
POSC 1020 – INTRO TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Section 3. Spring 2021, Syllabus

<i>Instructor</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Office Hours</i>	<i>Class</i>
<i>Tara Trask (M.A.)</i>	ttrask@clemson.edu taraetrask.com	Mon & Wed: 11:15-12:15 Office: TBD	Mon, Wed, & Fri: 10:10-11:05 College of Business 208

Course Overview:

The main goal of this course is to provide students with the analytical tools for understanding events and their effects on the international system. Towards that end, this course will introduce students to the important actors in international politics, their interests, the institutions they work through, the patterns of their behavior, and the way these components interact to produce the political outcomes we observe. We will begin with an analysis of the major systemic theories of international relations, then place these into context within domestic politics. Next, we will examine the various prevalent issue areas that dominate the international system, including conflict and international political economy. We will end with an examination of the emerging issue areas, such as self-determination and climate change.

Course Goals:

1. Define, explain, and use, the major theories and concepts in international relations.
2. Explain the historical origins and critically evaluate contemporary debates in international politics, including globalization, war, terrorism, and the use of force, development, and international trade.
3. Use major theoretical approaches to international relations to explain and analyze the contemporary debates and issues in the above objective.
4. Synthesize vast amounts of information for the purpose of providing a critical analysis or cogent argument.

Required Materials:

- Required: Pearson REVEL: Bova, Russell. 2015. *How the World Works*, Third Edition. Longman Press: Boston. (ISBN-10: 978-0134378848). Online access only. Physical copies are not required.
- Canvas will be used for announcements, required reading materials, the course calendar, as well as to submit assignments and take assessments. It is essential that students monitor its content regularly (<http://clemson.instructure.com>)

Assessment Overview:

Exams	(25 %)
Revel	(15 %)
Participation	(10 %)
Analyses (5)	(30 %)
Explanatory Article	(20 %)

Grade Scale	
A	90 –100
B	80-89.99
C	70-79.99
D	60-69.99
F	<59.99

Exams: 25%

Midterm: The midterm exam is worth 10% of your course grade. Midterm exam material will be drawn from the following: lecture notes, assigned readings, class discussion, any movies shown in class, and any other supplementary materials. The midterm will include a series of essay questions where students will be asked to use course material to apply, analyze, and explain.

Final: The final exam is worth 15% of your course grade. The final will be a cumulative evaluation following the pattern of the midterm discussed above. If you attend, participate, and reflect on class periods and the previous assignments, you should be prepared for this cumulative final with relative ease.

Revel: 15%

In lieu of a traditional textbook, we will be using Pearson Revel for Bova’s “How the World Works” (see above). Revel can be found via the Pearson Revel link on Canvas. You are required to complete all Revel assignments before class time on the day they are due. Late submissions will not be accepted, so plan accordingly. Special Topic assignments are included in this grade.

1. Quizzes can help you learn more as you read.
2. Track your performance in REVEL throughout the semester.
3. Highlighting important sections in the chapter will allow you to easily refer to them later on in the semester.
4. You may want to try listening to the audio while you read.
5. If you forget your login information, go to the [Forgot Username or Password](#) link to retrieve your username or reset your password. Then, enter your email address and click continue. Check your email account for an email with the subject, "Pearson Username/Password Request." The message will contain all of the usernames that are found for that email address. Choose one account to use with REVEL.

Participation: 10%

Participation should include meaningful contributions to the overall quality of the class, and there will be no distinction given between those students who participate exclusively online, in person, or a mix between the two. These will include a variety of components, including but not limited to:

- Discussion during class time (online or in person)
- Discussions with instructor about course material outside of class time (ex: appointments or office hour meetings, email conversations)
- Critical discussion board participation.

Analyses: 30%

For most weeks, there are Guided Questions given at the start of class that will be the focus of the day. For the Analysis Papers, students should synthesize the pertinent information from the week's required material, lectures, and discussions in a persuasive essay that answers the Guided Questions. Each analysis is due before class on the Tuesday following the topic-week. Any exceptions will be announced via Canvas. Any late work will be graded at half credit.

Requirements: Students are only required to complete five (5) Analyses Papers, out of the ten (10) total options. They should be 1000-1200 words, single-spaced, Times New Roman Font, 12pt, with 1in. margins. Cite all outside sources using any of the major citation styles: APA, MLA, Chicago, etc. Submission via the appropriate Canvas assignment.

Explanatory Article: 20%

The large individual project for the class will be the development of an explanatory article. Students will select a global issue to write a 1000-1200 word article. The article will be developed and workshopped throughout the semester. The grade will be composed of participation in these workshops on components – proposed topic, outline, full draft, and final submission. For more information, see the Assignments tab on Canvas.

