

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage:	Fall 2019
Discipline:	Political Science
Course Number and Title:	POLS 232 International Relations
Division:	Lower
Faculty Name:	Dr. Janis van der Westhuizen
Semester Credit Hours:	3

Prerequisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to provide students with both the analytical tools to examine international affairs as well as an overview of the key political and economic concerns that drive a select number of countries on our voyage's foreign policies. Designed in three parts, the first part examines the emergence of the modern nation-state system, the expansion of international society beyond Europe and the growing role of non-state actors in the international system. The second part introduces students to the four main theories in International Relations - Realism, Liberalism, Marxism and Constructivism - and how these theories give us analytical 'tools' to explain the behaviour of states and non-state actors.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Drawing on our voyage itinerary, this class aims to

- illustrate different explanations about international relations
- understand the role of different types of actors in International Relations
- understand how the international system has evolved
- understand how the international system shapes states' foreign policies

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Baylis, J. Smith S., Owens P. (eds.)

TITLE: The Globalization of World Politics

PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press

ISBN #: 978-0-19-879636-7 (may be different for North America)

DATE/EDITION: 2017

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Amsterdam, The Netherlands – September 9

A1–September 11: The Evolution of International Society

ch. 2 ‘The Rise of modern international order’ in Baylis, Smith & Owens

A2–September 13: Social Movements as Non-State Actors in IR

Rachwald A.R., 1990 In Search of Poland: ‘The Superpowers’ Response to Solidarity, 1980-1989’, ch. 1, pp. 3-24 (Hoover Institute Press).

Gdansk, Poland – September 15-20

A3–September 21:

ch.4 Leysens A., Thompson L., ‘The Evolution of the Global Political Economy’, in McGowan, Cornelissen & Nel (eds.) Power, Wealth and Global Equity

A4–September 23: IR Theory 1: Realism

ch. 6 Realism in Baylis, Smith & Owens

A5–September 25: Succession Movements

Muro D. ‘The Stillbirth of the Catalan Republic’, *Current History*, March 2018

Lisbon, Portugal – September 26-28

Cadiz, Spain – September 29 – October 1

A6–October 3: Nationalism and National Self-Determination

ch. 27 ‘Nationalism, national self-determination...’ in Baylis, Smith & Owens

A7–October 5:

Kaldor M., 2012 ch. 3 ‘Bosnia-Herzegovina: A Case Study of a New War’, pp. 32-70 *New and Old Wars*: Malden, MA: Polity Press.

Dubrovnik, Croatia – October 6-10

A8–October 12: IR Theory 2: Liberalism

ch. 7 ‘Liberalism’ in Baylis, Smith & Owens.

A9–October 14: Another Succession Movement?

Cornwell G.H. 2016 ‘Africa’s Last Colony: Algeria’s Polisario Front and the Western Sahara’, June 12 *Foreign Affairs*

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/algeria/2016-06-12/africas-last-colony>

Casablanca, Morocco – October 15-20

A10–October 22:

ch. 10 'Africa in the Global System, 1600 to decolonisation' in McGowan, Cornelissen & Nel.

A11—October 25:

ch. 11 'Africa in the contemporary world', in McGowan, Cornelissen & Nel.

A12—October 27: Kwame Nkrumah and IR

White E., 2003 Kwame Nkrumah: Cold War Modernity, Pan African Ideology and the Geopolitics of Development', *Geopolitics* 8:2, pp. 99-124

Tema, Ghana — October 28-30

Takoradi, Ghana — October 31 – November 1

A13—November 3:

ch. 12 'Africa's International Relations', in McGowan, Cornelissen & Nel.

A14—November 6:

ch. 5, 'Rising Powers and the emerging global order', in Baylis, Smith & Owens.

A15—November 8:

Melamud A., 2017 'Foreign Policy Retreat: Domestic and Systemic Causes of Brazil's International Rollback', *Rising Powers Quarterly* 1:2, May pp. 149-168.

