
PS 230: World Politics
Department of Political Science
College of Arts and Sciences
University of Kentucky
Summer 2019

Instructor:

Dr. Clayton Thyne
1625 Patterson Office Tower
clayton.thyne@uky.edu
859-396-6871 (cell/text)
clayton.thyne (skype)

Office hours: The fastest way to contact your instructor is usually via email. Email is checked regularly during the day (M-F). Emails received before 5pm on a weekday will be responded to on that day. Emails received after 5pm will be responded to by 9am the following morning. Emails received after 5pm on Friday and during the weekend will be responded to within 24 hours. For face-to-face, skype, or telephone meetings, email the instructor to set up a meeting time.

Class Time and Location:

ONLINE: go to: MyUK. To do this, start at www.uky.edu. Click on “Link Blue” (top/right). Click on “myUK” (middle/left). Log into Canvas using your LINK BLUE username and password.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide a survey of the central questions of international politics and to provide an introduction to contemporary international problems. The goals of this course are threefold: 1) to introduce students to the background and characteristics of world politics, 2) to explore the multitude of tools and explanations used by scholars in order to understand world politics, and 3) to encourage students to begin to try their own hand at making sense out of a complex and interesting subject. This course has two main foci.

Course Focus #1: Theories in International Relations

The first focus, which will be the primary topic of the lectures sessions, is to introduce you to the subject of International Relations. The readings for this focus will come from the Scott/Carter/Drury book. More specifically, the first focus is geared towards the following learning objective:

Learning Objective 1: The students will demonstrate knowledge of the theories associated with international relations.

Course Focus #2: International Relations and Scientific Inquiry

The second focus is meant to improve your understanding of how the modes of scholarly inquiry in international relations have led to the development of the discipline's shared bodies of knowledge and the interplay between international relations and its broader social context. We will explore a variety of approaches to research questions pursued by international relations scholars, which should help prepare you to critically evaluate a variety of social situations that you will confront in your everyday lives. This focus will culminate in the generation of an original research paper. More specifically, the second focus is geared towards the following learning objectives:

Learning Objective 2: The students will demonstrate an understanding of methods and ethics of inquiry that lead to knowledge in international relations.

Learning Objective 3: The students will demonstrate an ability to identify and use appropriate information resources to substantiate evidence-based claims in international relations.

Learning Objective 4: The students will demonstrate knowledge of how the study of international relations influences society.

Learning Objective 5: The students will demonstrate an ability to identify a well-formulated question pertinent to international relations and to employ the discipline's conceptual and methodological approaches in identifying reasonable research strategies that could speak to the question.

Earning Grades

You will be graded in two ways. The first is a set of quizzes over the assigned readings and online lectures, which come from the Scott/Carter/Drury book. The purpose of these quizzes is to make sure that you are keeping up with the readings and learning the material. They are meant to be easy for those who are putting in the required time and effort. More specifically, the assessments for Learning Outcome 1 will be 14 quizzes, each of which follow 14 chapters/lectures covered in the course. See the course schedule below for specific dates/times.

The assessments for Learning Objectives 2-5 come from the various stages of your research/culminating assignment. This assignment will be due in various stages as outlined in the course schedule. These assignments will require you to (1) develop an introduction to your research paper, (2) develop a literature review, (3) develop an original theory and hypotheses, and (4) present a research design, indicating how to test your hypothesis. Additional information about these assignments is available on Canvas.

Your grade will be calculated based on the following:

Quizzes 1-14: 60% of course grade (each quiz is worth 4.29% of your course grade). Quizzes will be taken online via Canvas. Questions will be multiple choice and/or true/false. You will have 60 minutes to take each quiz.

Research Assignment, Part 1: 10% of total grade
Research Assignment, Part 2: 10% of total grade
Research Assignment, Part 3: 10% of total grade
Research Assignment, Part 4: 10% of total grade

All assignments must be submitted online. Assignments sent via e-mail will not be accepted/graded. If you have problems submitting an assignment, it is your responsibility to let your instructor know. Written assignments **MUST** be submitted as Microsoft Word files unless otherwise noted. All filenames should use only alpha-numeric characters (a-z, 0-9) before the file extension (example .doc or .docx). Example: SamAdamsIntro2.doc. Canvas does not accept file names with characters like !@#\$.%

Final course grades will be based on the following scale:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

E = below 60%

All grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book. You can review your scores by going to “Grades” in Canvas.

Note: In order to receive a passing grade in this course, all course work must be completed.

Appeals: A student wishing to appeal any grade given in this class must make their request in writing prior to meeting with the instructors. The written appeal must be typed and clearly state the reason(s) the student feels the grade they received is incorrect. Appeals that just ask for more points will not be considered by the instructors. The instructor reserves the right to re-grade the entire quiz or assignment once an appeal is made, this may result in an increase or decrease in the score a student receives.

Unresolved Academic Issues: Consult the University of Kentucky *Student Rights and Responsibilities* regarding the steps for addressing unresolved academic issues.

