

COURSE SYLLABUS

CLASS: Introduction to
International Relations,
Political Science 102, Section 1,
Fall semester 2009
Classroom: Brackett 212, Mon. and Weds.;
Fridays in Discussion Rooms (see below)
Class times, Mon., Weds., and Fri 1:25-2:15 pm

PROFESSOR:
Dr. Michael Morris
Office: Brackett 232 D
Office hours: Mon: 3:30-5:00 pm;
TU: 1:30-5:00 pm; Wed: 3:30-5:00 pm.; Fridays
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For queries, contact your Discussion Leader, as follows :

(1) Matt Hall e-mail mchall@clemson.edu (2) Mairi Trimboli e-mail mairi.trimboli@gmail.com : (3) Brett
Becker e-mail bbecker@clemson.edu and (4) Jordan Blankenship e-mail jblanke@clemson.edu

Discussion Section 1 : Brett Becker and Jordan Blankenship as Discussion Leaders, Brackett Hall 212

Discussion Section 2 : Mairi Trimboli and Matt Hall as Discussion Leaders, Brackett Hall 213

I. Required materials

(1) John T. Rourke, *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics* (14th edition).

(2) Michael Snarr and D. Neil Snarr, *Introducing Global Issues*, 4th edition. **The four Parts of the Snarr text are used as a point of reference in organizing other readings.**

Both of these readers are available at downtown bookstores as well as at the university bookstore. Make sure and purchase the current edition of each text as specified above.

(3) iclicker

iClicker Required

You are required to bring an iClicker remote to class everyday.

II. Supplementary Required Readings:

(1) The New York Times: This is available with a discount at the University bookstore, and is to be picked up there every weekday. You must go to the university bookstore AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to sign up and pay for your subscription. Daily New York Times service is provided during weekdays until the end of the semester. Go to the back of the University bookstore to the Textbook Information section to pay for your subscription and get a membership card. The New York Times will be provided every weekday (not on week-ends). The cost is about \$28 for the semester.

Rely on the Clemson University search engine, Lexis-Nexis, when you need to search back issues of the New York Times. There is no charge to you for this service nor for printing out back issues. If you go directly to the New York Times web site, you will need to pay for accessing and printing back issues.

(2) Packet of global ethics case studies. This is posted at this course site in Blackboard (bb.Clemson.edu), and from there can be downloaded and printed free. These case studies will be

discussed in class and you will be responsible for them on the exams. These case studies refer to each of the four parts of the course, as follows:

Introduction to course (Chapter 1 of Snarr and Rourke debates on globalization): case 5

Part I of course: case 7

Part II of course: case 4

Part III of course: cases 1, 3, 8, and 10

Part IV of course: cases 2, 6, and 9

III. *Required lecture series.* The Globalism Seminars will be held throughout the semester. All **students are required to attend and write up 3 (three) Globalization Seminars.** For those attending and writing up 5 of the globalization seminars, 5 points will be added to the class participation portion of your grade. With the *explicit permission* of the instructor, if your schedule conflicts with this seminar series, you may substitute other international lectures on campus.

IV. *Examinations and Grading*

(1) *1/2 of total course grade for class participation and exercises.* This includes New York Times reports, other reports and debates, three write-ups of the Globalization Seminars, as well as general class participation. For more information on grading criteria for class participation activities and more about how this part of the grade is determined, see the **Class Participation handout**. For those attending and writing up 5 of the globalism seminars, 5 points will be added to this portion of your grade. See the **Class Participation handout** for this course for more details on New York Times presentations in the Large Section which can also earn you extra credit (the extra credit option is either/or -- 5 Globalization lecture write-ups OR a NYT presentation in the Large Section -- and not cumulative, that is, a total of 5 extra points is the maximum).

(2) *1/2 of total course grade for exam grades.* Two examinations (mid-term and final) together will constitute 1/2 (one-half) of course grade, with essay and/or short objective questions requiring the student to integrate information from the texts and class. Exam questions may relate to information from New York Times-related reports and class discussions. The mid-term will count 1/4 of the total course grade and the final exam will count 1/4 of the course grade.

CLASS ATTENDANCE: Late arrival or early departure may count as an absence at the discretion of the instructor. There is a 15-minute waiting period in the event the instructor is late for class. **More than 3 (three) unexcused absences may significantly lower the overall course grade, at the discretion of the instructor, by a grade point.** Excuses for absences must be approved by the instructor in advance of the class to be missed.

