

SYLLABUS

Code: POLI 109

Title: Current Global Topics

Institute: Business and Social Science

Department: Political Science

Course Description: This course introduces students to a diverse range of international topics that the community of nation-states is currently facing. The topics to be examined include armed conflicts between and within countries, ethnic strife, weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, globalization of the economy, natural resource utilization, and world population growth. Students will read from a wide variety of sources as they learn more about these topics and their potential impacts on the international community.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

Prerequisites or Corequisites: None

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab/Studio Hours: 0

Required Textbook/Materials:

Instructor will inform students on Day 1 of class.

Additional Time Requirements:

For information on Brookdale's policy on credit hour requirements and outside class student work refer to [Academic Credit Hour Policy](#).

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the importance of global issues and problems
- Explain the impact of global problems on people, societies, and countries
- Critique government responses to global problems
- Recognize the diversity of global issues and problems
- Demonstrate solutions to global problems

Grading Standard:

0-64=F 65-69=D 70-76=C 77-79=C+ 80-82=B- 83-86=B 87-89=B+ 90-92=A- 93-100=A

Please see individual instructor addendums for additional grading standards and/or policies.

Course Content:

TOPICS – UNIT 1: New World Order?

- President George H. W. Bush
- Gulf War I
- End of Cold War

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- President George W. Bush
- Gulf War II
- Events of 9/11
- Globalization
- Digital Revolution
- Means of electronic communication
- Global information delivery
- Global Transportation of goods and services
- Cultural Homogenization
- Jihad vs. McWorld
- The earth is flat vs. the earth is spiky
- President Barack Obama
- Growth of global democracy
- Human rights
- President Donald Trump

TOPICS – UNIT 2: Economics

- Developed world
- Developing world
- Colonialism
- Imperialism
- Capitalism
- Supply and demand
- North/South dialog
- New International Economic Order
- World Bank
- International Monetary Fund
- World Trade Organization
- Regional trading blocs
- Primary commodities
- Secondary commodities
- Structural Adjustment
- Dependency theory
- Import substitution

TOPICS – UNIT 3: Population, Energy, Environment

- Population growth
- Tragedy of the Commons
- Malthusian trap
- Life expectancy
- Global health
- Family planning
- Infectious disease
- Food production
- Water availability
- Energy technology
- Oil
- Natural Gas
- Coal
- Nuclear
- Wind
- Solar
- Geothermal

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- Biomass
- Climate change
- Greenhouse theory
- Greenhouse gasses
- Anthropocentrism
- Holism

TOPICS – UNIT 4: Conflict, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Terrorism

- The State
- Sovereignty
- Sovereign State
- Territorial disputes
- Economic disputes
- Natural resource disputes
- Political disputes
- Cultural disputes
- Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)
- Nuclear Weapons
- Biological Weapons
- Chemical Weapons
- Cold War
- Arms Race
- Deterrence
- Terrorism: what is it?
- Events of 9/11
- Bush Doctrine
- War on Terror
- Iraq War
- Afghanistan War
- Al-Qaeda
- Jihad
- Rendition
- Enhanced interrogation

TOPICS – UNIT 5: Issue Areas: North America, Middle East, Asia, Africa

- North American Free Trade Agreement
- Border disputes
- Illegal immigration
- Social policy
- Conflict in the Middle East
- Islam
- Sunni vs. Shiite
- Israel
- Palestinian conflict
- West Bank and Gaza
- Oil
- Natural Gas
- Iran: nuclear weapons proliferation
- China: Political, Economic, Social Policy
- North Korea: nuclear weapons proliferation
- South Africa
- Apartheid
- Nelson Mandela

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- HIV/Aids
- Nigeria: oil production
- Somalia: failed state

Department Policies:

- Attendance is mandatory and being on time is imperative.
- Lateness and/or early departure are not acceptable behaviors and will be penalized.
- Cheating and/or plagiarism are unacceptable and will be dealt with accordingly, including severe penalties and disciplinary action.
- Electric devices are not permitted during class.
- Students are expected to be *attentive* and *courteous* to everyone in the class. Rudeness and other disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Rude behavior includes inappropriate talking, sleeping, reading unrelated material, texting, etc. If a student is engaging in rude conduct, they will be dismissed from class and further penalties will follow.
- Reading the textbook is required. Supplemental readings may be required.
- Paying close attention to relevant current events is necessary.
- Students are supposed to be fully engaged in all aspects of the course.

College Policies:

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- ◆ Brookdale's Academic Integrity Code
- ◆ Student Conduct Code
- ◆ Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the [BCC STUDENT HANDBOOK AND BCC CATALOG](#).

NOTIFICATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Disabilities Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability, and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT/LABS:

See the Tutoring Center for information <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-tutoring/tutoring-center/>.

MENTAL HEALTH:

- Mental Health Crisis Support: From a campus phone, dial 5555 or 732-224-2329 from an external line; off-hours calls will be forwarded to BCC police (2222 from a campus phone)

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- Psychological Counseling Services: 732-224-2986 (to schedule an appointment during regular hours)

The syllabus is intended to give student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the faculty member reserves the right to modify, supplement, and make changes as the need arises.