

Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I= Information Item¹ R= Advise & Respond²

Course Number POLS 227 or Degree Plan(s) _____

State the requested change and reason. A memo may be attached if more space is necessary.

The Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice had four courses in the Gen Ed Menu over the past decade: POLS 225 National Government, POLS 227 Introduction to International Relations, POLS 226 States and the Federal System, and POLS 221 Government and Business. In line with the review of General Education at Abilene Christian University, our department faculty have evaluated these four courses and are focusing in on the most vital courses in our department that we believe meet the needs of the spectrum of students at ACU pursuing a liberal arts education in a Christian setting during the upcoming years. We have settled on proposing National Government and Introduction to International Relations, and this approval chart is for POLS 227 Introduction to International Relations.

Circle the number that corresponds to the requested change. Degree plan changes are on the second page.

Change to a Course		COUNCIL ³								
		Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I				I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I				I	I
3.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I				I	I
4.	Content (substantive change)	A	A	A	I				A	I
5.	Number of hours (lecture, lab, contact)	A	A	A	A				A	I
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I				I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A				A	I
8.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I				I	I
9.	Course fee(s)	A	--	A	--				A	I
10.	From U to G <i>or</i> G to U	A	A	A	A				A	I
11.	Cross list with another department: U or G level	A	A	A	A				A	I
12.	Department of record	A	A	A	A				A	I
13.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A				A	I
14.	New course — See website for application and process. This change includes combining or splitting a course(s).	A	A	A	A				A	I

Note: When an academic unit does not have a council, the UGEC and/or UUAC will serve as its academic council, depending on the nature of the issue.

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COUNCIL ³												
	Change to a Degree Plan	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	TEC	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
1.	University Requirements — Change in approved course content ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
2.	University Requirements — Add or drop a required course from the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
3.	University Requirements — Add or drop a course from a menu within the University Requirements ⁶	A	--	--	A				A	--	A	--
4.	University Requirements — Change hours within a menu on the University Requirements chart ⁶	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
5.	Major — Revision of major ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
6.	Major — Adopt or change admission requirements	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
7.	Major — Add ^{4,5}	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
8.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
9.	Major – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
10.	GPA — Revise major or cumulative requirement	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	--
11.	Minor — Revise course selection	A	A	A	I				I	--	I	--
12.	Minor — Add	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
13.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--
14.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
15.	Degree — Add	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
16.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the department or college)	A	A	A	A				A	A	A	I
17.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	See below.										
18.	Any change to a graduate degree program	A	A	A	A				A	--	A	--

	Provost-Proposed Change	Provost	Department	Dean	COUNCIL ³			Faculty	President	Board of Trustees
					TEC	UUAC	Graduate			
1.	Major/Graduate Program – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			A	A	I
2.	Minor – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			--	A	--
3.	Degree – Discontinue (proposed by the Provost)	A	R	R	A			A	A	I

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COUNCIL ³									
	Change to the Catalog Information	Dept./School	College Academic	Deans	UGEC	UUAC	GRAD	Provost	President
1.	General requirements for graduation including course requirements that are common to all majors for all degrees ⁷	--	--	--		A		A	A
2.	Admission requirements	--	--	--		A		A	A
3.	Policies governing academic probation and suspension	--	--	--		A		A	A
4.	Requirements for graduating with honors	--	--	--		A		A	A

¹ Councils may request additional information about "Information" items. These items are approved as "Consent Agenda."

² The Dean and Department should respond to the Provost's recommendation to close a program in writing. Advise & Respond (R) requires that the voting body should receive the written responses at least one week prior to the vote.

³ All courses that meet University Requirements for general education must go through UGEC. Courses or degrees offered only to students seeking teacher certification must go through the Teacher Education Council. All undergraduate changes must go before the UUAC. All graduate degree plan changes must go through the Graduate Council.

⁴ A minimum of 30 hours is required for a major. A maximum is specified for each degree (e.g., BA, BS). The university minimum for elective hours is 6, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible.

⁵ Program or course changes that apply to any major that includes Teacher Certification will be reviewed by the college, the Teacher Education Council (TEC), and then the UUAC.