Last day to withdraw from the course: Check the UK registrar page to find the last day to withdraw from the University or reduce course load. Students can withdraw or reduce course load after this date only for “urgent non- academic reasons.”

Missed Quizzes and Assignments: Students need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. *Senate Rules 5.2.4.2* defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit “reasonable cause for nonattendance” by the professor.

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Two weeks prior to the absence is reasonable, but should not be given any later. Information regarding major religious holidays may be obtained through the Ombud (859-257-3737, http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/ForStudents_ExcusedAbsences.php).

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused) per University policy.

Per *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2*, students missing any graded work due to an excused absence are responsible: for informing the Instructor of Record about their excused absence within one week following the period of the excused absence (except where prior notification is required); and for making up the missed work. The professor must give the student an opportunity to make up the work and/or the exams missed due to an excused absence, and shall do so, if feasible, during the semester in which the absence occurred.

Verification of Absences

Students may be asked to verify their absences in order for them to be considered excused. *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2* states that faculty have the right to request “appropriate verification” when students claim an excused absence because of illness, or death in the family.

Appropriate notification of absences due to University-related trips is required prior to the absence when feasible and in no case more than one week after the absence.

Online Quiz and Assignment Information: The online quizzes/assignments will be submitted electronically through Canvas and must be submitted by the stated deadline. Once you access each quiz, you have 60 minutes in which to complete and submit it. If you go over the time you will not be able to submit it and will receive an automatic score of zero for that quiz. It is your responsibility to watch the time and submit the quiz in time. Online quizzes are open book. You may use your readings or any other notes when taking a quiz. Your grade for the online quizzes will be available on Canvas immediately after the due date/time.

The Research Project assignments will be available at the beginning of the term. Completion of the assignments will require the submission of a Word documents via Canvas. Failure to submit the document by the due date/time will result in a zero for the assignment. Your grade for each phase of the Research Project will be available within 7 calendar days following the due date.

Problems with If you encounter problems when taking an exam: If you experience technical difficulties contact the Customer Service Center at 859-218-HELP (4357) or by e-mail at helpdesk@uky.edu. Please also inform the course instructor when you are having technical difficulties.

Academic Integrity

Per University policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which

the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the University may be imposed.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Senate Rules 6.3.1 (see <http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/> for the current set of *Senate Rules*) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording, or content from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism.

Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work (including, but not limited to a published article, a book, a website, computer code, or a paper from a friend) without clear attribution. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work, which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone.

When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources or information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she has employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content, and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas, which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain.

Please note: Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Student Conduct:

Students are expected to maintain decorum that includes respect for other students and the professor, to regularly log in to the course, and to display an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. All students are expected to be prepared to work and actively participate in class activities.

Readings

Unless otherwise noted, the readings can be accessed from the course Canvas page or in the course textbook. Readings not on Canvas have links that you can access within the individual models on Canvas.

Required Readings

You are required to purchase the following book. You will also be required to complete readings that are available on Canvas.

Scott, James M., Ralph G. Carter, and A. Cooper Drury. 2019. *IR: International, Economic, and Human Security in a Changing World*, 3ed. Los Angeles, CA: Sage.

This book is available online (e.g., at amazon.com) and via the Sage website. Given that this is an online course and most students are away from campus, I will not order books for purchase at the UK Bookstore. You may also use the eTextbook version of the book.

Disabilities/ Medical Conditions

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates campus disability services available to students with disabilities. It is located on the corner of Rose Street and Huguelet Drive in the Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407. You can reach them via phone at (859) 257-2754 and via email at drc@uky.edu. Their web address is <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/DisabilityResourceCenter/>.

Canvas

This course utilizes Canvas for all facets of the course. You are expected to check Canvas regularly for all information pertaining to this course. Below you'll find information in regards to minimum technology requirements that you will need to access and use Canvas. It is your responsibility to obtain these requirements.

All computers on campus and most personal computers will have the software required for this course. If you experience technical difficulties contact the Customer Service Center at 859-218-HELP (4357) or by e-mail at helpdesk@uky.edu. Please also inform the course instructor when you are having technical difficulties.

The **Teaching and Academic Support Center** (TASC) website (<http://www.uky.edu/TASC/>) offers additional information and resources that can promote a successful "online course" learning experience. They may also be reached at 859-257-8272.

Distance Learning Library Services:

As a Distance Learning student you have access to the Distance Learning Library services at <http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS>. This service can provide you access to UK's circulating collections and can deliver to you manuscripts or books from UK's library or other libraries. The DL Librarian may be reached at 859-257-0500, ext 2171, or 800-828-0439 (option #6) or by mail at dlservice@email.uky.edu. For an interlibrary loan visit: http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/linpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16

PLEASE NOTE: Your instructors are trained in international relations – not computer science. Please use the resources above if you are having any technological problems.

