

Dr. Emmanuel Uwalaka
TR: 12:45 – 2:00 pm
Classroom: Morrissey Hall 0600

Office: McG 150
Cell: 314-749-5917
Hours: TR: 9-10 am
W: 10-11 am
or by appointment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce undergraduate students to the basic concept of international politics/relations and the theories that have been developed to interpret problems faced by nation-states in dealing with each other. Emphasis will be placed in using different theoretical perspectives to interpret concrete international situations. The course is organized into three broad sections: (1) history, methods, and theories of international politics, (2) actors in international politics, and (3) contemporary international relations issues of the 21st century. This course fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences Global Citizenship requirement and the Political Science major and Foreign Service minor requirements.

1V. LEARNING OUTCOMES

After taking this course, students will be able to:

B. Grading Scale and Distribution of Points

1. Quizzes 10
2. Mid-Semester Exam 40
3. Final Exam 40
4. Class Participation 10

(Asking and answering questions, actively involved in class discussions, relating media international events to concepts and theories learned in class, class attendance, etc.)

The numerical equivalents of letter grades are:

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| 93-100 = A | 83-86 = B | 73-76 = C | |
| 90-92 = A- | 80-82 = B- | 70-72 = C- | |
| 87-89 = B+ | | 77-79 = C+ | 60-69 = D |
| Below 65 = F | | | |

NOTE: Final grades will not be changed unless there is an error in computation.

OFFICE VISITS

Students are encouraged to visit the instructor during office hours in connection with their work in this class, or to discuss any career-related problems. If unable to visit during posted hours, an appointment will be made convenient to both the student and the instructor.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU GET TO KNOW YOUR TEACHERS AND TO MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN TO THEM. IT IS THE ONLY WAY TEACHERS CAN BE OF HELP TO YOU OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.

Syllabus Statement on In-Person Class Attendance and Participation

The health and well-being of our students and the quality of our learning environments Accordingly, the following University policy statements on in-person class attendance are designed to preserve and advance the collective health and well-being of our institutional constituencies and to create the conditions in which all students have the opportunity to learn and successfully complete their course

1. Students who exhibit any potential COVID-19 symptoms (those that cannot be attributed to some other medical condition the students are known to have, such as allergies, asthma, etc.) shall absent themselves from in-person class attendance or in-person participation in any class-related activity until they have been evaluated by a qualified medical official. Students should contact [University Student Health Center](#) for immediate assistance.
2. Students (whether exhibiting any of potential COVID-19 symptoms or not, and regardless of how they feel) who are under either an isolation or quarantine directive issued by a qualified health official must absent themselves from in-person course activities per the stipulations of the isolation or quarantine directive.
3. Students are responsible for notifying their instructor of an absence as far in advance as possible; when advance notification is not possible, students are responsible for notifying each instructor as soon after the absence as possible. Consistent with the [University Attendance Policy](#), students also are responsible for all material covered in class and must work with the instructor to complete any required work. In situations where students must be absent for an extended period of time due to COVID-19 isolation or quarantine they also must work with the instructor to determine the best way to maintain progress in the course as they are able based on their health situation.

4.

In addition to authorized absences, instructors have the authority to excuse absences for

3. Students must notify instructors in writing by the end of the first week of the

sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit the [Student Success Center](#) or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

Basic Needs Security

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office (deanofstudents@slu.edu or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE

Jan. 17 Course Overview

Section 1: History, Approaches and Theories of International Politics/Relations

In this section, we examine some of the events that have shaped our ideas of international politics and international relations. We examine 3 methods used by political scientists to study political phenomena – traditionalism, behavioralism, and post-behavioralism. Also, since the appearance of the works by E. H. Carr and Hans Morgenthau, numerous theories have developed for the study of international politics/relations. We will examine three basic theories: Realism, Liberalism and Constructivism.

Jan. 19 History of International Relations
Reading(s): Essentials, pp. 19-32

Jan. 24 History of International Relations (cont'd)

Mar. 7 The International System: Views of Radicals, Constructivism;
Readings: Essentials, pp. 114-119

Mar. 9 **Midterm Examination**

Mar. 14, 16 **Spring Break**

Mar. 21 The State: International Relations Perspectives and the State
Readings: Essentials, pp. 119-126
Study Questions:

1. The growing integration of the world in terms of politics, economics, and culture is known as ...?
2. A “fragile state” is one that....

Apr. 4 **Discussion: Choose one state labeled as a fragile state. What recommendations can you make to turn the state into a viable one?**

Apr. 6 **Easter Break: No Classes**

Section IV: The Environment and International Law

In this final segment of the course, we shall focus on the evolution of the environment as an issue in international relations, problems, internationalization, and contending perspectives on the environment. We shall describe the role international law plays in international relations.

Apr. 11 Evolution of the environment as an issue in international politics
International Law
Climate Change
Natural Resources Issue
Readings: Essentials, pp. 391-411
Study Questions:

Apr. 13 Global Perspectives
The Environment: A View from Brazil
Readings: Essentials, pp. 412-417

Apr. 18 Contending Perspectives on the Environment
Readings: Essentials, pp; 418-411

Apr. 20 **Quiz 2**

Apr. 25