⁶ Courses that satisfy ACU's University Requirements (General Education) will normally have lower-level numbering, be free of prerequisites and co-requisites, appeal to more than one or two majors, and "not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession" (SACS 2.7.3). Departments may request exceptions to the first three criteria.

⁷ The UUAC approved the clarification that "general requirements for graduation" means the enumerated items in the "General Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees" section of the catalog.

Revised 8-26-19

Curriculum/Catalog Changes Signature Page

Department/School Chair(s)	
 Neal Coates (Sep 16, 2022 17:57 CDT)	Sep 16, 2022
Signature	Approval date
Signature	Approval date

College Academic Council(s)	
Signature	Approval date
Signature	Approval date

Dean(s)	
Signature	Approval date
Signature	Approval date

Teacher Education Council	
Chair's signature	Approval date

General Education Council	
Chair's signature	Approval date

Undergraduate Academic Council	
Chair's signature	Approval date

Graduate Council	
Chair's signature	Approval date

Provost	
Signature	Approval date

Faculty	
Chair of faculty senate	Approval date

President	
Signature	Approval date

Introduction to International Relations

POLS 227

The Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice had four courses in the Gen Ed Menu over the past decade: POLS 225 National Government, POLS 227 Introduction to International Relations, POLS 226 States and the Federal System, and POLS 221 Government and Business. In line with the review of General Education at Abilene Christian University, our department faculty have evaluated these four courses and are focusing in on the most vital courses in our department that we believe meet the needs of the spectrum of students at ACU pursuing a liberal arts education in a Christian setting during the upcoming years. We have settled on proposing National Government and Introduction to International Relations.

Application for Social and Behavioral Science Menu

Guidelines For All General Education Courses

1. All general education courses must be 100-level or above.
2. General education courses should present a breadth of knowledge, not focusing on skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession.
3. Individual courses will fulfill only a single general education requirement.
4. Courses free of prerequisites are preferred. Applications to add courses with prerequisites must provide additional evidence that the course contributes to a student's breadth of knowledge and is not specific to a particular occupation or profession.
5. Each course may appear on a maximum of two menus that accept applications (arts and humanities, cultural literacy, life and physical sciences, and social and behavioral sciences).

Social and Behavioral Science Description

Courses within this domain help students examine behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events to understand the complexities of social systems.

Instructions

Complete this form and submit it with a course syllabus and approval chart to the University General Education Council. Faculty submitting an application should be prepared to perform annual assessment for their course. The assessment will be based on the rubric submitted as part of this course application.

Subject code, course number, and title of course:	POLS 227, Introduction to International Relations
Terms offered:	Spring, Summer
Catalog description:	Introduces students to the major theories, themes, and sub-disciplines of this interdisciplinary subject. Material includes the Cold War, deterrence, globalization, nationalism, development, and terrorism.
Course prerequisites:	None
Cross-listed courses: *Note: Many gen ed courses are cross-listed between the Abilene and Dallas campuses.	PLSO 227
Other general education menus on which the course appears or you are applying for:	None

Description of Menu Fit

Please describe how your class fits into the Social and Behavioral Sciences Menu (200 words or less).

Knowledge of world affairs is essential to understanding how to address problems that stretch across the globe, and to which Christians offer solutions. This course addresses a variety of subjects including security, deterrence, globalization, the Cold War, development, terrorism, democratization, international law and organizations, global warming, and U.S. foreign policy. Through the study and examination of various global concerns and current events, students will become familiar with the language and nature of international relations, as well as how one can be involved in global affairs.

Course Content

Using your syllabus as evidence, demonstrate that either the majority of course content or the majority of graded student work adheres to the Social and Behavioral Sciences description above (200 words or less).

Examining the behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events to understand the complexities of social systems is exactly what POLS 227 aims to and does. Whether the topic is nuclear proliferation, development, the environment, peace, or international trade, the broad material presented in this course “spans the globe” regarding topics that apply to world peace, war, and other interactions among people and countries.

Prerequisites

If the course has prerequisites, provide evidence that the course contributes to a student's breadth of knowledge. Also provide evidence that the course content is not specific to a particular occupation or profession (200 words or less).

