

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
**Bluefield State College**  
**POSC 405—SPRING 2017**  
**Section 001**  
**CRN: 20607**  
**WEBBD**

**Colin S. Cavell, Ph.D.**  
**Class TR: 2:00-3:15 p.m.**  
**Office Hours: TBA**  
**VOICE: 304.327.4034 (W)**

**Course Room No.: B107**  
**INTERNET: ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu**  
**Office No.: B120**  
**512-924-2364 (M)**

Study of the major concepts and approaches in world politics and analysis of process, institutions, problems of war and peace, and contemporary trends. PR: POSC 200 or POSC 210.

Grading Policy: 20% for completing Online Chapter Quizzes (5%) and for answering Chapter Class Discussion Questions (5%) and for actual Class Attendance (10%); 20% for the Midterm Exam; 20% for participation in the Soliya Connect Program; 20% for the Research Paper; and 20% for the Final Exam. A Guidelines sheet will be posted outlining the requirements for your Research Paper.

Grading Scale: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F. These numerical scores correspond to the following evaluations: "A" = Excellent; "B" = Good; "C" = Satisfactory (NOTE: A grade of "C" or better is required in major courses); "D" = Poor (passing, except in major courses); "F" = Earned Failure (removed only by repeating the course; upon successfully passing the course, the first grade is "excluded" from grade point average. The second grade is "included" in the recalculation of the grade point average); and "I" = Incomplete.

Institutional Learning Outcomes for General Studies:

**ILO1: Communication [AAC&U WRITTEN AND AAC&U ORAL COMMUNICATION]**

Students will communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

**ILO2: Information Literacy [AAC&U INFORMATION LITERACY]**

Students will select appropriate resources, prioritize information in terms of relevance and reliability, question and evaluate the complexity of the information environment, and use information in an ethical manner.

**ILO5: Social, Artistic, and Cultural Literacy [AAC&U GLOBAL LEARNING AND AAC&U CIVIC ENGAGEMENT]**

Students will analyze and compare diverse social and cultural patterns, texts, and performances and will evaluate them from a global perspective.

**ILO6: Scientific Literacy [AAC&U INQUIRY AND ANALYSIS]**

Students will understand and apply scientific concepts and develop science inquiry and research skills.

**ILO7: Critical and Ethical Reasoning [AAC&U CRITICAL THINKING AND AAC&U ETHICAL REASONING]**

Students will interpret, analyze, and construct ethical arguments.

(effective August 8, 2013)

Program Learning Outcomes:

- PO1: Examine the evolution and/or effects of cultures in terms of behaviors, experiences, and differences.*
- PO2: Understand and/or apply basic knowledge of principles and methods found in the social sciences disciplines.*
- PO3: Communicate effectively within a social science area of concentration.*
- PO4: Critique, analyze, and assess topics, ideas, and/or sources within the social sciences disciplines.*
- PO5: Evaluate, select, and apply an appropriate research methodology in the social sciences.*
- PO6: Apply ethics across the social science disciplines.*

Course Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of POSC 405, students should:

CLO1: be able to read and provide an immanent critique of texts;  
 CLO2: be able to articulate arguments and examine their flaws;  
 CLO3: be familiar with the basics of logical, ethical, and dialectical reasoning;  
 CLO4: be familiar with essays, both pro and con, regarding world politics;  
 CLO5: have some familiarity of the various theories of world politics;  
 CLO6: have some understanding of international decision making, including rivalries and relations amongst the great powers, the history leading up to the establishment of the United Nations in 1945, the subsequent Cold War conflict between capitalism and communism, as well as the post-Cold War aftermath and present conjuncture of power relation;  
 CLO7: have some understanding of the historical evolution of human culture, including struggles over rights and responsibilities, the many horrendous tragedies as well as numerous accomplishments of various peoples who struggled to overcome adversity in their unending quest for freedom, as well as the present division of the world between rich and poor nations, the role of non-state actors, and the quest for global community;  
 CLO8: be aware of the effects of race, gender, class, and other divisions on society and the effect of differing constitutional provisions amongst states to attempt to either enhance or dissipate such divisions, understanding how such divisions pose a threat of armed conflict to the world resulting in a pursuit of power through arms and alliances of armed aggression, as well as stimulating efforts seeking peace through international law and collective security;  
 CLO9: have some comprehension of the globalization of international finance, international trade in the global marketplace, the demographic and cultural dimensions of globalization, the promotion of human development and human rights, and the global responsibility for the preservation of the environment;  
 CLO10: be able to articulate, either orally or in writing, a coherent, logical, and critically persuasive argument, embodying a defensible conception of human freedom, on a designated topic relating to international relations.

