

Montgomery County Community College  
POL 245  
International Politics  
3-3-0

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course focuses on the study of contemporary relations between states and other international actors. It places special emphasis on the analysis of foreign policy decision-making, diplomatic practices, international systems, international law and organizations, alliance behavior, conflict and conflict resolution as well as current international problems.

**REQUISITES:**

*Previous Course Requirements*

None

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Discuss major theories in international relations.	Lecture/Discussion Independent Studies Papers Exams Guest Speakers	Class Room Discussion Current Event/Index Card Activity Exams Current Issues in International Politics Assignment
2. Analyze current issues in international security and globalization.	Lecture/Discussion Independent Studies Papers Guest Speakers	Classroom Discussion Current Event/Index Card Activity Guest Lecturers in International Security Exams
3. Compare and contrast current issues of political economy in regions, countries, and states and non-state actors.	Lecture/Discussion AV/LRC Materials Independent Studies Papers Guest Speakers	Classroom Discussion Current Event/Index Card Activity Current Issues in International Politics Assignment Forecasting an Issue in International Relations Assignment Exam

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
4. Analyze global impact of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Multi National Corporation (MNC) in international politics.	Lecture/Discussion AV/LRC Materials Independent Studies Papers Guest Speakers	Classroom Discussion Current Event/Index Card Activity Current Issues in International Politics Assignment Forecasting an Issue in International Relations Assignment Exam
5. Discuss the role of international organizations.	Lecture/Discussion AV/LRC Materials Independent Studies Papers Guest Speakers	Classroom Discussion Exam
6. Discuss regional approach of culture, geographical realities and languages.	Lecture/Discussion AV/LRC Materials Independent Studies Papers Guest Speakers	Classroom Discussion Current Event/Index Card Activity Current Issues in International Politics Assignment Forecasting an Issue in International Relations Assignment

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

#### SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

##### Part I: INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction: Problems and Questions in International Politics
2. The Historical Evolution of International Politics

##### Part II: THEORETICAL APPROACHES: EXPLAINING SYSTEM AND STATE BEHAVIOR

3. Theories of International Relations: Realism and Liberalism
4. Theories of International Relations: Economic Structuralism, Constructivism, and Feminism
5. The State, Society, and Foreign Policy
6. Bureaucracies, Groups, and Individuals in the Foreign Policy Process

##### Part III: INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT AND SECURITY

7. International Insecurity and the Causes of War and Peace
8. The Use of Force as a Policy

##### Part IV: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

9. Fundamentals of International Political Economy

10. The Globalization of Trade and Finance
  11. The Problem of Global Inequality
- Part V: THE EVOLVING AGENDA
12. International Organizations and Transnational Actors
  13. International Law, Norms, and Human Rights
  14. Emerging Grounds for Global Governance: Crime, Health, and Environmental Problems
  15. Conclusion: Power and Purpose in a Changing World

#### LEARNING MATERIALS:

Text(s) will be selected, as needed, by the Political Science Faculty.

Present selected text:

D'Anieri, Paul. *International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs* (2013, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Wadsworth Cengage.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

#### COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by:	Carol-Rae Sodano, D. Creciun	Date:	7/1995
Revised by:	Thomas Kolsky and Jodi Empol-Schwartz	Date:	3/2009
Revised by:	Jodi Empol-Schwartz	Date:	4/17/2013
Revised by:	Jodi Empol-Schwartz	Date:	2/15/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Victoria Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date:	2/2017

*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.*