There are no prerequisites.

Relevant Outcomes

At a minimum, a course applying to the Social and Behavioral Science menu must address at least one performance indicator from each of the following areas:

- Social and Behavioral Sciences Subject Matter
- A2: Listen to, understand, and critically evaluate rhetorical claims.
- C1: Evaluate widely disparate sources of information and competing evidence to form their own reasoned positions.
- C2: Analyze quantitative data, published writing, or observable phenomena to draw informed conclusions.

Ideally, assessment will occur within one or two exams/assignments. Please indicate which exams or assignments will be used for each performance indicator. Provide assignment prompts if available.

Area to Be Assessed	Assessment Artifact
SBS subject matter	Midterm and Final Examinations
Outcome A2	Oral and Written Assignments
Outcome C1	Research Paper
Outcome C2	Research Paper

Please use the following rubric to perform assessment each year. If a performance indicator is not assessed, please write "Not Assessed" in the "Meets Expectations" section. The last two pages have rubric examples for your reference; these pages may be deleted before submitting your application.

Our department will use this required rubric.

Social and Behavioral Science Subject Matter

Students will be able to:	Shortcomings	Meets Expectations	Points of Excellence
Understand and/or investigate behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and social systems	Students answer fewer than 75% of test questions correctly	Students correctly answer 75% or more of test questions focused on Social and Behavioral Sciences subject matter	Students correctly answer 90% or more of test questions focused on the subject matter above

Student Learning Outcome A2 (select at least one)

Students will be able to:	Shortcomings	Meets Expectations	Points of Excellence
Understand intent of source	Students provide inaccurate or incomplete response to essay prompts	Students respond accurately and completely to an essay prompt targeting Social and Behavioral Sciences subject matter	Student response to prompt is especially thorough and/or imaginative
Interpret source within rhetorical context	Students take ideas/information from only a single source to form a position	Students accurately paraphrase source material in their own words	Student response to prompt is especially thorough and/or imaginative

Evaluate relevance of source within multiple contexts		Not assessed	
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Student Learning Outcome C1 (select at least one)

Students will be able to:	Shortcomings	Meets Expectations	Points of Excellence
Compare and contrast multiple viewpoints on a topic	Students provide inaccurate or incomplete response to research paper prompts	Students respond accurately and completely to a research paper prompt targeting Social and Behavioral Sciences subject matter	Student response to prompt is especially thorough and/or imaginative
Develop and express an evidence-based viewpoint on a topic	Students fail to reference source material in defense of their own position, or misuse source material	Students accurately paraphrase source material in their own words	Student response to prompt successfully integrates knowledge from other courses
Synthesize information from multiple sources	Students fail to reference source material in defense of their own position,	Students accurately paraphrase source material in their own words	Students recognize the conflict between multiple sources and build a position that

	or misuse source material		solves that conflict
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Student Learning Outcome C2

Students will be able to:	Shortcomings	Meets Expectations	Points of Excellence
Read and interpret data in a form that is appropriate for the discipline	Students provide inaccurate or incomplete response to research paper prompts	Students respond accurately and completely to a research paper prompt targeting Social and Behavioral Sciences subject matter	Students recognize the conflict between multiple sources and build a position that solves that conflict

POLS 227 (3)
Introduction to International Relations
 Syllabus -- Online Course
 Summer II 2022
 Mon.-Thur. each week, May 31T-June 16R

Neal Coates, Professor
 O: AD 131, 325-674-2917
 coatesn@acu.edu
 Hours: By Appointment, Online
 Abilene Christian University

Mission Statement

The mission of Abilene Christian University is to educate its students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world. The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is to engage students with humanity's greatest ideas to create understanding, apply insights, and serve the world as Christian thinkers and problem solvers. The mission of the Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice is to provide a program of study to help students understand domestic and international politics and law enforcement theory and practice, and to prepare students for informed and active participation in public service. This course aims to fulfill this mission by introducing students to the major issues, theories, and disciplines of the study of international relations.

