INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

This course will explore politics in a global context. Major themes will include globalization, the conflict between states and markets, American foreign policy, nation building, development, democratic and non-democratic governance, and the role of religion in politics. The goal is to introduce students to the complex fields of international relations and comparative politics, while also making them more informed citizens. Thus, the course should be useful to students who plan further study in political science and to those who do not.

TEXTS

Nicholas Allen and John Bartle (eds.), *Britain at the Polls 2010* (Sage, 2011).
The *New York Times*.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

As a responsible student you will be expected to:

- attend lectures;
- complete all of the required reading;
- participate in class discussions; and
- keep abreast of current events.

The assignments for this class include the following:

- map quiz;
- midterm test;
- research paper;
- simulation;
- cumulative final exam.

Make-up exams will be given, if necessary, to those with written medical statements, or letters of explanation from the Dean’s office.

Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services. **Accommodations must be agreed to before the first test!**

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be taken. After two unexcused absences, each additional unexcused absence will result in a reduction of the final exam grade by one letter step (e.g., “A” to “A-”).

ETHICAL CONDUCT

Your presence in class signifies that you accept the basic rules of academic honesty. You must not engage in plagiarism or cheating in any form. Such conduct will not be tolerated and will result in severe penalties.

CONDUCT IN CLASS

Please, please, please—out of consideration for your classmates and the instructor—hold off on leaving the classroom.
for any purpose other than an emergency (i.e., get your Mountain Dew and go to the bathroom before you enter the classroom). In addition, students are not permitted to use laptop computers, tablets, cell phones or other personal handheld electronic devices in class unless asked to by the instructor (which will happen sometimes!). These rules apply during testing periods as well as class lectures and discussions. Any violation of these rules will result in the assessment of one unexcused absence. [By the way, I’m not a Luddite! I just know—from much personal experience from both sides of the lectern—how multitasking can undermine the learning process.]

**GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simulation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
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The map quiz will count for five percent of the Midterm Test. Participation will significantly affect grades near the margins. **If a student fails to complete one of the major assignments (midterm, paper, simulation or exam), the student will receive a grade of “F” for the course.**

**COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS**

I. Introduction
   Box Readings: Strange

   **Map Quiz—January 24**

II. Theories of World Politics
    Box Readings: Zakaria, Huntington, Bremner

III. States and Markets
    Box Readings: Strange

IV. Globalization
    Box Readings: Friedman

V. Economic Development
    Box Readings: Collier
    Freeland: entire

   **Midterm Test—approx. March 5**

VI. Domestic Polities
    Box Readings: Zakaria; Lampton

VII. Democratization
     Box Readings: Huntington
     Mickelthwait and Wooldridge: entire

   **Research Paper—April 10, 4:30 PM**
   **Furmania Simulation—April 14, 16, 24, 7:00-9:00 PM**

VIII. Democratic Governance
      Allen and Bartle: entire

   **Final Exam—Wednesday, May 7, 8:30 AM**

Some seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge: that is curiosity; Others seek knowledge that they may themselves be known: that is vanity; But there are still others who seek knowledge in order to serve and edify others,
and that is charity.

—St. Bernard of Clairvaux