

California Maritime Academy
Department of Maritime Policy and Management
GMA 100-2: International Relations | Spring 2015

Instructor:	Matthew Atkinson
Office Location:	Faculty Building TBD
Email:	makinson@csu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 to 6:30
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday and Thursday 7 to 8:15
Classroom:	Classroom 101

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the principal concepts, theories, and issues in international relations. While frequent use will be made of current and historical events in the lectures and readings, the main focus of the course is to provide students with the tools and analytical framework with which to analyze the rapidly changing international arena. The class is divided into four parts. Part I will address traditional approaches to the study of international relations, focusing on the system, state, and individual levels of analysis. Part II will present an overview of economic globalization, and the impact this has had on issues such as the following: a) the political and security behavior of states, b) the future of the state as an economic entity, and c) the distribution of wealth between North and South. Part III will address traditional security concerns of states, from both the 'realist' and 'idealist' perspectives, as well as from an ethical point of view. Part IV will focus on global environmental concerns, including (but not limited to) global warming, ocean and fisheries degradation, and fresh water access. Throughout, we will view economic, security and environmental concerns in an interdependent context.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

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

- Understand the major concepts and theories of international relations
- Discuss the key actors in international relations
- Critically analyze and evaluate international political events

Required Texts

Textbook

Essentials of International Relations, 6th Edition. By Karen A. Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguín-Toft.

Classroom Protocol

- Class attendance is a course requirement.
- Treat the instructor and other students with respect. **In particular, refrain from chatting with your friends during class.**
- Abide by the relevant university policies regarding dress and conduct
- Students may not use cellphones or music players during class
- Late assignments will not be accepted without appropriate documentation. No exceptions.
- Points will be deducted from the final course grade for multiple violations of course policies.

Dropping and Adding Classes

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops are available on the campus website and at:

http://www.csum.edu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=9ac74015-15c2-4840-8626-04098ba4fcc9&groupId=72269

Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Assignments and Grading Policy

- Midterm 1 (1/3 of grade)
- Midterm 2 (1/3 of grade)
 - Covering material not tested on midterm 1
- Final exam (1/3 of grade)
 - Cumulative but emphasizing material not tested on midterms 1 and 2.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at https://www.csum.edu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ae78af01-0291-4d0f-ad97-060861e514d2&groupId=42499. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at Cal Maritime and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

For Campus Policy in Compliance with the ADA section please substitute the following:

California Maritime Academy is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who believe they may need accommodations are encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office (DSO) in the Center for Engagement, Teaching and Learning (disabilityservices@csum.edu,

707-654-1283), preferably within the first two weeks of class. The DSO is located in Laboratory Building Room 110. For more information, see our website: <http://www.csum.edu/web/faculty-and-staff/office-of-disability-services>.

Services provided through the CETL/DOS include:

- Extended time for tests
- Tutoring
- Assistive Technologies/Software
- Proctored tests
- Access to course notes (when available)
- Low-distraction test environment

NOTE: Students requesting disability accommodations for testing must give a minimum of 5 business days notice to the instructor, and if testing in the CETL, to the CETL as well. For clarification, contact Dr. McClendon <mailto:vmcclendon@csum.edu>

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are detailed below. Please see the postings outside the labs to see when classes are scheduled for these locations. Otherwise, hours are listed as below.

Lab Name	Location	Hours
Classroom Computer Lab	Classroom Building Room 105	24/7 Access via Portpass.
Lab 101	Laboratory Building Room 101	Open while building is open.
CETL	Laboratory Building Room 114	Open while building is open.

GMA 100 Spring 2015, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Jan 6 Jan 8	Course overview: topics and expectations Approaches to IR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1
2	Jan 13, 15	The historical context of contemporary IR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2
3	Jan 20, 22	Contending theoretical perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 3
4	Jan 27, 29	The international system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4
5	Feb 3, 5	The state <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 5
6	Feb 10 Feb 12	Discussion and review Midterm 1
7	Feb 17, 19	The individual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6
8	Feb 24, 26	Intergovernmental organizations, international law, and nongovernmental organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 7
9	March 3, 5	War and strife <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 8
10	March 10, 12	Human rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 10
11	March 17 March 19	Discussion and review Midterm 2
12	March 24, 26	International political economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 9
13	March 31 April 2	Holiday International political economy (continued)
14	April 7, 9	Transnational issues: the environment, world health, crime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 11
15	April 14 April 16	Transnational issues (continued) Discussion and review

Grading Policy

- Midterm 1 (33% of grade)
- Midterm 2 (33% of grade)
- Final exam (33% of grade)

Grading Scale:

100% - 90%	= A
89% - 80%	= B
79% - 70%	= C
69% - 60%	= D
less than 60%	= F

(Pluses and minuses will be given on final course grades.)