Course Description

This course is designed to give students an introduction to the study of international relations. We will address a variety of subjects including security, deterrence, globalization, the Cold War, development, terrorism, democratization, international law and organizations, global warming, and U.S. foreign policy (because it is the most influential country in the world). Through the study and examination of various global concerns and current events, students will become familiar with the language and nature of international relations, as well as how one can be involved in global affairs. The theme of the world's quest for freedom will be seen. Students will also will learn that global politics does affect the ways in which people live and that individuals and groups can affect global politics. In the process, students will also learn that there is room for Christian stewardship and influence.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Know the issues involved in the study of international relations.
2. Explain basic theories regarding international relations.
3. Be knowledgeable of the turning points of world politics.
4. Identify the critical events of the Cold War.
5. Explain and assess the Westphalian system and sovereignty.
6. Understand the elements of international law and its sources.
7. Recognize the effects of imperialism.
8. Explain strategies for countries to develop.
9. Know the issues and arguments involved with natural resources and environmental politics.
10. Know key concepts and information regarding security issues, including proliferation and prompt global strike.

Required Texts

Steven Spiegel, World Politics in a New Era (Sixth Edition, 2015)

Background Reading (List is not exhaustive)

It is recommended that students read the news every day. There are a number of good sources, here are some.

Real Clear World.com
 BBC
Economist

www.realclearworld.com
 www.bbc.co.uk
 www.economist.com

Course Procedure

There will be one non-mandatory Zoom meeting on the first day of class, Tuesday, at 9 a.m. CST. We will go over the course procedure and syllabus. If a student is unable to meet this non-mandatory Zoom meeting but still needs to visit with the instructor, please contact the instructor. The Zoom address for the meeting is:

Topic: POLS 227 International Relations Course Procedure Meeting
Time: May 31, 2022 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://acuonline.zoom.us/j/94976492553?pwd=bm9oVklwcmZzb2NMWmV3Wlo1U1Z5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 949 7649 2553

Passcode: 763636

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,94976492553# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,94976492553# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 949 7649 2553

Find your local number: <https://acuonline.zoom.us/u/aCwenHsTk>

This is an online course, using Canvas. Students will need to access the online course every class day during the short semester and read the PPT lecture and corresponding chapter in the textbook (we will read all the chapters, in the order from first chapter to last). The PPT lecture will sometimes include some rhetorical questions and will often include videos to watch via the internet. The PPT lectures will include specific assignments with a due time listed. Please contact the instructor with any questions that you may have.

In an online course, you will find yourself spending lots of time in the lecture and textbook. The timeframe for the course is concentrated, so it is critical that you “stay connected” and pace yourself to do all the readings and assignments in a timely manner. Assignments and tests are due by 11:59 p.m. CST on the date indicated. Contact the instructor if you have a unique time issue regarding a deadline—otherwise CST is the required time zone deadline.

A typical class day schedule might look like this:

1. Read the assigned chapter (most days we will cover two chapters).
2. Read the instructor’s PPT slides/lecture and watch any assigned videos.
3. Do the assignment listed in the PPT and submit it to the instructor (most days we will have two assignments).

It is expected that all students will adhere to the University’s honor code. Violations of academic integrity and other forms of cheating, as defined in ACU’s Academic Integrity Policy, involve the intention to deceive or mislead or misrepresent, and therefore are a form of lying and represent actions contrary to the behavioral norms that flow from the nature of God. Violations are addressed as described in the Policy. While the University enforces the Policy, the most powerful motive for integrity and truthfulness comes from one’s desire to imitate God’s nature in their life. Every member of the faculty, staff, and student body is responsible for protecting the integrity of learning, scholarship, and research. The full policy is available for review at the Provost’s office web site (<https://cdn01.acu.edu/community/offices/administrative/office-of-the-provost/academic-integrity->

policy/overview.html) and the following offices: Provost, college deans, dean of campus life, director of student judicial affairs, director of residential life, and academic departments.

Is it permissible to refer to the textbook and PPTs while taking the test? Yes. Academic integrity is instead breached by the student who chooses not to read the chapter or PPTs, ignores the videos, and/or works with other students on the tests.