V. *Course objectives:* To provide an introduction to international politics in 3 ways. (1) Debates, lectures, and class discussions to reinforce a grasp of basic trends in international politics presented in the assigned readings and materials. **The four Parts of the Snarr text are used as points of reference in organizing major themes (Part I, Part II, Part III, Part IV).** (2) Lectures to supplement information analyzed via method no. 1. In particular, the changing position of the United States in the world will be the focus of special attention. Ethical issues of global politics also will be examined, especially with reference to the packet of case studies. (3) To develop a feel for political analysis and dynamics in world affairs. This elusive, but key, objective hopefully will be attained through the

combination of readings, lectures, class discussions, and class debates. The aim is to integrate an understanding of global affairs into your personal and professional lives.

VI. *Office Hours*: **For queries, contact your Discussion Leader for the course first, and if any matter cannot be resolved then contact me.** My office is in Brackett Hall 232 D and office hours, e-mail address and phone are listed above. Always schedule an appointment in advance, so that no other student overlaps your assigned time. If you call and I am not in the office, let the phone continue ringing and you can leave a message with the secretary. My e-mail address is also listed above, and I respond promptly to e-mail messages.

VII. *Gen Ed requirements*: This course satisfies Gen Ed requirements in “social and cross-cultural awareness”, as follows: 1. Develop an understanding of social science methodologies [S1], 2. Explore the causes and consequences of human actions [S2], 3. Develop an understanding of world cultures in historical and contemporary perspective [CC1], and 4. Recognize the importance of language in cultural contexts [CC2]. Numbers 1 and 2 are Social Science Competencies and Numbers 3 and 4 are Cross-Cultural Awareness Competencies.

OVERVIEW

Mid-term exam:

- (a) Chapters 1-7 of Snarr and Snarr, *Introducing Global Issues*
Themes: Conflict and Security; and The Global Economy
- (b) *Taking Sides (TS)*, Rourke, readings as indicated below
- (c) Link New York Times articles to assigned readings
- (d) Videos and related class discussion

Second (and final exam):

- (a) Chapters 8-16 of Snarr and Snarr, *Introducing Global Issues*
Themes: Development; The Environment; and Future Prospects
- (b) Link New York Times articles to assigned readings
- (c) Class hand-out on options for US foreign policy
- (d) *Taking Sides (TS)*, Rourke, readings as indicated below
- (e) Videos and related class discussion

DAILY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

ASSIGN STUDENTS TO DISCUSSION GROUPS IN DIFFERENT ROOMS FOR FRIDAYS.

Get copy of Class Participation handout as well as Class Syllabus (available online at bb.clemson.edu). Under this course in Blackboard, look for “Course Documents”.

Go to university bookstore to order and pay for New York Times subscription **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Purchase the two texts for the course at the university bookstore or at a bookstore downtown. Make sure and get the current editions as specified above.

Purchase an I-clicker (see Class Participation handout for details)

From Blackboard, print out a copy of the global ethics case studies (bb.clemson.edu). Read case relating to introduction to course (case 5).

Announce a complementary 1-hour Model United Nations class (POSC 311-1).

Announce another 1-hour complementary course on Comparative Country Profiles (Political Science 305-7), which is part of the university-wide Undergraduate Research Initiative. Contact me via e-mail if you are interested.

IN-CLASS EXERCISE: New York Times article/editorial for analysis as model case study
Lecture on Snarr and Snarr text, Chapter 1.

Friday, August 21, 2009 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Discuss and report on assigned materials.

Snarr: Chapter 1

Ethics Case: 5

New York Times Editorials

Discussion Leaders start signing up students for all semester assignments.

Discussion Leaders will take attendance every Friday.

Monday, August 24, 2009

Start picking up daily New York Times issues from the University Bookstore each week-day starting this Monday.

Finish discussion of Chapter 1 of Snarr and Snarr.

Lecture on Issues 1 and Issue 2 of Rourke.

Discuss Global Ethics case corresponding to Introduction of course: case 5.

Student New York Times editorial report

Wednesday, August 26, 2009

Snarr: Chapter 2

Student New York Times editorial report

Discuss Global ethics case study 7 (related to Part I of course)

Friday, August 28, 2009 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapter 2

Rourke: Debates 1 and 2

Ethics Case: 5 and 7

New York Times Editorials

Discussion Leaders will finalize all assignments of students for the semester

Monday, August 31

Snarr: Chapter 3

Rourke: Issue 3

Student New York Times editorial report

Wednesday, September 2

Rourke: Issue 4

Discuss relative importance of Part I of course (see graphic representation on last page of Class Syllabus)

Lecture on Military Aspects of International Relations

Student New York Times editorial report

Start discussion of Snarr Chapter 4

Friday, September 4 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapter 3

Rourke: 3 and 4

New York Times Editorials

Monday, September 7

Snarr: *Chapter 4 (discussion continued from last week)*

Rourke: *Issue 15*

Wednesday, September 9

Snarr: Chapter 5

Student New York Times editorial report

Review of New York Times editorials and major stories

Friday, September 11 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapter 4 and 5

