

POLITICAL SCIENCE 2057
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Fall 2020
Zoom

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Office Hours: M|W|F 8:00-9:00
M|W|F 11:30-12:30

OBJECTIVE: POLI 2057 is a general education requirement course for social science undergraduates. The course is designed to provide students with an introductory insight into the process, the progress and the problems in the conduct of the world politics. In particular, we will discuss the flow of change and continuity as well as the twists of conflict and cooperation in World Affairs. By the end of the semester, it is expected that students should have been educated in the knowledge of global interaction to the extent that they can explain and analyze events and trends in the contemporary world.

The University strives toward Learning Competency and the fulfillment of the following objectives:

- ⇒ Ability to think, describe, interpret and analyze the world
- ⇒ Facility to make sense of the world that impacts on our own local system
- ⇒ The need to gain critical perspectives of the governments and institutions across various political systems

COVID-19 Statement

We remain under pandemic conditions and expect to be in this state for the entire semester. In order to consistently provide the highest quality LSU education, all students should follow current LSU guidelines. These include the following:

1. If you have any signs of illness, do not come to class.
2. In order to protect all campus community members, the University requires everyone to wear facemasks/cloths on campus. Failure to do so is a violation of the code of student conduct.
3. Wash hands with soap and water or clean with sanitizer frequently, and refrain from touching your face.
4. If you have to cough or sneeze unexpectedly, please be mindful of others nearby and cough or sneeze into your elbow or shield yourself the best you can.
5. If you have been exposed to others who have tested positive for COVID-19, self-quarantine consistent with current [CDC guidelines](#).

Daily Symptom Checker:

You are required to respond to a daily symptom check request sent via email or text message each morning. Completing the symptom checker will take approximately one to two minutes. Once you have provided information about your symptoms, you will be given feedback on whether or not you are certified to return to campus and attend your classes. Additionally, if

you test positive for COVID-19, you are required to report it in your daily symptom checker application.

Resources for Students: Your health and safety are LSU's top priority. If you are feeling ill or overwhelmed with anxiety, please contact the [LSU Student Health Center](#) for medical advice and mental health support. General health care and mental health support are available for all enrolled students through telehealth appointments.

Unexpected Changes to Courses: Due to the unpredictable nature of the situation, the format of the course and/or requirements may be forced to change, and if this is the case that students will be given appropriate notification.

TEXTBOOK: There is only one textbook required for this course:

James, M. Scott, Ralph G. Carter and A. Cooper Drury. *IR: International, Economic, and Human Security in a Changing World*. Sage Publication, 2018

In addition, *New York Times* readings will be assigned.

EXAMS & PAPERS: As part of the general education requirement, (all sections of 2057) will do standard multiple-choice questions during the midterm and final. There will be other multiple-choice questions assigned from the NYT. A major essay question will also be administered to all 2057 sections. Much of the content of the midterm and final exam (essays and definitions) come from the lectures. You will select an on-going topic in the news and examine key issues and themes generated from it in your research paper topic.

GRADES

Class Participation	10
Take-Home Exam	10
Online Midterm Exam	20
Assessment	10
Research Paper	20
Final Exam	30
Total	100

A+ 100-95	B- 79.9-77	D+ 66.9-65
A 94.9-90	C+ 76.9-75	D 64.9-60
A- 89.9-87	C 74.9-70	D- 59-57
B+ 86.9-85 B 84.9-80	C- 69.9-67	

F below 57

Lecture Outline

Aug 24 - 28	Course Intro: Relevance and Complexity	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chap 1
Aug 31- Sept 04	History/Background to the Study of World Politics	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chap 2
Sept 09-16	The Theories of International Relations	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chaps 3 & 4
Sept 14	Take-Home Exam Due	

Sept 18-23	The Actors of World Politics: The Role of Domestic Context	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chap 2
Sept 25	National Interests/ Course Assessment – Multiple Choice and Research Paper Topics	
Sept 28- Oct 02	Conflict in World Politics: The Conduct of War	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chaps 5 & 6
Oct 05-09	Cooperation in World Politics: The Conduct of Diplomacy/ <u>Review Session</u> for Midterm	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chap 7
Oct 12	Midterm Exam (Online by 11:55 pm)	
Oct 12-28	(West-West) Relations among Industrialized Countries: The U.S. and EU, Japan and Canada	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chaps 8 & 9
Oct 30-Nov 13	(North-South) Relations between Industrialized and Developing Countries: The Changing Tides	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chaps 9 & 10
Nov 16-20	Relations with Communist and Former Communist States; Eastern Europe; Transculturalism; Global Problems; China; the Pandemic	Scott, Carter, Drury, Chaps 11, 12 & 13
Nov 20	Research Paper Due Online	
Nov 23	No Class	
Nov 30-Dec 04	Review Session/Course Evaluation	
Dec 09	Final Exam (Wed by 11:55 pm)	