

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 101
INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL POLITICS**

BULLETIN INFORMATION

POLI 101: INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL POLITICS (3 credit hours)

Course Description:

Introduction to theories about global politics. Issues and controversies central to global politics

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides an introduction to global politics and an understanding of issues and controversies central to politics within and across nations. Students will learn to apply basic social science methodologies and perspectives to a range of political questions and consider the source and relevance of values in decision making with respect to the resolution of political conflict and controversies. This course focuses on essential and timely questions relating to global politics, and it does so by examining these questions through a variety of analytical lenses and approaches.

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of Political Science 101, students will be able to:

1. Identify the major trends in global politics (e.g., marketization, democratization, and globalization).
2. Demonstrate understanding of other major ethical issues in global politics such as war and peace, press freedom, separatist movements, social responsibility, and religious fundamentalism.
3. Describe and explain a variety of political issues with the use of the principles and methodologies of the social sciences.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the sources and different kinds of social and personal values, as well as the role of cultural diversity, analyzing the ways in which these are manifested in the decision making and political practices of various societies.

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS

1. The CQ Researcher, *Global Issues. 2012 Edition*. CQ Press, 2012.
2. The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*. CQ Press, 2012.
3. Manfred B. Steger, *Globalization: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2009.
4. It is expected that students will access newspaper, media or Internet coverage of international political issues.

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS

- 1. Exams:** There are three exams, each covering one-third of the semester's reading and lecture material and consisting of identification and short answer questions.
- 2. Papers:** Additionally students will complete two papers on topics relating global politics to issues of values, ethics, and social responsibility. There are four optional topics, and students must choose two: marketization, democratization, globalization, and political conflicts.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

Week 1: Why Government?
Readings: David L. Weimer and Aidan Vining, *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice*, 5th ed. Longman, 2011, chs. 5 and 7.
(Reviewing market failures and the issue of distribution in a nontechnical way, and emphasizing in particular how different societies may attach different values to the solution of these problems.)

Weeks 2-4: Economic Development

1. The Resource Curse
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Global Issues*, ch. 14.
2. Social Welfare in Europe
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 15.
3. The Graying Planet
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 16.
(*Module I: Marketization*) – Paper due

First Exam

Weeks 5-7: Political Change

1. Turmoil in the Arab World
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 1.
2. Democracy in Southeast Asia
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 2.
3. Sub-Saharan Democracy
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 3.
(*Module II: Democratization*) – Paper due

Weeks 8-10: Globalization

1. The Economic Dimension of Globalization
Readings: Steger, ch. 3.
2. The Cultural Dimension of Globalization
Readings: Steger, ch. 5.

3. The Political Dimension of Globalization
Readings: Steger, ch. 4.
(Module III: Globalization) – Paper due

Second Exam

Weeks 11-13: War and Peace

1. Rising Tension over Iran
Readings: CQ Researcher, *Global Issues*, ch. 1.
2. U.S.-Pakistan Relations
Readings: CQ Researcher, *Global Issues*, ch. 6.
3. Peacebuilding
Readings: CQ Researcher, *Global Issues*, ch. 10.
(Module IV: Political Conflict) – Paper due

Weeks 14-16: Civil Liberties and Social Issues

1. Press Freedom
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 4.
2. Separatist Movements
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 5.
3. Religious Fundamentalism
Readings: The CQ Researcher, *Issues in Comparative Politics*, ch. 12.

Third Exam