**Teaching Procedures:** This course will be taught in the classroom along with quizzes and discussion questions posted online on the course BlackBoard page. Individual work is required, such as answering chapter discussion questions, submitting a research paper, and completing online quizzes, including a midterm and final exam.

**Interaction Plan:** This course will require continuous communication between you, the student, and myself, the instructor, both in class and by utilizing the tools provided by the course BlackBoard page and related software, including as well the BSC email system. We shall follow the posted syllabus as our guide.

**Caveat Emptor (i.e. Buyer Beware):** This course is intense and requires a commitment by you, the student, to keep up with the readings and the work. By taking this course, you are making a commitment to purchase the required texts, keep up with the chapter readings, attend your weekly Soliya discussion sessions, submit your **Research Paper** by the required due date, and take the **Chapter Quizzes** and submit answers to the **Class Discussion Questions** as they arise, in addition to completing the **Midterm Exam** and **Final Exam** by the dates indicated.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Academic integrity is expected of all students. This means that all work for this class must be undertaken and completed by you alone without collaboration from others. Any dishonesty in the performance of course work, such as plagiarism or cheating in other forms, will be reported. In the event the student is charged with some form of dishonesty, the Student Discipline Policy will be followed. The full text of the BSC Academic Honesty Policy can be found at: <http://www.bluefieldstate.edu/academics/academic-honesty-and-proctoring>. In addition, students should be aware that research paper assignments may be submitted to [Turnitin](#) by the instructor for the purpose of checking for possible plagiarism. Submitted assignments will be included in the BSC dedicated database of assignments at Turnitin and will be used solely for the purpose of checking for possible plagiarism during the grading process during this term and in the future.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance in class is mandatory. It is the student's responsibility to sign the attendance sheet each day of class; failure to sign the attendance sheet—even if in attendance—will be counted as an absence. “When the number of clock hours of willful absences exceeds the number of semester hours of credit, the instructor will notify the Registrar that the student has exceeded the permissible number of absences and should be withdrawn from class.” Students with Excused Absences must submit to me a hard copy of the campus publication *The Bulletin* announcing your allowed absence in order to get credit for the day(s) of your absence. “It is the responsibility of the student to...provide supporting documents for institutional and unavoidable absences” (*Bluefield State College Academic Catalog 2016-2017*, p. 53). As well, you are expected to follow the syllabus and accordingly be prepared for each day's class. This means that you must read the pre-assigned readings before class so that you will be prepared to discuss and debate in class the subject matter scheduled for that day and answer questions

related to the issues being covered. Attendance in class will count for 10% of your total 20% Attendance grade.

\* Absence from class may be made up by preparing a **two-page, typed** (i.e. using maximum 12 point font size and maximum double-spaced text with one-inch margin on all sides), **summary** on the missed material scheduled to be covered the day(s) of your absence. The summary must be in your own words and must **not** be copied material from the text(s), the internet, or any other source(s). **All summaries must be turned in to me by the last day of classes if you want credit for your absences.**

**Online Class Discussion Policy:** The Chapter Discussion Questions will be posted on the class Discussions board at the beginning of each week. At the bottom of the chapter question, there is a hyperlink “Reply” button. Simply click this “Reply” button and submit your answer to the chapter question. **Each student must make at least one entry per each Chapter Class Discussion question.** Make sure you **simply hit the reply button on the Discussion Question which is posted to submit your answer**, so that the Subject Heading is the same as the Discussion Question, in order to get credit for that Chapter’s Discussion Question. Note that each student **MUST** provide their own answer to each question. **DO NOT SUBMIT ATTACHED ANSWERS. YOU MUST TYPE YOUR REPLY IN THE DISCUSSION SECTION SO THAT ALL CAN READ IT WITHOUT OPENING UP AN ATTACHMENT. Copying from any other student’s answer or simply repeating what other students have written constitutes plagiarism and will be dealt with harshly.** Also, you will not be able to view other students’ responses until you have submitted one of your own first. Note that, like the quizzes, you must complete all chapter discussion questions by the **Last Day of Classes by 11:55 p.m.** in order to receive 5% credit (of your total 20% Attendance grade).

