

**Political Science 212**  
**INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

M W 12:30–1:45

Fall 2013

327 Pray Harrold

Instructor: Nevena Trajkov  
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**Course Description**

Study and analysis of the foundations for world peace with justice. Exploration of alternative futures in several critical areas. Concepts include determinants of power in a multi-polar world, transnational organizations, nationalism, anti-nationalism and intervention, new forces in world politics, arms control and disarmament.

**Learning Outcomes/Course Objectives**

The general objective of this course is to develop your capacity to critically examine problems in world politics and to consider the range of possible solutions to those problems. The student is to be able to

1. show a familiarity with in international politics and foreign policy;
2. demonstrate familiarity of the main theoretical and analytical approaches to the study of world politics;
3. interpret specific historical and contemporary problems using appropriate theoretical arguments and methods of analysis; and
4. be able to apply the theoretical to the contemporary political world

**Recommended Textbook**

Shirayev, E., Zubok, V. International Relations. 2014 Oxford University Press.  
ISBN 978-0-19-974651-4

**Course Requirements**

The course grade will comprise of three exams and participation. Grading breaks down as follows:

<b>Assignments</b>		
Exam I	7 Oct	30%
Exam II	11 Nov	30%
Exam III	16 Dec	30%
Participation	All semester	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>		100%

<b>GRADING SCALE</b>			
A	92+	C	69-75
A-	89-91	C-	67-68
B+	86-88	D+	64-66
B	82-85	D	60-63
B-	79-81	D-	55-59
C+	76-78	F	<55

## Evaluation and Grading Policy

### Exams 90%

It is expected that you will be present for exams. **Make-up exams will not be given under any circumstances.**

All exams will be multiple choice/short answer essay. Due to the amount of information in the textbook, the exams will not be cumulative but rather cover the material presented for the appropriate period.

**The final exam is required.** Students who chose not to take the final will receive a failing grade for the course. **The final for this course will be 16 December, 11:30 – 1:00**

### Attendance Policy/Participation 10%

There is quite a bit of information to be covered and attendance to lecture is the best way to absorb and retain the material presented. However, understanding life can sometimes bring disruptive events, you are each allowed 3 absences. More than three absences will result in a deduction of 1/3 a letter grade (e.g., you could have had an “A” but it is now reduced to an “A-“). Each additional accumulation of 3 absences further reduces the grade (e.g., 6 absences results in a B+ for participation and so on) Any absences due to religious holidays should be made known to me at the beginning of the semester and will not count.

*Tardiness* Tardiness in excess of 15 minutes will be regarded as an absence. If you have special circumstances or a situation, please discuss them with me.

*Participation* is a portion of your grade and discussion is highly encouraged. That being said, there are a few “rules” I would like to implement:

1. Arrive on time or endure the above mentioned consequences
2. Do not depart prior to the end of the discussion. Your attendance will not be honored.
3. Be respectful and open minded to other opinions (in political discussions, this can be a struggle!) In other words, please behave civilized.
4. Side “chatter” is prohibited. This includes cell phone use and “texting”. **Please have cellular phones turned off.**

### **Access to Course Material**

All course material, including syllabi, PowerPoint slides and reviews, will be posted on my.emich.edu. Here’s how to access our class:

1. go to [www.my.emich.edu](http://www.my.emich.edu) and log in using your EMU user name and password
2. click on the student tab
3. click on the “click here to:” link in the box titled “My Courses”
4. Select our class

### **Eastern Michigan University Code of Conduct/Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty of any sort (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is strictly prohibited and is not tolerated. Violators will be reprimanded appropriately. Please reference the University Academic Integrity website for unacceptable behavior.

<http://www.emich.edu/campuslife/myfy/academics/academicintegrity.php>.

### **Special Needs/Accessibility**

If you are registered with the EAS office and require special accommodations, please see me so that we can set up appropriate arrangements.

## Assignments

CLASS	DATE	ASSIGNMENT
1	4 Sept	Introduction
2	9 Sept	Chapter 1
3	11 Sept	Chapter 2: The Realist Perspective
4	16 Sept	Chapter 2: The Realist Perspective
5	18 Sept	Chapter 3: The Liberalist Perspective
6	23 Sept	Chapter 3: The Liberalist Perspective
7	25 Sept	Chapter 4: Alternative Views
8	30 Sept	Chapter 4: Alternative Views
9	2 Oct	Chapter 4: Alternative Views
10	<b>7 Oct</b>	<b>Exam I</b>
11	9 Oct	Chapter 5: International Security
12	14 Oct	Chapter 5: International Security
13	<b>16 Oct</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
14	21 Oct	Chapter 6: International Law
15	23 Oct	Chapter 6: International Law
16	28 Oct	Chapter 7: Political Economy
17	30 Oct	Chapter 7: Political Economy
18	4 Nov	Chapter 8: International Terrorism
19	6 Nov	Chapter 8: International Terrorism
20	<b>11 Nov</b>	<b>Exam II</b>
21	13 Nov	Chapter 9: Environmental Problems
22	18 Nov	Chapter 9: Environmental Problems
23	20 Nov	Chapter 10: Humanitarian Problems
24	25 Nov	Chapter 10: Humanitarian Problems
25	2 Dec	Chapter 11: Identity and Political Culture
26	4 Dec	Chapter 11: Identity and Political Culture
27	9 Dec	Chapter 12: Forecasting of the World
28		Chapter 12: Forecasting of the World
<b>FINAL EXAM IS 16 December 11:30 – 1:00</b>		

*Please be advised that the syllabi dates, topics, readings, and related activities, may be subject to change and readjustment at my discretion*