Introduction to Peace Studies

Prof. Bear Braumoeller
Lecture: MW 2:30 - 3:48 PM
Room 1015, McPherson Lab

Choose a recitation, and use that class number to register for this class:

1. F 9:30 – 10:18 AM (27392)
2. F 10:30 – 11:18 AM (27391)
3. F 11:30 AM – 12:18 PM (27390)

Recitation Location: Room 0136, Jennings Hall
Credits: 5

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the quest for peace. It traces major issues in the field of peace studies and introduces a variety of strategies to achieve peace. Students are encouraged to explore the numerous dimensions of violence and the prospects for peace in our world today. It is hoped that by gaining a deeper understanding of the global dialogue on the meaning of peace, students will be able to participate in creative thinking about how humankind might build societies based on non-violence, social, political, and economic well-being, social justice, and ecological balance.

Fulfills the GEC Social Science & International Issues requirement.
Introduction to Western Europe

Prof. Richard Gunther
T R 11:30 AM-1:18 PM
Room 014, University Hall
Class #: 5695
Credits: 5

This course presents an introductory overview of the historical background to modern Western Europe. It surveys the development of society and politics in seven European countries, as well as the evolution of art, architecture and music from the 11th century until the outbreak of the Second World War.

Prerequisites: None. GEC Social Science, and International Issues course. GEC-R History course.
This course introduces the beginning student to the field of development studies. The subject of development studies is the development process in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The definition of the concept "development" is controversial, but its core idea is improvement in human well-being. Economics has been the leading discipline in development studies, but historians, anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists and others have also made major contributions to the field.

Fulfills the GEC Social Science & International Issues requirement.
Rise & Fall of the Soviet Union

Dr. Tatyana Nestorova
M W 11:30 AM - 1:18 PM
Room 0140, Jennings Hall
Call #: 23549
Credits: 5

This course will provide a general survey of the former Soviet bloc countries with a special emphasis on the diversity of the region. Students will explore the rise and fall of the Communist regimes in Eastern Europe and will assess the nature of the post-Communist changes in the area. Particular emphasis will be placed on the disintegration of Communist Yugoslavia and the role played by the U.S. in this process. Students will be expected to develop an understanding of the prospects and challenges facing Eastern Europe today.

Prerequisites: None. GEC Social Science, and International Issues course.
Introduction to China & Japan

Prof. Alexandre Pantsov and
Prof. Michael Yosha
M W 4:30-6:18 PM
Room 0040, Jennings Hall
Class #: 5697
Credits: 5

This course provides an introduction to the historical and social development of China and Japan. The primary focus of the course is to demonstrate the contemporary similarities and differences between the two countries in regard to geography/ecology, social structure, religious beliefs, politics, and economics. This course will provide adequate preparations for students interested in pursuing other course work in the culture area of East Asia.

Prerequisites: None. GEC Social Science, and International Issues course.
This course is designed for students in any field who wish to gain a foundation in the diverse aspects of the African continent, past and present. Class discussions (lectures, films) will cover such topics as African history, geography, literature, art, music, social life, economics, politics, and government.

Fulfills the GEC Social Science & International Issues requirement.
This course is part of a short-term study abroad program to Indonesia. We will cover three main topics. The first will be an overview of Indonesia with a survey of contemporary politics, economics, culture, society, and modern history. Second, an introduction to the social science debate about the causes and consequences of different approaches to development in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The third part will focus on the Indonesian version of the development debate.

The program consists of two parts: this class at Ohio State followed by a four week study portion in Indonesia at the end of the Spring 2011 quarter.