Effort Expected

Beyond the textbook, all course materials are on-line and it is your responsibility to access material in a timely manner. To help keep you on track, I have provided a lecture schedule that you should follow. The lecture schedule is posted on Canvas. You are expected to spend a MINIMUM of 5-10 hours on-line interacting with the course material for each chapter.

Getting Started: Log into your Canvas account

- 1) Access the course syllabus: The course syllabus can be viewed by clicking on “Modules” button and then clicking on “Syllabus.” I would recommend you print out a copy of the syllabus for future reference. Make a note of all deadlines. Note that the “syllabus” tab on the left provides due dates for graded assignments. However, this document is the official syllabus.
- 2) You should check that the e-mail address listed for you is your current e-mail address and that it is the official UK address. If it is not your regular e-mail address, then change it to your current address and click submit. This is the address that I will use to communicate with you. Due to FERPA regulations, I will not communicate via any email that is not official UK email.
- 3) This is a 3 credit hour course taught exclusively through the web. All course materials are on-line and it is your responsibility to access material in a timely manner. This is a difficult course and it is imperative that you stay up-to-date with the lecture material. Do not procrastinate and leave material to the last minute. Take some time to familiarize yourself with navigating through the course material. As you work through the course materials you should take notes the same way you would for a "regular" lecture course.
- 4) Please be aware that some files that you will be downloading are fairly large and may take a while (several minutes) to download especially if you are accessing the course material using a modem or a slow broadband connection.
- 5) Given that all course material is delivered through the Internet, occasional problems may arise with accessing course material. If you have problems accessing course material, or if web links appear to be not functioning, please contact IT or your instructor to get the

problem rectified as quickly as possible.

Course Schedule

Date(s)	Chapter/Assignment	Readings/Lectures	Assessment
07/05	Course Introduction	Review all materials available on Canvas. Contract your instructor if anything is unclear.	None
07/06-07/07	World Politics	Read Ch1; watch Ch1 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch1 quiz due on 07/08 by 11pm
07/08	The Players and the Playing Field	Read Ch2; watch Ch2 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch2 quiz due on 07/09 by 11pm
07/09	Powerful Ideas	Read Ch3; watch Ch3 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch3 quiz due on 07/10 by 11pm
07/10	Alternative Perspectives on IR	Read Ch4; watch Ch4 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch4 quiz due on 07/11 by 11pm
07/11	Understanding Conflict	Read Ch5; watch Ch5 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch5 quiz due on 07/12 by 11pm
07/12	Seeking Security	Read Ch6; watch Ch6 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch6 quiz due on 07/13 by 11pm
07/13-07/14	Building Peace	Read Ch7; watch Ch7 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch7 quiz due on 07/15 by 11pm
07/15	The Pursuit of Economic Security	Read Ch8; watch Ch8 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch8 quiz due on 07/16 by 11pm
07/16	Economic Statecraft	Read Ch9; watch Ch9 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch9 quiz due on 07/17 by 11pm
07/17	International Development	Read Ch10; watch Ch10 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch10 quiz due on 07/18 by 11pm
07/18	Human Rights	Read Ch11; watch Ch11 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch11 quiz due on 07/19 by 11pm
07/19	The Global Environment	Read Ch12; watch Ch12 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch12 quiz due on 07/20 by 11pm
07/20-07/21	Transnational Advocacy Networks	Read Ch13; watch Ch13 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch13 quiz due on 07/22 by 11pm
07/22	International, Economic, and Human Security in the Balance	Read Ch14; watch Ch14 lecture; review supplementary materials	Ch14 quiz due on 07/23 by 11pm
07/23	Research Assignment: Basics	Complete boxes under "PROJECT OVERVIEW" (see "Research Assignment Packet" under "Modules" in Canvas).	None
07/24-07/25	Research Assignment: Introduction	Complete Steps 1-3 in "PART 1: INTRODUCTION" (see "Research Assignment Packet" under "Modules" in Canvas).	Research Project: Introduction due on 07/25 by 11pm

07/26-07/27	Research Assignment: Literature Review	Complete Steps 1-3 in “PART 2: LITERATURE REVIEW” (see “Research Assignment Packet” under “Modules” in Canvas).	Research Project: Revised introduction + Literature review due on 07/27 by 11pm (under “Assignments” in Canvas)
07/28-07/29	Research Assignment: Theory	Complete Steps 1-3 in “PART 3: THEORY” (see “Research Assignment Packet” under “Modules” in Canvas).	Research Project: Revised introduction + Revised literature review + Theory due on 07/29 by 11pm (under “Assignments” in Canvas)
07/30-08/01	Research Assignment: Research Design	Complete Steps 1-3 in “PART 4: RESEARCH DESIGN” (see “Research Assignment Packet” under “Modules” in Canvas).	Research Project: Revised introduction + Revised literature review + Revised theory and hypothesis + Research design due on 08/01 by 11pm (under “Assignments” in Canvas)