
CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL POLITICS in Spring 2021 (PO1012)

Course Code	PO1012	Professor(s)	Philip Golub
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-L
Class Schedule	M: 10:35-11:55 in C-103 R: 15:20-16:40 in C-103	Office Hours	By appointment
Credits	4	Email	pgolub@aup.edu
Semester	Spring 2021	Office Tel. Ext.	622

Course Description

This course explores changing patterns of power and organization in the modern world system – from the modern nation-state, the Industrial Revolution and nineteenth century European global expansion to the current turbulent phase of globalization – and theorizes key analytical and normative challenges of the present: global rebalancing and the emergence or reemergence of postcolonial states, uneven development, the role of culture in world politics, the future of the nation state, the global environmental imperative, mass forced and free migrations, the new landscape of armed conflict, the sources and implications of sharpening social divides, and the challenges to liberal-democratic theory and practice. Drawing, like Foundations of Modern Politics, on the social sciences and political philosophy, the course operates through a mix of theory and empirical study. Students will thus become acquainted to the essential frameworks and methods of social scientific enquiry while working on concrete objects of analysis. A core objective is to discover and grasp how major theoretical approaches differ in their interpretation and explanation of world politics, as well as in the normative models and demands that they advance. Students are expected to participate actively in debate during class.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will learn the structures and dynamics in international/world politics;
The essential concepts, theories and methods in international social theory;
To use theory to develop critical arguments;
To engage constructively in discussions about politics by substantiating normative viewpoints with analytical rigor and empirical evidence;
To understand the basics of political theory and social scientific enquiry;
About the specificity of international/world politics;

How to approach modernity from a political perspective.

General Education

Course Outline

CLASS SCHEDULE:

The weekly schedule is subject to changes at instructor choice.

1. **Problems of Modern Politics I**

Week I – 18-21 Jan

The nation-state system:

Required

- Tilly, C. (1975) “Reflections on the History of European State Making”, in Tilly, C. (ed), The Formation of National States in Western Europe, Princeton University Press.
- Anderson, B. (2006) Imagined Communities, Verso. Introduction, Chapters 3 & 6
- Hobsbawm, E. (2012) Nations and Nationalisms since 1780, CUP. Introduction and Chapter 5

Recommended:

- Tilly, C. (1985) "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime," in Peter Evans, et al. eds., Bringing the State Back In, Cambridge University Press, 1985, pp. 169-186.

1. Problems of Modern Politics II

Week II – 25-28 Jan

Capitalism, empires and global western expansion :

- Hobsbawm, E. (1999) Industry and Empire. From 1750 to the Present Day. Penguin. Chapters 1 & 2
- Marx, K. The Communist Manifesto and Chapter 31 of Capital (Vol. 1).
- Golub, P. (2016) East Asia's Reemergence. Polity Press. Chapter 2.
- Weber, Max. (2001) The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, Routledge Classics. Introduction by Anthony Giddens and Author's Introduction.

Jan 24 – last day to drop/add courses online

1. Problems of Modern Politics III

Week III – 1-4 Feb

The great North-South/East-West Divergence.

- Pomeranz, K. Introduction and Chapter 1 of Part I, The Great Divergence, Princeton University Press.

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- Chakrabarty, D. Chapter 1 Provincializing Europe, Princeton University Press.
 - Golub, P. Chapter 1 of East Asia's Reemergence, Polity Press.

1. Problems of Modern Politics IV

Feb 8-10 Mini Break (no classes)

Week IV – 11 Feb

War and systemic change.

- Gilpin, R. (1983), War and Change in World Politics, CUP. Introduction and Chapter 6.
- Kupchan, C. et al (2001) Power in Transition: The Peaceful Change of International Order. UN University Press. Introduction.
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- Winter J. et al (2000), "Introduction" in The Great War and the Twentieth Century, Yale University Press.
- Kennedy, P. (1989) Chapter 7 (pp. 347-372) The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers, Vintage.

Week V – 15-18 Feb

1. Globalization and the Future of the Nation State

- Strange, S. (2004), (Chapters 1,2 &3) The Retreat of the State, Cambridge University Press.
- Wendt, A.: "Why a world state is inevitable", European Journal of International Relations, Vol. 9(4):491-542
- Walzer, M.(2009), "International Society: What is the best we can do?", Ethical Perspectives 6 (1999): 3-4.
- Mathews, J.: (1997) Power Shift, Foreign Affairs, Jan-Feb.

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- Czenpiel, E. & Rosenau, J. (1989) Global Changes and Theoretical Challenges: Approaches to World Politics for the 1990s. Lexington Books. Introduction.

February 24th – 28th, Mini break 2, (no classes)

Week VI – 22 Feb

1. Clashing Civilizations?

- Huntington, S. "The Clash of Civilizations?", Foreign Affairs, Vol. 72:3 (Summer 1993), pp. 22-49.
- Sen, A. (2005) Chapter 5, Identity and violence, the illusion of destiny, Allan Lane (Penguin Books)
- Shachar, A. (2010) , Harvard University Press. Chapter 1
- Appiah, K.A., Introduction and Chapter 1, Cosmopolitanism

Week VII – 1-4 March

6. The Meanings of Development

- Seers, D. (1969), "The meaning of development", Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex <https://www.ids.ac.uk/files/dmfile/themeaningofdevelopment.pdf>
- Sen, A. (1999) Development as Freedom, OUP.
- Dos Santos, T. (1970), The Structure of Dependence, The American Economic Review, Vol. 60:2.
- Fanon, F. (2005) The Wretched of the Earth, Grove Press-Atlantic Monthly Press.
- World Bank, (1993), The East Asian Miracle, OUP. Overview and Chapter 1.

