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- x Office Hours Online via Zoom Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30pm, or by appointment. Zoom Meeting ID and password will be posted to the course Moodle site.

Course Description This course is an introductory lecture in international relations, a subfield of political science. No previous coursework or background in international relations or political science is required. The general purpose of the course is twofold: the first is to provide students with the current theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches utilized in the study of

contemporary current events for the purposes of increasing t • š μ v š [• μ v Œ • š v] v P } (relevant actors, their goals and actions, and the factors which inhibit or facilitate cooperation or conflict.

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

Required Text Jon C. Pevehouse and Joshua S. Goldstein, *International Relations* 12e, ISBN 9780135176610 (Pearson Revel).

In addition to the selections from the textbook above, additional readings will be made available on Moodle or in the library. As this course is also focused on current events in international politics, students are expected to remain abreast of the state of current international affairs through the utilization of newspaper periodicals, and other sources of international news. This information may be utilized in class and subject to unannounced quizzes exams. A list of suggested sources is provided on the course Moodle page.

Course Requirements The structure of the

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Letter Grades and Percentages

A+: 97-100	B+: 87-89	C+: 77-79	D+: 67-69	F: 59 or below
A: 93-96	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66	
A-: 90-92	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62	

Additional Notes on Grading

General Statement on Academic Integrity Louisiana State University adopted the Commitment to Community in 1995 to set forth guidelines for student behavior both inside and outside of the classroom. The Commitment to Community charges students to maintain high standards of academic and personal integrity. All students are expected to read and be familiar with the LSU Code of Student Conduct and Commitment to Community, found on the LSU Student Advocacy and Accountability website. It is your responsibility as a student at LSU to know and understand the academic standards for our community.

Students who are suspected of violating the Code of Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Advocacy and Accountability. For undergraduate students, a first academic violation could result in a zero grade on the assignment or failing the class and disciplinary probation until graduation. For a second academic violation, the result could be suspension from LSU. For graduate students, suspension is the appropriate outcome for the first offense.

Plagiarism and Citation Methods As a student at LSU, it is your responsibility to refrain from plagiarizing the academic property of another and to utilize appropriate citation method for all coursework. Ignorance of the citation method is not an excuse for academic misconduct. Remember there is a difference between paraphrasing and quoting and how to properly cite each respectively. If you have questions regarding what is appropriate, please consult with tutorials on avoiding plagiarism and proper citation formats (links are provided on the course Moodlepage).

Group work and unauthorized assistance All work must be completed without assistance unless explicit permission for group or partner work is given by the faculty member. This is critical so that the professor can assess your performance on each assignment. If a group/partner project is assigned, the student may still have individual work to complete. Read the syllabus and assignment directions carefully. You might have a project with group work and a follow up report that is independently written. When in doubt, email the faculty member or ask during a class session. Seeking clarification is your responsibility as a student. Doing group/partner work is okay without permission constitutes a violation of the LSU Code of Student Conduct.

Students requiring special accommodations Louisiana State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments is requested to speak with the Disability Services and the instructor, as early in the semester as possible. All discussions will remain confidential. This publication/material is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Disability Services, 115 Johnston Hall, (225) 597-1970.

Course Outline & Reading Schedule

Week 1: January 12 & 14

- x Course Introduction
- x

Guidelines for Group Project on Global Affairs

Working in a groups of 3 students, each class member will participate in a group project relating to current events in a specific geographic region (detailed below). The project should focus on a topical international issue involving at least two countries, with one or more of the countries

Global Regions

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|-------------------|------------------|
| x Africa | x Middle East |
| x Central America | x Russia & China |
| x Central Asia | x South America |
| x Eastern Europe | x SouthEast Asia |
| x Japan/Pacific | x Western Europe |

Think of the project as a briefing to policy makers who must make a decision regarding potential courses of action; provide all the information that you think would be necessary to make an informed decision, and also keep a focus on the theoretical and policy materials discussed in class. An in-class discussion of the issue will follow the presentation. Questions which would be useful to consider would include:

What is the issue of contention/interest and who are the actors involved?

What is the history of the issue?

What are the suggested potential resolutions or outcomes for the issue?

Does the United States have a position relating to the issue? If so, what is that position?

How does this issue relate to the materials we have studied in class? (i.e. theories problems, etc)

All groups are encouraged to discuss the topic they are considering addressing with the course instructor prior to beginning work.

As a collaborative endeavor, the joint effort of the group is what will be evaluated and each participating student (as determined by the students who are named as contributors on the final submission) will receive the grade assigned to that group for all graded elements. Group membership and the assigned region will be determined after the add/drop period in a manner which will be outlined in class. Each group will also have their choice of which type of material they would like to produce; available choices are a group paper and accompanying in class presentation, or a multimedia project. Each option is discussed in more detail below.

Option A: Group Paper and Accompanying In-Class Presentation

Option B: Multimedia Project

If this option is chosen, the group must submit a multimedia based project of no longer than 8 minutes for presentation in class. Each minute in excess of 8 will result in a letter grade deduction from the final project grade. The projects must be uploaded to Moodle by 10pm on the night preceding the in-class screening.

The project must focus on the key issues and questions detailed above, as with option A. The group has a wide variety of options to choose from when it comes to the type of media they choose to utilize, but it must cover the necessary material and require no input or action on behalf of the audience. Narrated PowerPoint presentations are not a permissible submission type. The project submission must also be entirely self-contained, meaning that it includes all necessary elements such as narration and visuals. The overall concept is that the audience participation will be limited to beginning the presentation, and a student accessing the presentation file from home will have the same experience as those students viewing it when it

the group is not. All projects will be posted online for other students to reference, in addition to being shown in class. Projects will be assessed on the accuracy of the information, creativity of concept, and technical execution in accordance with a rubric which will be distributed in class.

All cited material must be properly attributed to the original source; a letter grade deduction may be taken for each instance of an unattributed quotation or use of original material. Projects which engage in plagiarism

All multimedia submissions must be closed captioned when appropriate to remain compliant with mandated accessibility requirements.

If you have a question about the appropriateness of a particular project I encourage you to clear