Reflection Paper

The first of two writing assignments is due at the end of the first class day, Tuesday, at 11:59 p.m. The two-page, double spaced reflection paper should answer the following questions: Why am I taking this course? Why is the world the way it is? Where do I fit in? Where do other Christians fit in? Can the world be changed? This first paper is the first assignment for the course.

Tests

There will be two tests, a Midterm and a Final, as indicated on the syllabus. The two tests will be multiple choice tests. Test questions will be generated by the instructor from the PPT lectures and the assigned textbook readings. The privilege of making up a test will be reserved for students participating in official university activities, for illness, or if there is a death or serious illness in the family. If these conditions apply, contact the instructor prior to the test.

Short Research Paper

The second writing assignment is a short research paper on a subject of your choice dealing with international relations. Students will need approval from the instructor for their paper topic. It is also likely that the IR topic chosen is related to the student's major, career goals, or major scholarship aspirations. Papers should have a cover page, 6-7 pages of text, be double-spaced in size 12 font, and have a bibliography page with at least two published and three internet sources. Use whatever style of internal citations, footnotes, etc. that you prefer. No more than one page of data tables are permitted, so it is possible that a paper could stretch onto an eighth page. The paper is due on the date indicated on the syllabus.

Grades and Grading Guidelines

Grades are based on the following:

Assignments	25%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Short Research Paper	20%
Participation	5%

Grading guidelines are:

- A 90-100 (Excellent)
- B 80-89 (Good)
- C 70-79 (Average)
- D 60-69 (Inferior but passing)
- F 59 and below (Failing)

Course Outline (*All assignments and due dates/times, including test dates, are tentative and subject to change at the instructor's discretion)

FOUNDATIONS OF WORLD POLITICS

May 31T 9 a.m. CST, Non-mandatory Zoom meeting -- POLS 227 International Relations Course Procedure Meeting

World Politics: Complexity and Competing Processes Spiegel Ch. 1

Ch. 1 Assignment (Reflection Paper) due 11:59 p.m.

June 1W Theory and World Politics Spiegel Ch. 2

Ch. 2 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

Turning Points in World Politics: 1648-Present Spiegel Ch. 3

Ch. 3 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

June 2R World Politics and Economics: The Cold War Spiegel Ch. 4

Ch. 4 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

Imperialism and Its Victims Spiegel Ch. 5

Ch. 5 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

June 6M Globalization and Fragmentation in a New World Order: 1991 to the Present Spiegel Ch. 6

Ch. 6 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

June 7T Midterm Exam—Chapters 1-6 due 11:59 p.m.

Short Research Paper topic due 11:59 p.m.

MAJOR ISSUES IN WORLD POLITICS

June 8W Security Theory and Practice Spiegel Ch. 7

Ch. 7 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

Contemporary Security Issues Spiegel Ch. 8

Ch. 8 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.

June 9R	World Politics: Trade and Investment Ch. 9 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.	Spiegel Ch. 9
	World Politics: Development Ch. 10 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.	Spiegel Ch. 10
June 13M	Human Issues: Demographic Trends Ch. 11 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.	Spiegel Ch. 11
Class Assignment—Work on Short Research Paper		
June 14T	Resource Issues and Climate Change Ch. 12 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.	Spiegel Ch. 12
	Global Governance: International Law and Organizations Ch. 13 Assignment due 11:59 p.m.	Spiegel Ch. 13
June 15W	World Politics in Context Ch. 14 Assignment due 6:00 p.m.	Spiegel Ch. 14
June 16R	Final Exam—remaining Chapters, due 11:59 p.m. (the Final is not comprehensive) Short Research Paper due 11:59 p.m.	

Instructor

Neal Coates is a professor and chair of the Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice at Abilene Christian University, where he has taught since 1999. He holds a J.D. from the University of Kansas and a M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut. Coates teaches about international affairs, including Politics of the Middle East, Iran and Nuclear Weapons, Politics of Israel, Terrorism Studies, International Law and Organizations, and American Foreign Policy. Coates penned a series of newspaper op-eds opposing the U.S. being a party to the JCPOA with Iran. He was a participant in the Foundation for Defense of Democracies Counter-terrorism Fellowship in Israel, and writes and speaks on democracy and terrorism in the Middle East, the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention, and the Bush Doctrine.