Prerequisite: Acceptance to the Development in Indonesia, Study Abroad Program.
This undergraduate course provides students with a comprehensive overview of U.S. homeland security. It places homeland security in the context of overall national security and introduces students to the historic, current and emerging threats to strategic interests in the U.S. homeland, with particular emphasis on domestic and foreign terrorism. Students are also introduced to the organizations, laws, strategies, plans, programs and technologies that exist or are being developed to deal with current and future homeland-security challenges. As well, they are prepared to assess systematically, objectively and rigorously various homeland-security problems and issues and to develop and effectively communicate appropriate recommendations to responsible decision makers. Finally, the course acquaints students with government and non-government career opportunities related to various areas of homeland security.

Prerequisites: none
Among the important consequences of the tragedies of 9/11 have been a renewed emphasis upon the importance of intelligence gathering and analysis for the protection of modern societies and a critical concern for the problems and dangers inherent in such a complex and uncertain enterprise. This class will provide the student with a comprehensive introduction to the intelligence arts. After a brief historical introduction to the U.S. intelligence system, the “nuts and bolts” of intelligence collection, analysis, covert action and counterintelligence will be explored.

Prerequisites: None.
The ability to manipulate, analyze, and present data is an essential career tool in the 21st century. Students in this class will be taught the basics of data presentation and analysis, as well as, how to use the most common data analysis and presentation software packages available (EXCEL, SAS, SPSS, Stata and R). Upon completion of the course, students will be able to analyze and present data using the most common software packages in the private and public sectors as well as academia.

GEC Data Analysis course.
From Saudi Arabia to Venezuela: Energy Resources, Market Factors & Conflicts

Dr. Tom O’Donnell
Friday, 12:00 – 2:48 PM
Room 125, Mendenhall Laboratory
Class #: 28147
Credits: 5

What’s oil’s role in the Iraq war, the Iran nuclear crisis, in Afghanistan, or in U.S. relations with Venezuela, Russia, China, Saudi Arabia, Israel and Nigeria? We will analyze the new globalized oil system that slowly replaced the old neo-colonial one during the decade after OPEC’s nationalizations. We then examine the role of this Global Oil System in U.S. geostrategy. Today, 95% of all transport is based on oil. Security of supply is an existential issue for all states. We examine whether bio-alternatives could displace oil, and study the geo-distribution of oil and its alternatives.

We will examine the following questions:

Has an era of “Resource Wars” dawned? Has world oil production “peaked”? Would this mean “an end of industrial society,” massive population reductions” and “world war” between the U.S. and China? Was the Iraq War fought for oil companies? Is a “multi-polar world,” dawning, where OPEC and the BRIC states (Brazil, Russia, India and China) will end U.S. supremacy in the dollar-based oil market?

Lastly, we examine U.S. grand strategy since the fall of the USSR – and how the roles of global oil-market protector and Persian-Gulf hegemon contribute to U.S. world hyperpower status.

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or higher, or permission of instructor.
Power & Business in Russia: from Gorbachev to Putin

Dr. Andrey Shcherbak
TR 9:30-11:18 AM
Room 0136, Jennings Hall
Class #: 5705
Credits: 5

This course explores complicated relations between political and economic leaders in Russia in the 20th century with main focus on post-communist developments. The introductory part includes such topics as role of the “red directors” in the USSR, political leadership in the command economy and the rise of the “shadow economy”. The main emphases are put on political and business elites under Yeltsin and Putin power. Special attention will be given to the emergence of market economy, privatization (economic and political perspectives), the phenomenon of the “oligarchs”, organized crime, the “Khodorkovskiy case”, and power & business relations under Putin and Medvedev and Russia’s response to the global economy crisis.

Prerequisites: none

501 is a topics course which is repeatable up to 3 times or 15 credit hours. Students must choose different topics.
Contemporary Russian Politics

Dr. Andrey Shcherbak
MW 1:30-3:18 PM
Room A0111, PAES Bldg.
Class #: 5709
Credits: 5

Starting with the collapse of the Soviet Union as a point of departure, the course traces the making and unmaking of major political institutions in Russia. This course provides a broad introduction to contemporary Russia from the political perspective. The program of the course will cover such topics as the present condition of presidency and parliamentarism with the focus on comparison of Russian political regimes under Yeltsin, Putin and Medvedev, political parties and elections, political economy, regional development, ethnic conflicts and organized crime.