Mid-term Exam (Critical Review) March 8

Week VIII – 11 March

7. The Anthropocene and Global Climate Change

- IPCC (2018) “Summary for Policymakers”, <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>
- Harris, Paul (ed) (2012), Ethics and Global Environmental Policy, Edward Elgar. Introduction and Chapters 6,7 &8
- McKibben, B (2019/20), Falter, Holt Paperbacks.

Week IX – 15-18 March

8. New landscapes of armed conflict

- Hardt, M. & Negri, A. Multitude. Penguin. Chapter 1.
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- Gray, J. (2015) “Pinker is Wrong About Violence and War”, London Guardian, 15 March. <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/mar/13/john-gray-steven-pinker-wrong-violence-war-declining>
- Klare, M. (2012) The Race for What’s Left, Picador. Introduction and Chapter 1
- Goldstone, J. (2008) “Failed States”, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Vol 25, No. 4, SPECIAL ISSUE: Failed States(Winter 2008), pp. 285-296

Week X – 22-25 March

9. Transnational Migrations, Citizenship and Rights

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- Benhabib, S. *The Rights of Others*, Introduction, Chapters 1 & 5 and conclusion. CUP.
 - Sen, A. *Identity and Violence*, op.cit. Chapters 1 & 2.
 - Sassen, S. *Globalization and its Discontents*. The New Press. Chapter 6.

Week XI – 29 March-1 April

10. The new oligarchies of capital

- Piketty, T. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*,
- Saez, E. & Zucman, G. (2019). *The Triumph of Injustice*, WW Norton. Introduction and Chapter 1
- Hacker, J. & Pierson, P. (2011) *Winner-Take-All Politics*, Simon & Schuster. Chapter 1.
- Sassen, S. (1998). *Globalization and its Discontents*. The New Press. Introduction and Chapter 5.
- Interview of Nancy Fraser, “Recognition and Redistribution in Capitalist Global Society” in *Acta Sociologica*, Vol. 47, No. 4, Recognition, Redistribution, and Justice (Dec. 2004), pp. 374-382

Easter Monday April 5 no classes

Week XII – 8 April

11. Democracy and its discontents

- Habermas, J. (1988) *Legitimation Crisis*. Polity Press. Introduction, Preface, Part I.
- Rodrik: (2011) *The Globalization Paradox: Democracy and the Future of the World Economy*, W. W. Norton & Co. Introduction, Chapter 9.
- Hardt, M, and Negri, A. (2005) *Multitude*, Chapter 3, pages 229-247
- Fraser, N. “Rethinking the Public Sphere: A Contribution to the Critique of Actually Existing Democracy”, *Social Text*,
- Articles from FT, NYT and Washington Post on democratic crisis

Week XIII – 12-15 April

12. Cosmopolitan Imaginings

- Derrida, J. (2001). On Cosmopolitanism and Forgiveness, Routledge. Chapter 1.
- Delanty, G. (2008) "The Cosmopolitan Imagination", Revista CIDOB d'Afers Internacionals, No. 82/83
- Benhabib, S. (2004) "Reclaiming Universalism", Tanner Lectures, Berkeley. https://tannerlectures.utah.edu/_documents/a-to-z/b/benhabib_2005.pdf
- Appiah, K. A. (2005) "Rooted Cosmopolitanism" in *The Ethics of Identity*, PUP.

Week XIV – 19 April Class discussion/debate/revision of key concepts

22 April Class discussion/debate/revision of key concepts

Week XV

26 April Final Exam (Critical Review of a selected paper/chapter)

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to arrive on time and to attend all classes.

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

- 2 critical reviews. Students will write a paper (limited to 5 pages) reviewing the required readings of a set of classes. This paper will compare and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the thesis/arguments of the texts. In grading, the instructor will favour analysis over description, and will be looking for rigor and critical insight (20% each)

- 2 pop quizzes (unannounced) in class on the assigned readings of the session. (10% each)

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- Class participation. (15%)
 - Final exam (another critical review) (25%)

Students are expected to have prepared the assigned readings prior to the class session – the quizzes will be based on the assigned reading for the particular session. If you miss a written exercise without valid justification prior to the absence, your grade for the missed exam will be F.

We reserve A for outstanding work, demonstrating superior effort, mastery of information and understanding of concepts. B indicates a solid effort, a good grasp of information, and above-average comprehension of concepts. C reflects a minimally acceptable effort and comprehension, while C- or below indicates results that are less than satisfactory.

Guidelines for written work:

- You are expected to analyze – rather than simply summarize – your topic, and to develop your argument(s) rigorously.
- Your writing should be coherent. Help the reader to follow your line of reasoning by making it explicit: An introduction should outline what you will present and why it is relevant. The main body should develop your argument(s) step by step, and a conclusion should sum them up.
- Imagine that the reader is unfamiliar with both the topic/question and the sources you are discussing.

All written work must be your own. Students submitting plagiarized work for any assignment will automatically receive a grade of F for the whole course. Plagiarism is defined as the act of misrepresenting work done by others as one's own. It constitutes a serious violation of academic rules, and may result in more serious disciplinary action.

Other
