### POLI 2057-02: Introduction to International Politics Fall 2019

**Instructor:** Simeon Burns Email: <a href="mailto:sburns10@lsu.edu">sburns10@lsu.edu</a>

Office Location: Stubbs Hall 307 Classroom: 129 Allen Hall 129 Course Time: T/TH 9:00 10:20

Office Hours: T/TH 10:30-11:30, or by appointment familiarize the students with the various IR theories

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familiarize them with some of its practical subfields; and to enable each student to identify and apply the theoretical tools they acquire to interpret and analyze any IR content or setting they are presented with.

### II. Course Format

75% Lecture, 25% Discussion. Tuesdays will be entirely lecture and question-answer. Thursdays will be half lecture and half group discussion.

### Required Books:

Hallett, Edward. *The Twenty Years' Crisis 1919-1939*. Harper Perennial. 1964. 978-0061311222 Kant, Immanuel. *Perpetual peace and other essays*. Hackett Publishing, 1983. 978-0915145478 Scott, James C. *Against the grain: a deep history of the earliest states*. Yale University Press, 2017. 978-0300240214

**Grades**: Midterm 25%, Final 25%, Term Paper 25%, Attendance/Participation 15%, Four Summaries 10%.

# Grading Scale:

A+: 97-100	A: 93-96	A-:90-92
B+: 87-89.9	B: 83-86	B-: 80-82
C+: 77-79.9	C: 73-76	C-: 70-72
D+: 67-69.9	D: 63-66	D-: 60-62

#### F: 59.9 and below

**Exams (50%)**: both will contain a short answer section and an essay section. There will a choice between two essays, of which the student will select one to write on. The first exam will cover the assigned class materials and lectures from the beginning of class until the test. The second exam will be non-cumulative but answering proficiently will require familiarity with materials. There is a no makeup policy unless the correct documents

**Term Project (25%)**: Students will have essentially four options concerning the Term Project. These will differ according to their choice of its form and the content.

### 1. Form

- a) **Essay** (Default). Writing a 2,200-word, 6-8 page essay. This essay must be: double spaced, have one-inch margins, **Times New Roman** Font sized 12, and page numbers at the bottom. There must be an original argument that the student, with the permission of the instructor, formulates and executes within the paper.
- b) **Alternative**. Proposing and submitting an alternative project. I am reasonably open to considering accepting other mediums that facilitate the learning and expression of the

d)	Refrain from large block quotes in your work. Small quotes when needed are fine. I will not accept the copy-pasting of large sections of s

conviction on the part of the faculty that LSU graduates will be able to communicate effectively through multiple media; will have a basic appreciation of historical, cultural and philosophical complexity; will be aware of the economic, political, cultural, and linguistic factors which inform global interdependence; will be able to identify and solve important problems through research-based inquiry which employs scientific and mathematical methods, and appropriate technology; and will have the requisite abilities and motivation to participate effectively in the civic life of communities.

**Humanities and Social Sciences Competency Statement:** LSU graduates will demonstrate an understanding of the informing factors of global interdependence, including economic forces, political dynamics, and cultural and linguistic difference.

**Integrative Learning Core**: Integrated learning allows students to make simple connections among ideas and experiences and across disciplines and perspectives. The LSU Integrative

**9/5** James C Scott. 2018. Selections from Chapters 4-5 in *Against the Grain*. P. 116-157; 166-173.

#### **Section II: International Relations Theories**

### **Week 3: Introduction to Thinking about International Relations**

**9/10** Edward Carr. 1964. Chapters 1-4 in *The Twenty Years' Crisis*, *1919-1939*. P. 1-62. **9/12** Edward Carr. 1964. Chapters 5-7 in *The Twenty Years' Crisis*, *1919-1939*. P. 63-99.

#### Week 4: Classical Realism

**9/17** Thomas Hobbes. 1994. 13-14, & 17 in *The Leviathan*. Hackett Press. P. 74-88, 106-110.

**9/19** Thomas Hobbes. 1994. 18-20 in *The Leviathan*. Hackett Press. P. 110-123, 127-132.

#### Week 5. Liberalism

**9/24** Immanuel Kant. *Idea for a Universal History & Perpetual Peace*. P. 29-39, 107-125.

**9/26** Ikenberry, G. John. "The end of liberal international order?". *International Affairs* 94, no. 1 (2018): 7-23.

#### **Week 6: Structural Realism (Neorealism)**

**10/1** Waltz, Kenneth. 1979. Selections from *Theory of International Politics*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press. P.79-101, 161-170.

10/3 The Tragedy of Great Power Politics

# 11/28 Thanksgiving Break

## Week 15: Globalization/Conclusion (Term Projects due Dec. 3 at 9:00 a.m.)

**12/3** Blanton, Shannon L., and Charles W. Kegley. 2014. *World Politics: Trend and Transformation, 2013-2014 Update Edition.* Cengage Learning. P 356-389. **Term Project Due.** 

**12/5** <a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2018/10/yuval-noah-hararitechnology-tyranny/568330/">https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2018/10/yuval-noah-hararitechnology-tyranny/568330/</a>;
<a href="https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2018/sep/22/regular-body-upgrades-what-will-humans-look-like-in-100-years">https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2018/sep/22/regular-body-upgrades-what-will-humans-look-like-in-100-years</a>.

Week 16: Second Exam: Thursday, December 12th, 12:30-2:30 p.m.