**Quiz and Test Policy:** You will have **three possible attempts** with each chapter quiz to make your highest score. On the Midterm and Final Exams, you will have **only one possible attempt** to make your highest score. Your chapter quizzes will become accessible on the date indicated online and you will have until **the last day of classes [i.e. May 6, 2016] at 11:55 p.m.** to take them. The Midterm and Final Exams will be accessible on the date indicated online and on the syllabus and **you will have only 120 minutes to complete each exam.** If you attempt to utilize the course textbook to answer the questions on the Midterm and Final Exams, you will likely run out of time. **Make sure to complete both the Midterm Exam and the Final Exam by the stipulated dates.** The Midterm Exam will cover chapters 1-8. The Final Exam will cover Chapters 9-15. Questions on the Midterm and Final Exams will come directly from the chapter quizzes.

**Special Note About the Chapter Quizzes:** Each Chapter Quiz contains at least thirty questions and, sometimes, more. However, do not be discouraged by this, because **you will NOT be graded on how many answers you get wrong or right on the Chapter Quizzes** but, rather, **you will be graded simply on whether or not you took each Chapter Quiz at least once.** Yes, you read that correctly. All you need to do in order to receive your 5% credit (of your total 20% Attendance grade) for completing the Chapter Quizzes is to simply attempt to take each Chapter Quiz at least once. Make sure you click the “Submit” button at the end of each Chapter Quiz so that BlackBoard notifies me that you have taken the quiz. By completing the chapter quizzes, you will also be preparing yourself for the Midterm and Final Exams, as the questions on the exams will come directly from the chapter quizzes.

**Cell Phone Policy:** **TURN OFF** all cell phones during class or place on silent vibrate. If you must answer a phone call, then quietly leave the room to take your call. **DO NOT** play, utilize, or otherwise interact with your cell phone or any other electronic device during class. If caught in so doing, you will be expelled from the class session.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Academic Withdrawal from the course prior to the deadline date for withdrawal as published within the academic calendar is accomplished by securing a change in schedule form and having it signed by appropriate persons. Blank copies of the change in schedule form are available in the offices of the Registrar, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean and the advisor. After obtaining the

required signatures, the student must submit, prior to the deadline date, the change in schedule form to the Office of the Registrar.

Disability Services Statement: BSC is committed to full inclusion of all students. Students who, by nature of a documented disability, require classroom, equipment, testing or assignment accommodations should contact the Student Support Services at 304.327.4227 to request accommodations before the start of the semester. Your immediate attention to these arrangements is necessary to assure a positive learning experience.

Free Tutoring Services Available: BSC offers **Smarthinking free online tutoring for all BSC students** in the following subjects: Math; Accounting, Managerial; Accounting, Financial; Writing (all subjects); Grammar; Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Statistics; Spanish. Chemistry, etc. This service is free and available 24 hours a day to all BSC students. Go to <http://www.smarthinking.com/> and follow these instructions.

Required Texts:

Blanton, Shannon Lindsey and Charles William Kegley Jr. 2017. *World Politics: Trend and Transformation, 2016 - 2017, 16<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning. [ISBN-10: 1305504879 | ISBN-13: 978-1-305-50487-5] 560 pages, paperback.

Recommended Supplemental Text:

Allen, John L. and Christopher J. Sutton. 2012. *Student Atlas of World Politics 2014-2015*. [Paperback]. Tenth Edition. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Higher Education [ISBN-13 9780078026201], 240 pages, paperback.

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**\*\*\*This class is a web-enhanced BlackBoard course and students will be able to access supplemental materials on the BSC BlackBoard website, including chapter PowerPoint summaries, etc.\*\*\***

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Mandatory LiveText Assessment Statement:

"An active LiveText account is a required resource for this course because at least one assignment *must* be submitted electronically using this online platform. LiveText is used by Bluefield State to demonstrate the quality of our academic programs, and to improve teaching and learning. As a student, you have the option to use your account for secure online storage of your academic work, and to create digital documents such as electronic portfolios or reflective journals, which can be shared with prospective employers or other audiences."

— Tracey Anderson, Ed.D., BSC Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, 2013

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**Jan. 16 [Monday]:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (College Closed)

**Jan. 17 [Tuesday]:** Classes begin for Spring Semester

**Main Themes:** What are international relations (IR)? Why should we be interested in IR? Where do we fit in the schema of international relations? Who are “we” and what do “we” stand for? What is to be done in IR?

**Explain Syllabus:** Go over class requirements, required text and recommended text, Soliya Connect Program participation, research paper, midterm exam, and final exam.

**Jan. 19:** Exploring World Politics

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 1

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 1 and answer Chapter 1 Class Discussion Question.

**Jan. 24:** Theories of World Politics

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 2

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 2 and answer Chapter 2 Class Discussion Question.

**Jan. 26:** Theories of World Politics

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 2

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 2 and answer Chapter 2 Class Discussion Question.

