiz Ch. 8 Futures	9 Futures Last day for 2 nd Presentation
Tuesday, December 14 Final 10:45 (not at 11:40!)	

Thank you for your interest and your participation in Modern World Problems.