Prerequisites: none

501 is a topics course which is repeatable up to 3 times or 15 credit hours. Students must choose different topics.
This course explores complicated trajectories of post-Soviet transitional economies with main focus on diversity of both start conditions and policy-makers’ choices. We will investigate how the command economy collapsed; how reformers launched market reforms; why privatization issue appeared to be so complicated. The course also covers such topics as political economy of the Russian state, the “oligarchs” phenomenon, the 1998 financial crisis, the 2004 oil shock, Putin’s policies towards big business and impact of global economy crisis on post-Soviet states, especially Russia. The course has strong spatial dimension: we will try to understand, why transition to market economy shows us such diverse examples as Estonia and Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Belarus.

Prerequisites: None

501 is a topics course which is repeatable up to 3 times or 15 credit hours. Students must choose different topics.
LIVING JERUSALEM: Ethnography & Bridge Blogging in Disputed Territory

Dr. Amy Horowitz
M W 9:30-11:18 AM
Room 145, Hagerty Hall
Class #: 5704
Credits: 5

Living Jerusalem is an experimental course that combines ethnographic, historical, political and cultural overviews of Jerusalem and examines the impact of weblogs (blogs) and video conferences as dialogue points for studying about individuals living as adversarial neighbors in this disputed urban context.

The course provides an opportunity for students at the Ohio State University to enter into a web-based learning environment with Israeli and Palestinian faculty and students as well as to engage with their classmates in face-to-face discussion. Throughout the quarter we will explore multiple histories, contemporary political issues, intersecting cultural practices, cultural borrowing, transmission and appropriation, and disputed claims to cultural legacies.

One of our goals is to better understand blogging as a tool in our study of Jerusalem. Students will build weblogs through which they will offer responses to course readings and other forms of media as well as comment on each other responses and share new materials. We will also explore the use of video conferencing as a vehicle for discussion with Israeli and Palestinian faculty and students in Jerusalem. During the quarter, we will hold 3-5 videoconference sessions with Israeli and Palestinian faculty and/or students in Jerusalem. These sessions will focus on shared readings determined by the instructors at OSU and Jerusalem-based institutions.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or higher, or permission of instructor.

501 is a topics course which is repeatable up to 3 times or 15 credit hours. Students must choose different topics.
Music in Disputed Territories

Dr. Amy Horowitz
M W 1:30-3:18 PM
Room 0395, Watts Hall
Class #: 26888
Credits: 5

This course examines the role that music plays in forging new identities and in crossing political boundaries in disputed territory. Music has played a significant, if not always recognized role in world politics from campaign jingles to revolutionary protest music. We will explore music in the context of performances in daily life, religious ritual, and cultural and political events. From the music of Israeli Jews from Islamic lands to the proliferation of Reggae and Afro-Cuban music in Europe, we will focus on how music defies national and political boundaries and creates unlikely coalitions among listeners and performers. Some of the questions we will ask are: what is the role of technology in the globalization of local music? What is the impact of community upheaval (migration, exile, refugee status,) on music formation and change? The course challenges students to examine the assymetrical encounter and subsequent power relationships between local African, Asian, European, North American and Latin American musical traditions.

Prerequisites: None.

501 is a topics course which is repeatable up to 3 times or 15 credit hours. Students must choose different topics.
RISE & FALL OF GREAT EMPIRES: A Perspective from Geopolitical Economy

Dr. Young-Bae Hwang
TR 3:30 – 5:18 PM
Room 0206, Pomerene Hall
Class #: 26546
Credits: 5

This course is designed to analyze the rise and decline of great empires including, Egypt, China, Rome, and the British Empire by exploiting various theoretical approaches including geopolitics, economic geography, and political economy. Though the focus of the course will be on understanding historical empires, the substantial portions of the course will be reserved to discuss the applications and implications of those historical lessons to the American case since World War I and up to the recent economic woes.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or higher, or permission of instructor.

