



Class Information

Day and Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:15-4:30pm

Room Number: E207

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Brandon Seitzler

Instructor Email: bseitzler@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214.818.1309

Instructor Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11am

Course Description and Prerequisites

This course explores why and when international actors, specifically states, choose cooperation or conflict. The course explores this question of cooperation versus conflict from both historical and theoretical perspectives. The course teaches how states, international organizations, and non-governmental actors work within the international system to address human rights, environmental, economic, health and security issues.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify past, present, and future challenges and opportunities for countries and regions.
2. Explain how peace and cooperation can be achieved within and between countries.
3. Prescribe solutions to the challenges of global governance, accountability, and enforcement.

Required Textbooks

- Richard Haass. The World: A Brief Introduction. Penguin. 2020.
- Frieden, Lake, and Schultz. World Politics: Interests, Interaction, Institutions. 4th ed. Norton. 2019.

Recommended Reading

- The Economist
- The Washington Post
- Foreign Affairs
- Foreign Policy

Course Requirements and Assignments

- 30% - Weekly Reading Quizzes in Canvas
- 10% - Weekly 5-point Region Briefings (submitted and presented in class) – If you are not present to present your weekly briefing you will receive a zero for that week.
- 5% - Peace and Cooperation Paper Rough Draft (see Addendum 1 for assignment details)
- 15% - Peace and Cooperation Final Paper (see Addendum 1 for assignment details)
- 20% - Midterm Exam
- 20% - Final Exam

Course/Classroom Policies and Information

- You may not have your cell phone anywhere in sight during class.
- The one exception to my cell phone rule is using your cell phone as a calculator or to look something up online as a part of class participation. Other than these two exceptions, phones belong in bags.
- You may not use your laptop during class for anything other than class-related activities.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Grading Scale

			Grade Definitions
A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour	Exceptional
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour	
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour	
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour	Above Average
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour	
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour	
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour	Average
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour	
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour	
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour	Below Average
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour	
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour	Unacceptable

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at deanofstudents@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing tutoringcenter@criswell.edu or by calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

	Readings Due	Assignments Due
Week 1 – Course Introduction		
Tuesday 1/19	None	None
Thursday 1/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Part II: Regions of the World 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region choice due
Week 2		
Tuesday 1/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 1 What Shaped Our World? A Historical Introduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 1 Reading Quiz
Thursday 1/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Part I: The Essential History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 3		
Tuesday 2/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 2 Understanding Interests, Interactions, and Institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 2 Reading Quiz
Thursday 2/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: The Liberal World Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 4		
Tuesday 2/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 3 Why Are There Wars? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3 Reading Quiz
Thursday 2/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: War Between Countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 5		
Tuesday 2/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 4 Domestic Politics and War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 4 Reading Quiz
Thursday 2/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Sovereignty, Self-Determination, and Balance of Power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 6		
Tuesday 2/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 5 International Institutions and War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 5 Reading Quiz
Thursday 2/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Alliances and Coalitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 7		
Tuesday 3/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 6 Violence by Nonstate Actors: Civil War and Terrorism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 6 Reading Quiz
Thursday 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Internal Instability and War Within Countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Term Exam Due
Week 8		
Tuesday 3/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 7 International Trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 7 Reading Quiz
Thursday 3/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Trade and Investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 9 – Spring Break – No Class		
Tuesday 3/16	None	None
Thursday 3/18	None	None
Week 10		
Tuesday 3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 8 International Financial Regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 8 Reading Quiz • Peace and Cooperation Paper Rough Draft Due
Thursday 3/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Globalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 11		
Tuesday 3/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 9 International Monetary Relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 9 Reading Quiz
Thursday 4/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TW: Currency and Monetary Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 12		
Tuesday 4/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP: Ch. 10 Development: Causes of the Wealth and Poverty of Nations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 10 Reading Quiz

Thursday 4/8	• TW: Development	• Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 13		
Tuesday 4/13	• WP: Ch. 11 International Law and Norms	• Ch. 11 Reading Quiz
Thursday 4/15	• TW: International Society	• Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 14		
Tuesday 4/20	• WP: Ch. 12 Human Rights	• Ch. 12 Reading Quiz
Thursday 4/22	• TW: Migration	• Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 15		
Tuesday 4/27	• WP: Ch. 13 The Global Environment	• Ch. 13 Reading Quiz
Thursday 4/29	• TW: Climate Change	• Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 16		
Tuesday 5/4	• WP: Ch. 14 Challenges to the Global Order	• Ch. 14 Reading Quiz • Peace and Cooperation Final Paper Due
Thursday 5/6	• TW: Nuclear Proliferation • TW: The Internet, Cyberspace, and Cybersecurity • TW: Global Health	• Weekly 5-Point Region Briefing
Week 17		
Tuesday 5/11	None	None
Thursday 5/13	None	• Final Exam Due

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

Addendum 1

Peace and Cooperation Paper

In this paper you will:

- Write an extended report on the region you have written weekly briefings on throughout the semester.
- Give the historical context and background for your region's past international struggles and successes.
- Identify your region's current challenges and opportunities for international peace and cooperation.
- Forecast future prospects for peace and cooperation in your region.
- Utilize 3-4 scholarly, peer-reviewed, sources.

Paper guidelines:

- Double spaced – no extra space between paragraphs
- 12 pt Times New Roman Font
- 1 inch margins
- 2000-2500 words. This does not include reference pages or cover sheet.
- Assignment must be submitted electronically, via Canvas as a .pdf document. The file name must follow the format "LastName_AssignmentName". In the header, include your full name and assignment name.
Assignments uploaded with the wrong file name or in the wrong file type will be penalized 10 points.
- Late assignments will be penalized 10 points per day
- Paper should be in Chicago or Turabian style including a bibliography.



On-Campus Course Syllabus
ADDENDUM FOR SP-21
POL 303 L1
International Relations

In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus to on-campus classes during the SP-21 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

The course requirements, assignments, calendar, and attendance requirements from the syllabus for this course are replicated below. Notes and changes to the information in syllabus are highlighted. Information that is no longer relevant is indicated with a ~~strike through the font~~ and *replacement or new information is placed in italics.*

Course Requirements and Assignments

No change to this requirement.

Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification

Every class session will be synchronous and use Zoom. You are required to use your web camera for these sessions.