<http://risingpowersproject.com/quarterly/foreign-policy-retreat-domestic-systemic-causes-brazils-international-rollback/>

Salvador, Brazil — November 10-15

A16—November 16:

ch. 16 'International organisations in world politics', in Baylis, Smith & Owens.

A17—November 18: IR Theory 3: Constructivism

ch. 9 'Social constructivism' in Baylis, Smith & Owens.

A18—November 20: Debate Day 1

A19—November 23: Do Small States Have Power?

Braveboy-Wagner J. 2010 'Opportunities and limitations of the exercise of foreign policy power by a very small state: the case of Trinidad and Tobago', *Cambridge Review of International Affairs* 23:3, pp. 407-427

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago – November 24

A20—November 26: IR Theory 4: Marxism

ch. 8 'Marxist theories of international relations' in Baylis, Smith & Owens.

A21—November 28: Debate Day 2

A22—December 1: Multinational Corporations (MNC's) as Non-State Actors

Stiffler, S. 'The United Fruit Company's Legacy in Ecuador', pp. 239-249 in De la Torre, C & Stiffler S., (eds.) 2008 *The Ecuador Reader: History, Culture, Politics*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Guayaquil, Ecuador – December 2-7

A23—December 9: What 'role' does Costa Rica play?

Hoivik T., Aas S., 1981 'Demilitarization in Costa Rica: A Farewell to Arms?', *Journal of Peace Research* 18:4, pp. 333-350.

https://www.jstor.org/stable/423537?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

Puntarenas, Costa Rica – December 11-15

A24—December 16

Brysk A., 2009 chapter 5 'The Little Country that Could: Costa Rica' pp. 95-118 in *Global Good Samaritans: Human Rights as Foreign Policy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

A25—December 19: Final Exam

Arrive San Diego, California – December 23

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class & Assignment

The field class for this course is on **October 7th** in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class.

Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course, and are developed and led by the instructor.

Proposal Title #1: Dubrovnik at War

Country:Croatia

Idea: Walking Tour of Key War Sites in Dubrovnik

Objectives: In International Relations, war represents the 'failure' of diplomacy. Why did war tear the old Yugoslavia apart and how did it impact Croatia specifically? Are our theories of International Relations capable of explaining the continuity of the atrocities of war even in the late 20th century?

Drawing on your port experience in Croatia as well as any other relevant port experiences as well as our class readings, write an essay of not more than 5 A4 Pages, 1.5 line spacing, and 12pt font to be submitted no later than **October 14 (day A9)**.

Independent Field Assignments

Short comparative essay

In a short essay of no more than 5 A4 pages, 1.5 spacing and 12pt font, reflect on the similarities and differences between the cases of putative successions in Catalonia/Spain and the Western Sahara/Morocco. You are especially encouraged to draw on any relevant experiences or insights you gained during port visits in Spain and Morocco. Your paper should be submitted no later than **October 25 (Day A 11)**.

Debates Days/Alternative Assignment

You will be divided into debating groups to debate either a specific issue in international relations or theories of international relations on our identified 'debate days'. More details will be provided during the introduction session of the class. (However, if the class is over-subscribed, we might, due to time constraints need to adjust this to another kind of assignment).

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Field class & paper	25 %
Debate/Alternative assignment	20%
Short essay	20%
Final exam	25%
Attendance	10%

GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%: F
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-92%: A-	80-82%: B-	60-69%: D	

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea® provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from students' home institutions verifying the accommodations received on their home campuses (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage. More details can be found within the Course Registration Packet, as posted to the [Courses and Field Classes page](#) no later than one month prior to registration.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative

commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

None

FILM REQUEST

None

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

Select Chapters (4) in PDF format from the following:

AUTHOR: McGowan P.J, Cornelissen S., Nel P. (eds.)

TITLE: Power, Wealth and Global Equity: An International Relations Textbook for Africa

PUBLISHER: University of Cape Town (UCT) Press

ISBN: 1-919713-64-6

DATE/EDITION: 2006, Third

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

None