**Jan. 31:** Theories of International Decision Making

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 3

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 3 and answer Chapter 3 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 2:** Theories of International Decision Making

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 3

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 3 and answer Chapter 3 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 7:** Rivalries and Relations Among the Great Powers

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 4

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 4 and answer Chapter 4 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 9:** Rivalries and Relations Among the Great Powers

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 4

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 4 and answer Chapter 4 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 14:** The Global South in a World of Powers

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 5

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 5 and answer Chapter 5 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 16:** The Global South in a World of Powers

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 5

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 5 and answer Chapter 5 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 21:** Nonstate Actors and the Quest for Global Community

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 6

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 6 and answer Chapter 6 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 23:** Nonstate Actors and the Quest for Global Community

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 6

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 6 and answer Chapter 6 Class Discussion Question.

**Feb. 28:** The Threat of Armed Conflict to the World

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 7

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 7 and answer Chapter 7 Class Discussion Question.

**Mar. 2:** The Threat of Armed Conflict to the World

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 7

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 7 and answer Chapter 7 Class Discussion Question.

**Mar. 7:** The Pursuit of Power Through Arms and Alliances of Armed Aggression to the World

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 8

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 8 and answer Chapter 8 Class Discussion Question.

**Special Guest Lecture:** Tanzanian Fulbright Scholar Dr. Colman Titus Msoka will speak on “Why are Anti-Street Vending Campaigns Failing in Africa?”

**Mar. 7-12:** Midterm Exam [Click on Quizzes and then on “Midterm Exam”. You will have 120 minutes to complete the exam and only one attempt. You must complete the Midterm Exam by 11:55 p.m. on March 12, 2017.]

**Mar. 13:** Mid-Semester grades due to Registrar

**Mar. 13-17:** Spring Break (no classes; college closed)

**Mar. 21:** The Quest for Peace Through International Law and Collective Security

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 9

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 9 and answer Chapter 9 Class Discussion Question.

**Mar. 23:** The Quest for Peace Through International Law and Collective Security

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 9

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 9 and answer Chapter 9 Class Discussion Question.

**Mar. 28:** The Globalization of International Finance

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 10

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 10 and answer Chapter 10 Class Discussion Question.

**Mar. 30:** The Globalization of International Finance

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 10

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 10 and answer Chapter 10 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 4:** International Trade in the Global Marketplace

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 11

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 11 and answer Chapter 11 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 6:** International Trade in the Global Marketplace

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 11

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 11 and answer Chapter 11 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 7:** Last Day to Withdraw from course/college with a grade of “W”

**Apr. 11:** The Demographic and Cultural Dimensions of Globalization

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 12

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 12 and answer Chapter 12 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 13:** The Demographic and Cultural Dimensions of Globalization

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 12

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 12 and answer Chapter 12 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 18:** The Promotion of Human Development and Human Rights

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 13

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 13 and answer Chapter 13 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 20:** The Promotion of Human Development and Human Rights

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 13

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 13 and answer Chapter 13 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 25:** Global Responsibility for the Preservation of the Environment

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 14

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 14 and answer Chapter 14 Class Discussion Question.

**Apr. 27:** Global Responsibility for the Preservation of the Environment

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 14

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 14 and answer Chapter 14 Class Discussion Question.

**April 30 [Sunday]: [Research Papers Due]**

**Assignment:** Research Papers Due today. Submit a copy of your Research Papers to Turnitin. Click on the Turnitin button on the course BlackBoard page for submission instructions. As well, you must submit a hard copy of your Research Paper to me in class. Also, send an electronic copy to me by email as a Microsoft Word attachment to ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu or to the course BlackBoard page.

**May 2:** Looking Ahead at Global Trends and Transformations

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 15

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 15 and answer Chapter 15 Class Discussion Question.

**May 4:** Looking Ahead at Global Trends and Transformations

**Readings:** Kegley & Blanton Ch. 15

**Assignment:** Complete Quiz for Chapter 15 and answer Chapter 15 Class Discussion Question.

**May 5 [Friday]: [Last day of classes. All course work MUST be completed by this date. No submissions will be accepted after this date.]**

**Assignment:** Complete all readings, quizzes, and chapter discussion questions.

**May 6-14:** Final Exam [Click on Quizzes and then on "Final Exam". You will have 120 minutes to complete the exam and only one attempt. You must complete the Final Exam by 11:55 p.m. on May 14, 2017.]

**May 15 [Monday]:** Final grades due to Registrar by 12:00 Noon electronically.