

POLI 4044  
Contemporary International Systems  
Spring 2016  
5:00-7:50 Wed./218 Coates Hall

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Harry Mokeba  
OFFICE: 209 Stubbs Hall  
Telephone: 225-578-2143

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-9:00 MWF  
11:30-12:30 MWF  
3:00-4:00 W

OBJECTIVE: This is an upper-level course that supplements the knowledge gained in POLI 2057. The goal is to introduce you to various themes and perspectives that dominate the study of world politics. Students are expected to fully understand how the world system operates on a regional and issue standpoint. Although taught in Political Science, 4044 is designed to be interdisciplinary and global in a diverse and comprehensive fashion. By the end of the semester, students should have gained a robust understanding of world affairs.

TEXTBOOK: Frieden, Lake, Schultz:  
W.W. Norton & Co. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition

In addition, students are encouraged to pick up copies of the New York Times regularly to gain even more knowledge of the contemporary world system

EXAMS and ASSIGNMENTS: There will be an early Take-Home exam (that covers introductory material), a Midterm exam in class, and a Final exam. There will be a System paper toward the end of the semester where you pick a topic and reflect on its system attributes, as well as a presentation of your findings.

GRADES: Your final grade for the course will be determined according to the following formula:

Class Participation	10 pts	Weekly
Early Take-Home Exam	10 pts	Due Feb. 10
Midterm Exam	20 pts	March 02
System Paper	20 pts	April 20
NYT Multiple Choice (2)	10 pts	(1 before Midterm; 1 before Final)
Presentation	5 pts	April 20-27
Final Exam	<u>25 pts</u>	Wed. May 04 (5:00pm)
	100 pts	

A+ 100 - 95	B+ 86.9 - 85	C+ 76.9 - 75	D+ 66.9 - 65
A 94.9 - 90	B 84.9 - 80	C 74.9 - 70	D 64.9 - 60
A- 89.9 - 87	B- 79.9 - 77	C- 69.9 - 67	D- 59.9 - 57

## LECTURE OUTLINE

Jan. 13 - 20

### Course Introduction: Making Sense of the System Idea

The World Today: Globalization

The Change vs. Continuity

Elements of Conflict and Cooperation

History & Evolution: The Centenary

Readings Chap. 1

Jan. 27 - Feb. 03

### Foundational Basis: The Theories and the Actors

Theories of Contemporary International System

Realism

Liberalism

Constructivism/Feminism

Marxist-based Theories

Readings Chap. 2

March 30	<u>Transactional Attributes in the World System</u> International Law Readings Chap. 11  Environment & Health Issues Readings Chap. 13  Movement for Human Rights Readings Chap. 12
April 06	<u>A Borderless World?</u> u      'u      '# Migration Refugees Sports Religion
April 13	<u>Class Debate: to help sharpen your Research Topics: System or Non-System?</u> Readings Chap. 14
April 20 - 27	<u>Paper Due / Presentations Begin / Review Session / Course Evaluation</u>
May 04	<u>FINAL EXAM Wednesday 5:00pm (essays, definitions, multiple choice)</u>