**Instructor:** Lynda Kellam  
**Office:** 106C Jackson Library  
**Email or chat:** lmkellam@uncg.edu  
**Phone or text:** 336-303-8104  
**Office hours:** By appointment (https://kellam.youcanbook.me/)

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**Course description**
From the economic crisis in Greece to the negotiations over Iran’s nuclear program, the news is full of current events relevant to students of global politics. To prepare you to better understand these events, this course will introduce you to the primary theories and concepts of international relations. In the first half we will explore the primary events that have shaped our world and the theories and concepts that can help explain it. In the second half we will explore a few major issue areas including war, terrorism, transnational issues, and more.

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**Learning objectives**
PSC 240 is a general education course with global (GL) and social and behavioral science (GSB) markers. By the end of this course you should be able to:

- Identify the major actors in international politics and their objectives;
- Identify the key historical events, people, and places that have shaped contemporary international politics;
- Compare and contrast the main theories of international relations;
- Apply theories of international relations (e.g., realism, liberalism, and constructivism) to explain and predict outcomes within issue areas in international politics;
- Use appropriate secondary research methods to investigate topics within international politics.

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**Required texts and tools**
- Bova, Russell. 2012. *How the World Works* (2nd Edition). Boston: Longman. This book is on reserve at the library checkout desk, for sale at the bookstore, and you can find used copies on Amazon. Listed on schedule as HTWW.
- Statecraft Simulation (http://statecraftsim.com). You will need to purchase access to this site. It costs $35 directly from the site and is required for the course.
- I will also post stories from various news sources such as The Economist, The New York Times and the BBC on my Twitter feed (https://twitter.com/LKpsc240). You need to check it regularly both for class and for the reading quizzes.
- We will use Canvas frequently during the class. You must enable notifications in Canvas or check Canvas regularly to keep up with assignments. You will find articles, quizzes, and Statecraft information on Canvas. I will not email out reminders for every assignment.

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**Course requirements**
Your grade will be based on the following components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research project (breakdown below)</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map quizzes</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statecraft Simulation Memos</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simulation Manual Quiz</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simulation Performance</td>
<td>10</td>
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**Total Points Possible:** 1000 points

**Exams: 450 points**
You will take three exams, each worth 150 points. The exams will be a mix of multiple choice questions, identifications, and short answer questions.

**Research project: 340 points**
PSC 240 is a core gateway course for upper-level Political Science classes where you are expected to have had practice researching and writing papers. More information to come, but the research project will be broken down into several parts:

- Refined topic – 20 points
- Annotated bibliography – 100 points
Political Science 240-02: The International System
Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 – 12:15

- Memo to the President – 120 points
- Elevator Talk – 100 points

We will have a library research session during the semester with our class librarian, Jenny Dale (JEDALE2@uncg.edu). Feel free to contact her if you have questions about doing research.

Reading Quizzes: 100 points
We will have 10 reading quizzes worth 10 points each. These quizzes will be available on Canvas and must be finished by 10:00 am on the date assigned on the syllabus. You are welcome to use readings to answer the questions, but you may not take the quiz collaboratively. Also, each quiz will have one question based on current events from that week. You are welcome to use the Twitter feed or other news sources to answer the question. These reading quizzes will help you prepare for the exams and reinforce the concepts we will be learning in class. Skipping out on the quizzes would not be a good idea.

Map quizzes: 30 points
Knowing our world and the location of its countries is fundamental to any understanding of world politics. During the semester we will have 3 map quizzes (on Europe, Africa, and Asia) worth 10 points each. See the course schedule for quiz dates and the textbook for study maps.

Simulation Memos: 40 points
You must post a simulation memo on Statecraft BEFORE each simulation turn ends on Saturdays. These memos must be 300 words in length and I will read them weekly. In class we will talk about what should be in those memos. They are intended to help ensure that students are actively participating in, and thinking about, the simulation each week. Late memos, superficial memos, and memos shorter than the required length will not be counted. If you complete all memos satisfactorily, you will receive all 40 points. Missing memos will lead to penalties as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Memos Completed Satisfactorily</th>
<th>Memo Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>40 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing 1</td>
<td>35 points (minus 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missing 2</td>
<td>20 points (minus 20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing 3 or more memos</td>
<td>0 points (minus 40)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Simulation Manual Quizzes: 30 points
The statecraft manual quizzes will be administered within the Statecraft system and are worth 15 points each. See schedule for due dates.