501 is a topics course which is repeatable up to 3 times or 15 credit hours. Students must choose different topics.
This course will examine various aspects of crime and corruption in post-communist Europe, a region which has witnessed an explosion of transnational crime since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Its focus will be on Russian, Italian, and East European organized crime groups, their activities and enterprises, and U.S., EU, and UN efforts to combat them. Topics will include: drug, cigarette, and organ trafficking; human trafficking; money laundering; small arms and fissile materials dealing; stolen art; stolen automobiles; political corruption; and terrorism. The impact of today’s Russia as well as the Bosnian War of 1991-95 and the Kosovo War of 1999 will also be key themes.

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or higher, or permission of instructor
Economic Development in Developing Countries

Brent Richards
M W  4:00–5:48 PM
Room 010, Page Hall
AEDE Class #: 1236
IS Class #: 5712
Credits: 5

This course is designed to introduce students to the major problems of the developing world and to analyze them using the principles and concepts of development economics. It is aimed at students who want to develop an understanding of real world problems. Initially it will focus on problems of poverty, inequality, unemployment, rapid population growth, and rural development. Later the course will explore issues surrounding the globalization of trade and finance, the transition from former communist to market economies and the interface between sustainability of the environment and economic development.

Prerequisites: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200.
This course intends to extend understanding of the economic issues facing Middle Eastern countries. Building upon basic principles of economics, this course seeks to introduce students to current economic issues from a regional standpoint to shed light on cross-regional similarities and differences. After covering background information on the geography, culture, and social environment of the Middle East, the course will cover each country’s internal situation (e.g. growth, inflation, unemployment, fiscal and monetary policy) and external situation (e.g. import, export, foreign debt, and exchange rate policy). Throughout the course, we will also discuss current events and issues related to Middle Eastern countries.

Prerequisite: AED ECON 200 or ECON 200.
The objective of the course is to help students understand some dimensions of the Latin American economic experience to better appreciate the link between economic analysis and policy and some of the recent development and policy debates. A historical approach will be used initially to analyze the experiences of the major nations over the course of the last century. Key economic concepts will be used to trace the important shifts in Latin American economic thinking, such as the move from inward looking investment programs to structural adjustment as mediated by the oil shocks and debt crises. Major issues such as corruption, poverty, inequality and the environment will also be discussed.

Prerequisite: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200.
China’s Economic Reforms & Globalization

Prof. Ian Sheldon
M W 12:30-2:18 PM
Room 051, University Hall
AEDE Class #: 1239
INTSTD Class #: 5715
Credits: 5

China’s economic reforms have been a success story in economic development. China is a very fascinating country to learn about its social and economic structures and its role and emerging influence on the world economy.

This course introduces China’s economic reform strategies and development transformation during the last 25 years. Main topics includes China’s economic and social institution since the Mao era, China’s resource base and economic institution, mix of market and socialist systems, agricultural and rural development, population and demographics, and the political economy of China’s reforms, globalization and its accession to the World Trade Organization.

Prerequisites: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200.
This course explores recent trends to forge robust rule of law in Mexico and to combat various forms of political violence including electoral violence and political assassination, organized crime, police brutality, death squads, state-sanctioned violence against political opponents and other human rights abuses. Examples of successes and failures from other Latin American nations in combating organized crime, reducing state-sanctioned violence and armed conflicts against the state are closely examined.

The inter-disciplinary readings for the course were selected to analyze the social and legal underpinnings of political violence in the transition from authoritarianism to electoral democracy. We will pay particular attention to the transition in Mexico since 1988.

