

DE ANZA COLLEGE

Winter Quarter 2023

INSTRUCTOR: I. TARIKH

Office Hours: (tbd, via Zoom)

Mondays, 10:30am-12:20pm & two hours asynchronous (online)

CUPERTINO, CA

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International Relations

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a critical examination of the basic elements of contemporary international relations: scope, terminology, methodology, sovereignty, nationalism, national policies, globalization, power, international, and regional political systems. Students will discuss non-governmental organizations (NGOs), inter-governmental organizations (IGOs), and issues such as human rights and the environment.

[POLI-003.-01Z-](#): This is an online class with SOME scheduled meetings as noted in the class listing. The rest of the class can be completed independently each week on the student's own time. Students must have access to a computer, the internet and an individual email address. Most De Anza classes will use the Canvas course management system. We recommend a laptop or desktop computer to successfully complete the course; a tablet or phone may not be adequate for all assignments and tests. Information about Canvas and Online Education Orientation can be found in Canvas on the Student Resources page: <https://deanza.instructure.com/courses/3382>. The Student Online Resources hub with extensive information and tips can be found at deanza.edu/online-ed/students/remoteteaching.

Political Science 3 fulfills the General Education A.A. degree requirement (Segment IV: Social and Behavioral Sciences) for Foothill College; the General Education Breadth requirement for all California State Universities (CSUs); and the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) for all CSUs and UCs.

This syllabus is subject to change with fair notice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed for any student who wishes to make a serious study of these issues, and is prepared to do the extensive reading, writing, and research that are course requirements. However, the most important objective will always be the encouragement and development of critical reading, writing, and thinking skills. It is the aim to meet the following objectives by the course's end:

- Define and explain the major elements of the academic discipline of Political Science and in particular, International Relations.
- Recognize, describe, and explain the major theoretical models and levels of analysis used in the study of international relations.

- Recognize, define, and explain the major challenges facing the international system, along with potential solutions to these challenges.
- Appraise the impact of national and international popular political movements on international relations.

This four-unit hybrid (Mondays synchronous online-distance/two additional hours asynchronous online-distance) learning format course is a major preparation requirement in the discipline of Political Science for at least one CSU or UC. This course meets a general education requirement for De Anza (Area D), CSU GE (Area D), and IGETC (Area 4), and is required for the AA-T degree in Political Science. This course provides an introduction to International Relations. It examines world politics at the individual, state, and system levels.

It adheres to all of the dictates of the promulgated De Anza College policies outlined in the Schedule of Classes, and found in the current college catalog. Of immense importance and emphasis are the policies attendant to Academic Integrity and Academic Freedom. Strict adherence will be followed. Please read these passages in the most sober and careful manner. Unlike much of our contemporaneous society, in this course we will agree, disagree, and agree to disagree while maintaining the decorum befitting a fine institution of higher learning.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

SLO 1: evaluate how political decisions are shaped by institutions and processes in the international system.

SLO 2: assess the impact of political decisions on states, groups, and individuals in the international system.

SLO 3: demonstrate the capacity to effectively participate in international politics.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

In most cases, the instructor will develop the subjects of the sessions and place them in proper perspective so that a meaningful understanding can be shared among the reader (students), and the instructor. Using the required readings, students are encouraged to take a view from various sides, and a comparison will be made between all our viewpoints, and what was written in the required and general references relating to the subject or event.

As a point of great importance, make sure that your responses to our writing assignments have a strong foundation that is based on fact driven, reliable sources. The “safest ground” to rely on here are academic sources. Additionally, students are required to participate through Canvas postings. The final grade students receive will result from a combination of your scores on written assignments (including a policy paper, with an optional presentation), a midterm examination, and your score on the final examination.

It is absolutely imperative that students respect the deadlines in this course. I can be amazingly flexible when there is a legitimate basis for an extension, but I can also be amazingly rigid when there is no basis. Some examples of legitimate basis include personal illness (that is verified through medical documentation), personal matters like military or court ordered obligations (with documentary verification), personal matters like a death in the family (but be prepared to submit an obituary), and other compelling reasons.

Due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), I am open to an increased amount of flexibility. However, verification of Coronavirus negative impacts on your academic performance must be submitted. Generally, be mindful of the negative impacts of unsuitable environments, distractions, etc. If you experience a technical problem, and could not submit your work, let me know immediately. Be sure to use reliable networks and equipment to get the job done.

If you have a request that is based on any number of personal challenges that beset us all, be prepared to provide a compelling, verifiable basis. It is not a compelling basis if you waited until a few minutes before the deadline, and could not submit your work. It is advisable for students to avoid the negative impact of technical problems by leaving a cushion of time to troubleshoot the technical problems that can arise. Again, be sure to use reliable networks and equipment to get the job done.

I will be available through Office Hours, Canvas, email, or through the possibility of individual Zoom meetings. In fact, I would love for all enrolled students to join the dialogue around the “seismic shifts” in our current political landscape.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Student Success Center offers individual and group tutoring, as well as several types of workshops. Students who use our services succeed at much higher rates than those who do not. As you may know, De Anza now also offers free online tutoring with Smarthinking.

Need help with this course? Student Success Center peer tutors are ready for you!

- **SSC tutoring links and schedules:** go to the [SSC homepage](#) and click on the yellow link to add yourself to [SSC Resources Canvas](#). Once there, click on Modules then the SSC area for your course.
- **Support for online learning:** If you’d like to speak with someone about motivation and organization strategies for online classes, we encourage you to talk with a peer tutor or SSC staff member. We get it and are going through the same things, so let’s support each other!
- **Need after-hours or weekend tutoring?** See the [Online Tutoring](#) page for information about NetTutor (via Canvas) or Smarthinking (via MyPortal).

REQUIRED TEXTS/MATERIALS:

(1) Mingst, Karen & McKibben, Heather Essentials of International Relations. 9th Edition (2022) W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. (NY) [ISBN: 978-0-393-87218-7].

(2) Regular engagement with at least one major news/research source (Deutsche Welle, Reuters, Pew Research, New York Times, Politifact, The Guardian, BBC, Asia Times, usdebtclock.org, etc.). The goal is ongoing engagement with quality news sources committed to the highest standards of journalism (e.g., fairness, completeness, honesty, independence, impartiality, transparency, accountability, respect, and excellence).

In order to receive full G.E. credit (attaining at least a “C” as a final course grade) each student must score over 50% of possible points in every Performance Evaluation/Assessment area.

PROPER PREPARATION PREVENTS POOR PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT

- 1) Written Assignments: 20% = 200 potential points [5 assignments: short answer, worth 40 points each].**
- 2) Midterm Examination: 20% = 200 potential points [50 multiple choice items (4 points each), timed at 60 minutes].**
- 3) Policy Paper: 25% = 250 potential points [details tbd].**
- 4) Policy Paper Presentation: 100 potential points of Extra Credit.**
- 5) Final Examination (cumulative): 35% = 350 potential points [multiple choice and short answer].**

Grading Scale: is an approximation of final grading outcomes. Frequently the final grade is higher than the scaling below, but it is never lower.

A+ = 950-1000 pts A = 900-949 A- = 875-899 B+ = 850-874 B = 800-849
B- = 775-799 C+ = 750-774 C = 675-749 D+ = 650-674
D = 600-649 D- = 575-599 F = below 575 pts

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Please see Canvas for greater detail of assignments required during this course.