Statecraft Simulation Performance: 10 points
All countries will receive 10 points for not declaring first strike nuclear war on any other countries. Additional points can be earned based on the achievement of various goals and will depend on your group’s participation in the simulation. A group that excels and hits all goals could potentially earn up to 35 points extra credit.

Attendance:
You have 3 unexcused absences without penalty. After three absences, I will take off 10 points from your total points for each unexcused absence. Leaving early and arriving late count as absences. We will have time for simulation work on most Tuesdays. Attendance at those is required.

Grades
At the end of the semester I will divide your number of points by 1000 to get your letter grade. Letter grades will be assigned using the following scale:

- A 93% and higher;
- A- 90-92.99;
- B+ 87-89.99;
- B 83-86.99;
- B- 80-82.99;
- C+ 77-79.99;
- C 73-76.99;
- C- 70-72.99;
- D+ 67-69.99;
- D 63-66.99;
- D- 60-62.99;
- F 59.99 and below

Class Guidelines
Contacting me:
You have many ways to contact me. If you would like to discuss course content or have a question, you may visit my office (106C Jackson Library) or chat with me through iSpartan. I do not often check email from 5:00 pm – 8:30 am during weekdays, but I typically will respond to emails within 48 hours. I will not discuss grades through email.
Late work:
I do not accept late work and do not make up exams unless you have a documented emergency. Extensions will only be granted in extraordinary circumstances.

Student behavior:
I will treat you like an adult and I expect you to act like one. No disruptive behavior will be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to cellphone use (including texting), inappropriate language, side conversations, and being disrespectful to your classmates. In addition, we will sometimes discuss topics that are politically sensitive or inflammatory, and I expect you to handle these discussions in a mature manner.

Vaping is disruptive in a small classroom environment and is not allowed. If I see this occurring I will ask you to leave the classroom and count you absent for the day.

Arriving to class late is disruptive and should be kept at a minimum. If you are more than 10 minutes late to class, I will count you absent for that day.

You must bring a copy of your readings/textbook, paper, and pen/pencil to every class. I will post my slides in advance of each class, so you are welcome to print and bring those slides. Do not rely on our wireless connection to access readings in class.

Devices:
This is a cell phone free classroom. Students who keep their cell phones out in class consistently perform poorly on exams and reading quizzes, therefore it is in your interest to avoid your cell phone at all costs. If you have your cell phone out in class, I will deduct points from your grade.

You may use a laptop or iPad to take notes ONLY, but you must sit in the front row of the classroom during lectures. If you violate this policy, you will lose your privilege to bring a device.

Recording of lectures and classroom discussions is not allowed. If you have a documented reason for recording, you must ask for permission in advance.

You may not use any cellphones or other digital devices during the exams. You will receive an automatic zero on the exam if you use or have out a cellphone or other digital device. ESL students with translators must have them pre-approved by me.

Students with Special Academic Needs:
UNCG seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for students who require accommodations. Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Disability Services in 215 EUC. For more information, see the ODS website (http://ods.dept.uncg.edu/).

Academic Honesty/Integrity
I have high expectations of student conduct at UNCG and expect all students to abide by UNCG’s Academic Integrity Policy. I take any violations of this policy seriously. Please review the Academic Integrity Policy website (http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/).

You will submit research project assignments through Canvas. This system checks your papers against papers that have already been submitted, websites, article databases, and more for any plagiarism. If you submit work that is plagiarized you will be held in violation of UNCG Academic Integrity Policy.