1. *Explanatory Article Topic* – 1 pt.
2. *Explanatory Article Outline* – 5 pts.
3. *Draft Explanatory Article* – 5 pts.
4. *Final Explanatory Article* – 9 pts.

Contact:

My office hours are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:15-12:15. These are hours I set aside every week specifically for you. If you can't meet with me during my office hours, feel free to e-mail me to set up an appointment at a different time.

Email: Other than talking to me before/after class or at my office hours, email is the next best way. Feel free to contact me anytime at ttrask@clemson.edu. Please allow 48 hours for me to respond.

General Education Competency:

This course fulfills the University's General Education competency in Social Sciences (which requires students to "Describe and explain human actions using social science concepts and evidence") and Cross-Cultural Awareness (which requires students to "Demonstrate the ability to critically compare and contrast world cultures in historical and/or contemporary contexts"). Students taking this course will be able to document this competency with the assigned analysis papers and exams.

Disabilities:

Clemson University values the diversity of our student body as a strength and a critical component of our dynamic community. Students with disabilities or temporary injuries/conditions may require accommodations due to barriers in the structure of facilities, course design, technology used for curricular purposes, or other campus resources. Students who experience a barrier to full access to a class should let the Ms. Trask know, and make an appointment to meet with a staff member in Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. You can make an appointment by calling 864-656-6848 or by emailing studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu.

If you need, have or receive an Academic Access Letters please request, obtain and present these to Ms. Trask as early in the semester as possible so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to follow this process each semester. You can access further information here: <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/sds/>.

Covid-19:

While on campus, face coverings are required in all buildings and classrooms. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distance cannot be guaranteed. Please be familiar with the additional information on the [Healthy Clemson website](#), such as the use of wipes for in-person classes. If an instructor does not have a face covering or refuses to wear an approved face covering without valid accommodation, students should notify the department chair. If a student does not have a face covering or refuses to wear an approved face covering without valid accommodation, the instructor will ask the student to leave the academic space and may report the student's actions to the [Office of Community & Ethical Standards](#) as a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. If the student's actions disrupt the class to the extent that an immediate response is needed, the instructor may call the Clemson University Police Department at 656-2222.

If you test positive or are being asked to quarantine/isolate because of exposure to the virus, it is up to you to notify me that you will be moving to online only instruction for at least the next two weeks.

Title IX:

Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information or protected activity (e.g., opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in any complaint process, etc.) in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. This policy is located at <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/access/title-ix/> Ms. Alesia Smith is the Clemson University Title IX Coordinator and the Executive Director of Equity Compliance. Her office is located at 110 Holtendorff Hall, 864.656.3181 (voice) or 864.656.0899 (TDD).

Academic Integrity:

"As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson's vision of this institution as a "high seminary of learning." Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form."

When, in the opinion of a course instructor, there is evidence that a student has committed an act of academic dishonesty, the instructor must make a formal written charge of academic dishonesty, including a description of the misconduct to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies. The reporting instructor may, at his/her discretion, inform each involved student privately

of the nature of the alleged charge. In cases of plagiarism (I.B.2.) instructors may use the Plagiarism Resolution Form available from the Office of Undergraduate Studies (http://www.cs.clemson.edu/html/academics/academic_integrity_2002.html)

Other Policies:

1. Students should behave professionally throughout the course, including but not limited to: respectful discussion and consideration of others’ views, raising one’s hand to ask questions of the instructor instead of conversing with other students, and referring to the syllabus before asking questions about basic course policy.
2. Laptops may be used to take notes in class, but not in a way that is disruptive to other students. Should laptops become more of a hindrance than a help in class, I reserve the right to prohibit them from the classroom from that point on.
3. Cell phones should be put away during class, either on vibrate or silent. Taking pictures of slides is permitted, but should be kept to a minimum. I reserve the right to prohibit the practice at any point during the semester.
4. Please allow 10 minutes for the instructor to show up to class. If the instructor has not shown up 10 minutes after the beginning of the scheduled class time, students are free to leave.
5. Late work may be accepted for half credit at my discretion. Please communicate as early as possible why work may be submitted late. The earlier communication happens the more likely I can accommodate accepting late work.
6. Any exams or assignments scheduled at the time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather, University power outage, etc., will be given at the next class meeting unless I specify otherwise. Any extensions will be announced via email and/or Canvas.