Rourke: 15

New York Times Editorials

Monday, September 14

Snarr: Chapter 6

Rourke: Issue 11

Student New York Times editorial report

Wednesday, September 16

Rourke: Issue 12

Discuss relative importance of Part II of course (see graphic representative on last page of Class Syllabus)

Student New York Times editorial report

Friday, September 18 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapter 6

Rourke: Debate 11 and 12

New York Times Editorial

Monday, September 21

Snarr: Chapter 7

Rourke: Debate 18

Review for and Discuss Midterm

Wednesday, September 23
EXTRA DAY FOR DISCUSSION GROUPS

Begin Country reports
Continue with other discussion activities

Friday, September 25 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapter 7
Rourke: Issue 18
New York Times Editorial
Review for and Discuss Midterm

Monday, September 28
MID-TERM EXAM

Wednesday, September 30
Commanding Heights video on global capitalism

Friday, October 2 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Continue Country reports
Student New York Times editorial report
Discussion of Commanding Heights video
Continue with any other pending discussion assignments

Monday, October 5

Rourke: Issue 13
Snarr: Chapter 8
Student New York Times editorial report

Wednesday, October 7
EXTRA DAY FOR DISCUSSION GROUPS

Continue country reports
Continue with other assignments

Friday, October 9 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Rourke: Issue 13
Snarr: Chapter 8
New York Times Editorials

Monday, October 12
FALL BREAK

Wednesday, October 14

Rourke: Issues 5 and 6
Discuss Global Ethics cases relating to Part III of course.

Lecture on economic aspects of international relations
Lecture on relative importance of Part III of course (see graphic representation on last page of Class Syllabus)
Finish Commanding Heights video on global capitalism (from October 2)
New York Times Editorials

Friday, October 16 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Rourke: Issues 5 and 6
New York Times Editorials

Monday, October 19

Snarr: Chapter 9
Student New York Times editorial report

Wednesday, October 21

Snarr: Chapter 10
Rourke: Issue 7
New York Times Editorials

Friday, October 23 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapters 9 and 10
Rourke: Issue 7
New York Times Editorial

Monday, October 26

Snarr: Chapter 11
Rourke: Issue 8
Student New York Times report

Wednesday, October 28 DISCUSSION GROUPS
EXTRA DAY FOR DISCUSSION AND COUNTRY REPORTS

Friday, October 30 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapters 11
Rourke: Issue 8
New York Times Editorials

Monday, November 2

Snarr: Chapter 12
Rourke: Issue 9

Wednesday, November 4

See video on Commanding Heights, Third World

Friday, November 6

Continue with discussion of pending assignments and country reports

Snarr: Chapter 12 and **Rourke:** Issue 9

Monday, November 9

Snarr: Chapter 13

Rourke: Issue 10

Lecture on relative importance of Part IV of course (see graphic representation on last page of Class Syllabus)

Lecture on Political Aspects of International Relations

Student New York Times editorial report

Wednesday, November 11

Snarr: Chapter 14

Rourke: Issue 16

Discuss Global Ethics cases relating to Part IV of class.

New York Times Editorials

Friday, November 13 DISCUSSION GROUPS

Snarr: Chapters 13 and 14

Rourke: Issue 10 and 16

New York Times Editorial reports

Discuss Globalization lecture this week

Monday, November 16

Snarr: Chapters 15 and 16

Wednesday, November 18

Finish seeing video, Commanding Heights, Third World (from November 5)

Friday, November 20

Snarr: Chapters 15 and 16

Continue with pending assignments and country reports

Monday, November 23

Refer to sheet of options for U.S. foreign policy. (Available on Blackboard) Read and study this carefully, it will be on the final exam.

Compare this sheet to Chapter 16 of Snarr

New York Times Editorials

Wednesday, November 25 and Friday, November 27

CLEMSON THANKSGIVING VACATION

Monday, November 30

New York Times Editorials

Rourke, Issues 14 and 16

Wednesday, December 2

Rourke, Issues 17 and 19
New York Times Editorials
Review for final exam

Friday, December 5 DISCUSSION GROUPS
Review for final exam (including Rourke, Issues 14, 16, 17, and 19)
Finish any student reports

FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 11, 2009, 3:00-5:30 pm, Brackett 212

Final grade for course: Once the instructor enters the grades on-line, students can immediately learn their grades using their computer user ID and password and a touch-tone telephone (864) 656-2255, PC connected to the mainframe computer, or ClemWeb [<http://www.clemson.edu/clemweb/>]
N.B. The professor reserves the right to make changes in the course.