Schedule (subject to revision as needed)
Week 1 - August 18 & 20 – Introduction
- Readings: Syllabus and HTWW Chapter 1, pgs. 3-8
- Assignment: Explore our Canvas site and sign up for Statecraft Simulation
Political Science 240-02: The International System  
Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 – 12:15

Week 2 - August 25 & 27 – History
• Reading: HTWW Chapter 2
• Assignments:
  o 8/25: Europe map quiz
  o 8/27: Reading quiz 1 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)

Week 3 – September 1 & 3 – Theories of International Relations: Realism
• Reading:
  o HTWW Chapter 1, pgs. 8-19; Mearsheimer, Why the Ukraine Crisis is the West’s Fault (on Canvas)
• Assignments:
  o 9/1: Asia map quiz
  o 9/3: Reading quiz 2 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas); deadline to sign up for Statecraft Simulation

Week 4 – September 8 & 10 - Theories of International Relations: Liberalism
• Reading:
  o Statecraft Manual (on Statecraft site) due by 9/8 at class time; HTWW Chapter 1, pgs. 19-23; HTWW Chapter 5
• Assignments:
  o 9/8: Africa map quiz
  o 9/10: Reading quiz 3 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 9/12: Statecraft manual quiz 1 by noon (on Statecraft)
• Statecraft Turn 0

Week 5 – September 15 & 17 - Theories of International Relations: Constructivism
• Reading:
  o HTWW Chapter 1, pgs. 24-37; HTWW Chapter 6
• Assignments:
  o 9/17: Reading quiz 4 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 9/19: Statecraft manual quiz 2 and memo due by noon (on Statecraft)
• Statecraft Turn 1

Week 6 – September 22 & 24 – Exam and research project work
• 9/22: Exam 1 (covers weeks 1-5)
• 9/24: Library research workshop in location TBD
• No Statecraft Turn (no memo due)

Week 7 - September 29 & October 1 - Foreign Policy Decision-Making
• Reading: HTWW Chapter 3
• Assignments:
  o 9/29: Refined topic due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 10/1: Reading quiz 5 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 10/3: Statecraft memo due by noon (on Statecraft)
• Statecraft Turn 2

Week 8 - October 6 & 8 - Explanations for War
• Reading: HTWW Chapter 4; Huntington, The Clash of Civilizations (on Canvas)
• Assignments:
  o 10/8: Reading quiz 6 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 10/10: Statecraft memo due by noon (on Statecraft)
• Statecraft Turn 3

Week 9 – October 15 – Nuclear Weapons
• Reading: “Nuclear Weapons: Who Has What At A Glance”; Sagan “Why do states build nuclear weapons?”; Waltz, Why Iran (all on Canvas)
• Assignments:
Political Science 240-02: The International System
Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 – 12:15

- 10/15: Reading quiz 7 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
- 10/17: Statecraft memo due by noon (on Statecraft)

• Statecraft Turn 4

Week 10 – October 20 & 22 - Terrorism
• Reading: Hoffman, Inside Terrorism; Kaplan, Terrorism as Theater; Pape, Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism (all on Canvas)
• Assignments:
  o 10/20: Annotated bibliography due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 10/22: Reading quiz 8 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 10/24: Statecraft memo due by noon (on Statecraft)

• Statecraft Turn 5

Week 11 – October 27 & 29 – Catch up & Exam 2
• 10/29: Exam 2 (covers weeks 7-10)
• No Statecraft Turn

Week 12 – November 3 & 5 - International Political Economy
• Reading: HTWW Chapter 7
• Assignments:
  o 11/5: Reading quiz 9 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 11/7: Statecraft memo due by noon (on Statecraft)

• Statecraft Turn 6

Week 13 – November 10 & 12 – Transnational Actors & Environmental Challenges
• Reading: HTWW Chapter 8; Mathews, Redefining Security (on Canvas)
• Assignments:
  o 11/12: Reading quiz 10 due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)
  o 11/14: Statecraft memo due by noon (on Statecraft)

• Statecraft Turn 7

Week 14 – November 17 & 19 - Global futures & Statecraft debriefing
• Reading: HTWW Chapter 9 due by 11/17 at class time
• Assignment:
  o 11/19: Policy memo on your research project due by 10:00 am (on Canvas)

• Statecraft Turn 8?

Week 15 – November 24 – Exam 3
• Exam 3 (covers weeks 12-14)

Tuesday, December 8, 12:00 pm: Elevator Talks in classroom