Course Schedule: (tentative)

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Week 1		Introduction to the Course	
Wed	1/6	Introduction to the Course	Syllabus
Fri	1/8	How to Think About World Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Syllabus Quiz ▪ Revel Module 1: 1.1
Week 2		How to Think About World Politics: Realism and Its Critics	
Mon	1/11	The Realist Paradigm	▪ Revel Module 1: 1.2
Wed	1/13	Alternatives to Realism	▪ Revel Module 1: 1.3
Fri	1/15	Alternatives to Paradigms	▪ Revel Chapter 1 Quiz
Week 3		Workshop Week	
Mon	1/18	MLK DAY	▪ <i>Analysis 1</i>
Wed	1/20	Workshop: Curiosity	▪
Fri	1/22	Workshop: Plans & Outlines	▪

Week 4		Historical Perspectives: Continuity and Change in World Politics	
Monday	1/25	The Westphalian System & World Wars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Proposed Explanatory Article Topic due to be posted on Canvas by midnight.</u> ▪ Revel Module 2: 2.1-2.3
Wednesday	1/27	The Cold War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 2: 2.4-2.5
Friday	1/29	Post 9/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 2: 2.6 ▪ Revel Chapter 2 Quiz
Week 5		Levels of Analysis: Sources of Foreign Policy	
Monday	2/1	International & State Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 2</i> ▪ Revel Module 3: 3.1-3.2
Wednesday	2/3	Individuals & Foreign Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 3: 3.3 ▪ Revel Chapter 3 Quiz
Friday	2/5	Afghanistan & Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Explanatory Article Outline due on Canvas by midnight.</u>
Week 6		War and Violence in World Politics: The Realist's World	
Monday	2/8	War in World Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 3</i> ▪ Revel Module 4: 4.1
Wednesday	2/10	Changes to War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 4: 4.2-4.3
Friday	2/12	The Future of War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 4: 4.4 ▪ Revel Chapter 4 Quiz
Week 7		International Law and Organization: The Promise of Liberal Institutionalism	
Monday	2/15	Law Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 4</i> ▪ Revel Module 5: 5.1
Wednesday	2/17	Law Breaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 5: 5.2-5.3
Friday	2/19	The United Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 5: 5.4 ▪ Revel Chapter 5 Quiz
Week 8		MIDTERM	
Monday	2/22	Review for Midterm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 5</i>
Wednesday	2/24	Midterm Exam Prep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ .
Friday	2/26	Midterm Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Due on Canvas by midnight.
Week 9		The Human Rights Revolution: The Construction of International Norms	
Monday	3/1	Establishing Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 6: 6.1-6.2
Wednesday	3/3	Enforcing & Monitoring Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 6: 6.3-6.4
Friday	3/5	Prosecuting Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 6: 6.5 ▪ Revel Chapter 6 Quiz

Week 10		Economic Globalization: The Consequences of Liberal Commercialism	
Monday	3/8	Bretton Woods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 6</i> ▪ Revel Module 7: 7.1-7.2
Wednesday	3/10	Globalization & the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 7: 7.3-7.4
Friday	3/12	Current Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Chapter 7 Quiz ▪ <u>Full Draft of Explanatory Article due on Canvas by midnight.</u>
Week 11		SPRING BREAK	
Monday	3/15	Spring Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Wednesday	3/17	Spring Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday	3/19	Spring Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Week 12		Transnational Challenges: The State System Under Stress	
Monday	3/22	Human Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 7</i> ▪ Revel Module 8: 8.1
Wednesday	3/24	The Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 8: 8.2
Friday	3/26	Health & Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revel Module 8: 8.3
Week 13		Transnational Challenges (cont.)	
Monday	3/29	Internet & Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 8</i> ▪ Revel Module 8: 8.4 ▪ Revel Chapter 8 Quiz
Wednesday	3/31	Special Topic: TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Friday	4/2	Workshop: Writing Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Week 14		Special Topic Week: Protests	
Monday	4/5	Special Topic: The Arab Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 9</i> ▪ Details on Canvas
Wednesday	4/7	Special Topic: Ukraine Euromaiden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Details on Canvas
Friday	4/9	Special Topic: Hong Kong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Details on Canvas
Week 15		Workshop	
Monday	4/12	Workshop: Final Draft Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Analysis 10</i>
Wednesday	4/14	Special Topic: TBD	
Friday	4/16	Special Topic: TBD	
Week 16		Special Topic Week	
Monday	4/19	Special Topic: TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Final Explanatory Article due by Midnight on Canvas.</u> ▪ Details on Canvas
Wednesday	4/21	Special Topic: TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Details on Canvas
Friday	4/23	Special Topic: TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
Week 17		Final Exam	
Tuesday	2/27	Final Exam	