GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

POLITICAL SCIENCE 130 – INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

POSC 130 Introduction to 3 3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours

International Relations 96-108 outside-of-class hours

144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None.

Corequisite

None.

Recommended Preparation

A “C” grade or higher or “Pass” in English 110 or ESL 119 or equivalent.

3. Catalog Description

This course is a survey of the field of international relations. Students will be introduced to the major theories of international relations and will learn to apply them to contemporary problems in world politics. Issues examined include global peace and security, international political economy, international law and organization, sustainable development, and human rights.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Apply different theories of international relations to contemporary global problems.

b. Examine major stages in the development of the international system.

c. Analyze the role of different actors in international relations, such as the nation-state, transnational social movements, international organizations, multinational corporations, and individuals.

d. Evaluate how social, cultural, and economic phenomena impact relations between nation-states.

e. Explore the changing nature of the challenges facing the international community.

5. Instructional Facilities

a. Audiovisual equipment – television, video clips, overhead projector, projection screen, digital processing presenter, computer with data projector monitor and internet access.

b. Current world and regional political maps.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None.

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7. Course Content

a. The evolution of the international system.

b. Actors in international relations.

c. Theories of International relations.

d. War and peace.

e. International political economy.

f. International organizations.

g. International law.

h. Sustainable development.

i. Human rights.

8. Method of Instruction

a. Films and videos.

b. Class discussions.

c. Simulations.

d. Readings and lectures.

e. Multimedia presentations, including video and computer presentations.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Quizzes and examinations, including a final exam with objective and essay questions.

b. Group projects and discussions.

c. Written and oral projects on topics such as realist vs. idealist theories, international economic institutions utilizing levels of analysis.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Text reading

b. Conducting research for oral or written reports on topics such as realist vs. idealist theories, international economic institutions utilizing levels of analysis.

11. Texts

a. Required Text(s):

(1) Viotti, Paul and Mark V. Kauppi. *International Relations and World Politics: Security, Economy, Identity*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2012.

(2) Roskin, Michael G. and Nicholas O. Berry. *IR: The New World of International* *Relations*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2011.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

(1) Rourke, John T. *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in World Politics, Expanded*. New York, NY:

McGraw-Hill, 2012.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

* 1. Apply the various international relations theories to current events.
  2. Identify factors contributing to international conflict and strategies to manage and or avoid such conflicts.
  3. Utilize levels of analysis to explain international relations.
  4. Apply realist and idealist perspectives on global justice to contemporary international issues.

Date approved by the Governing Board: May 21, 2013