

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Bluefield State College
POSC 405—SPRING 2018
CRN: 20901 & 20902
Sections: 001 & 002
IVNWE

Colin S. Cavell, Ph.D.
Class TR: 2:00-3:15 p.m.
Office Hours: TBA
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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 Attendance for completing Online Chapter Quizzes (10%) and for actual Class Attendance (10%); 20% for the Midterm Exam; 20% for an In-Class Presentation; 20% for the Research Paper; and 20% for the Final Exam. Guidelines sheets will be posted on the course Moodle page outlining the requirements for your In-Class Presentation and 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.

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 posted online on the course Moodle page. Individual work is required, such as completing online chapter quizzes, submitting a research paper, and completing the midterm and final exams.

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 Moodle 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**, complete your in-class presentation, submit your **Research Paper** by the required due date, and take the online **Chapter Quizzes**, 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: https://www.bluefieldstate.edu/sites/default/files/page/attachments/2016/10/academic_honesty_statement.pdf. 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.**

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 4, 2018] 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 Moodle 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, 16th 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.

*****This class is an interactive video web-enhanced class and students will be able to access supplemental materials on the BSC Moodle website, including Selected Readings, chapter PowerPoint summaries, etc.*****

Jan. 15, 2018 [Monday]: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—NO CLASSES

Jan. 16 [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. 18 [Thursday]: Exploring World Politics

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 1

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

Jan. 23 [Tuesday]: West Virginia Higher Education Day—NO CLASS

NOTE: All students attend WV Higher Education Day in Charleston, WV (5% extra credit)

Jan. 25 [Thursday]: Theories of World Politics

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 2

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

Jan. 30 [Tuesday]: Theories of International Decision Making

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 3

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

Feb. 1 [Thursday]: Theories of International Decision Making

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 3

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

Feb. 6 [Tuesday]: Rivalries and Relations Among the Great Powers

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 4

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

Feb. 8 [Thursday]: Rivalries and Relations Among the Great Powers

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 4

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

Feb. 13 [Tuesday]: The Global South in a World of Powers

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 5

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

Feb. 15 [Thursday]: The Global South in a World of Powers

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 5

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

Feb. 20 [Tuesday]: Nonstate Actors and the Quest for Global Community

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 6

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

Feb. 22 [Thursday]: Nonstate Actors and the Quest for Global Community

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 6

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

Feb. 27 [Tuesday]: The Threat of Armed Conflict to the World

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 7

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

Mar. 1 [Thursday]: The Threat of Armed Conflict to the World

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 7

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

Mar. 6 [Tuesday]: The Pursuit of Power Through Arms and Alliances of Armed Aggression to the World

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 8

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

Mar. 8 [Thursday]: The Pursuit of Power Through Arms and Alliances of Armed Aggression to the World

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 8

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

Mar. 3-11: 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 11, 2018.]

Mar. 12 [Monday]: Mid-Semester grades due to Registrar

Mar. 12-16 [Week Nine]: Spring Break—NO CLASSES

Mar. 20 [Tuesday]: The Quest for Peace Through International Law and Collective Security

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 9

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

Mar. 22 [Thursday]: The Quest for Peace Through International Law and Collective Security

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 9

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

Mar. 27 [Tuesday]: The Globalization of International Finance

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 10

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

Mar. 29 [Thursday]: The Globalization of International Finance

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 10

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

Apr. 3 [Tuesday]: International Trade in the Global Marketplace

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 11

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

Apr. 5 [Thursday]: International Trade in the Global Marketplace

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 11

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

Apr. 6: Last Day to Withdraw from course/college with a grade of "W" or withdraw from the College

Apr. 10 [Tuesday]: The Demographic and Cultural Dimensions of Globalization

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 12

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

Apr. 12 [Thursday]: The Demographic and Cultural Dimensions of Globalization

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 12

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

Apr. 17 [Tuesday]: The Promotion of Human Development and Human Rights

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 13

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

Apr. 19 [Thursday]: The Promotion of Human Development and Human Rights

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 13

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

April 22 [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 Moodle page for submission instructions. Also, send an electronic copy to me by email as a Microsoft Word attachment to ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu.

Apr. 24 [Tuesday]: Global Responsibility for the Preservation of the Environment

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 14

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

Apr. 26 [Thursday]: [In-Class Presentations Due] Global Responsibility for the Preservation of the Environment

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 14

Assignment: Complete Quiz for Chapter 14 and answer Chapter 14 Class Discussion Question. All class presentations must be completed by April 26, 2018.

May 1 [Tuesday]: Looking Ahead at Global Trends and Transformations

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 15

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

May 3 [Thursday]: Looking Ahead at Global Trends and Transformations

Readings: Blanton & Kegley Ch. 15

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

May 4 [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.

May. 5-11 [Week Seventeen]: 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 11, 2018.]

May 14 [Monday]: Final grades due to Registrar by 12:00 Noon electronically.