

Course Objectives/Course Outline
Spokane Community College

Course Title: Global Issues

Prefix and Course Number: POLS 125

Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, a student should be able to:

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Course Outline:

- I. A. Scope and Methods of Global Issues
Introduction: Why study Global Issues?
 1. Global Issues and our domestic political situation
 2. Global Issues and our domestic economic situation
 3. Global Issues and our personal lives
- B. Key concepts in the domestic versus international arena
 1. order versus anarchy
 2. intermestic
 3. socialism versus capitalism
 4. security dilemma
 5. nationalism
 6. interdependence
 7. globalization
 8. foreign policy perspectives
 9. GNP and military expenditures
 10. democracy versus autocratic rule
- C. Actors in Global Issues
 1. state
 2. non-state actors
 3. role of groups/individuals
- D. Role of theory in Global Issues
 1. It's a Small World After All Perspective
 2. Star Wars Perspective
 3. empirical versus normative theory
 4. levels of analysis
- II. Globalism and Regionalism
 - A. Globalization and Fragmentation
 - B. interdependence and crisis of authority
 - C. regional struggles for power
- III. The Middle East analyzed as a regional and global struggle for Power
 - A. Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
 - B. Key events/processes/actors in 50years war
 1. Three Balances of Power
 2. End of the Ottoman Empire

- a. colonialism
 - b. imperialism
 - 3. Arab-Israeli Conflict unleashed
 - 4. Conflicts of the 1950s and 1960s
 - 5. Six-Day War (1967) and Its Aftermath
 - 6. Petroleum, Power, and Politics
 - 7. Land for Peace
 - 8. Conflicts of the 1980s
 - 9. Oslo Accord and thereafter
 - 10. New World Order, Old Regional Conflicts
- IV. Introduction to the International Political Economy
 - A. Three Major Theoretical Models
 - 1. Liberalism
 - 2. Mercantilism/Realism
 - 3. Marxism
 - B. Trade Relations
 - 1. Trade and Resource Allocation
 - 2. David Ricardo and Adam Smith
 - 3. Tariff and Nontariff Barriers to Trade
 - C. From GATT to WTO
 - D. Trading Blocs: Cooperation or Conflict?
 - 1. NAFTA
 - 2. EU
 - 3. MERCOSUR
 - E. Monetary Relations
 - 1. Trade before Money
 - 2. Exchange Rate Systems
 - a. fixed
 - b. floating
 - c. managed
 - 3. Balance of Payments
 - 4. Exchange Rates and Trade Deficits
 - F. Bretton Woods
 - 1. IMF
 - 2. IBRD
 - G. Economic Power
 - 1. Basic Elements
 - 2. Territory, Geography, Natural Resources
 - 3. Population
 - 4. Trade and Industry
 - 5. Research, Development, Technology
 - H. Barriers to Cooperation
 - 1. Realist Perspective
 - 2. Liberal Perspective
 - 3. Feminist Perspective
 - I. Attaining Cooperation

1. reciprocity
2. international regimes
3. international law
4. hegemonic stability

V. Evolution of the Global Political Economy

- A. Origins of the World Economy
- B. British Hegemony
- C. Protectionism and Discord
- D. Decline of Great Britain
- E. WWI and Global Depression
- F. Interwar Years
- G. US emerges as Hegemon
- H. US and Bretton Woods
- I. American Hegemony
- J. Is American Hegemony on the decline?
- K. From Hegemony to Multilateralism?

VI. IPE and the future—where do we go from here?

VII. North-South Relations

- A. North/South distinctions
- B. Contending Theories of Development
 - a. Modernization
 - b. Dependency theory
- C. Development Strategies
 - a. import-substitution (ISI)
 - b. Export-led growth (ELI)
 - c. New International Economic Order (NIEO)
 - d. Foreign Aid
- D. The Global Debt Crisis

VIII. Global Issues Observed

- A. Population Growth
- B. Human Rights Amidst Global Diversity
- C. Women in Development
- D. Global Health/Disease
- E. Migration/Refugees
- F. Food and Hunger
- G. the Environment
- H. International Drug Trade
- I. Terrorism
- J. Energy and Natural Resources

IX. Globalization

- A. Different Dimensions
- B. Western Imperialism?
- C. Globalization and Democracy: Compatibility or Contradiction?