Prerequisite: Sophomore Standing or Higher.
The terms cultural diplomacy and soft power are used to describe the exchange of information, ideas, art, values and beliefs among nations and their peoples. While hard power focuses on political diplomacy, foreign trade, military might and propaganda, cultural diplomacy deals primarily with non-government organizations and individuals. Cultural diplomacy promotes the appreciation of different national and regional cultural traditions, reduces the tensions of cultural fragmentation and globalization, safeguards peace, defends human rights, balances economic interests and protects sustainable resources.

This course starts by examining different definitions of cultural and public diplomacy employed by U.S. agencies and international organizations like the Department of State, the European Union, the British Council, and the Goethe Institute. Students will then study several scholarly publications dealing with the historical development of cultural diplomacy, with the current debates about soft power, and with issues of cultural internationalisms. Several units will be devoted to specific case studies, including initiatives like Business for Diplomatic Action, the EU as model for a new cultural diplomacy, the recent rise of anti-Americanism, the image of the U.S. in contested regions of the world like the Middle East, and current activities of the Office of the Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or higher.
Peacekeeping & Collective Security

Dr. Donald Hempson
MW 11:30 AM-1:18 PM
Room 002, Lazenby Hall
Class #: 5717
Credits: 5

This course explores the theory and practice of international peacekeeping and collective security, two key multinational responses to international violence. Investigating specific cases in depth, we will try to better understand (1) when peacekeeping and collective security are appropriate, (2) when they are likely to occur, (3) what constitutes success in such operations, and (4) the variables that affect success. Special attention will be given to the differences between traditional peacekeeping, which evolved in the 1950s and 1960s, and the “new peacekeeping,” which is illustrated by various operations.

The key goals of this course are to prepare students to: analyze the evolution of peacekeeping and collective security within the international community and the theoretical distinctions among intervention, collective security, peacekeeping, peace enforcement, and peace building; identify the conditions that allow peacekeeping or collective security to occur and the conditions that enhance its likely success; and evaluate the effectiveness of peacekeeping in particular cases from an international politics, organizational, and interpersonal/social perspective.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or higher.
Terror & Terrorism

Terror and terrorism have been prominent features of Western political culture since the French Revolution. For the most part, modern terrorism is of European origin, and the ideas, goals, and methods of European terrorists have inspired terrorists in non-Western nations. The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the ideology, motivation, and methods of numerous terrorist groups of the last two centuries in order to provide a basis for an understanding of contemporary terrorist organizations.

Specifically, we will address the terror of the French Revolution, anarchism and revolutionary terrorism in 19th century Europe, terrorism in Latin America, European domestic terrorism in the 1960s and 1970s, national liberation and separatist movements, Middle Eastern terrorism, and the impact of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States.

Prerequisites: None.
This course is intended to complement political and economic analyses of the Cold War and its aftermath by focusing on how the United States and the Soviet Union promoted scientific research during their long ideological struggle. Naturally we will examine the importance of mathematics and physics as they produced the technologies of the arms race—especially nuclear weapons, missiles, and satellites. We will also look at research in basic biology, medicine, and public health in both countries, as well as the emergence of the Internet and a computer culture in the United States. Of central importance in this course are the ways that science and technology contributed to the physical and material well being of the people of both countries. By exploring how science and technology helped (or failed to help) the governments of these two countries meet the needs of their people, we will come to a better understanding of why the Soviet Union collapsed in the early nineties, and will be better able to assess the costs of the Cold War for both countries.

Prerequisites: None.
Cooperation & Conflict in the World Economy

TBA
T R 2:30 – 4:18 PM
Room 160, MacQuigg Lab
Econ class #: 20253
IS Class #: 5719
Credits: 5

The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the means of conceptualizing and assessing the impact of the process known as GLOBALIZATION. The contemporary phase of growing economic interdependence of national economies will be put in the historical context of previous periods so that students can evaluate the extent to which the contemporary global economy is something qualitatively and quantitatively unique. Students will explore the major issues and debates regarding free trade.

Prerequisites: Ag Econ 200 or Econ 200, and Econ 201.
This course addresses population growth and the challenges it poses – in particular, the challenge of providing everyone with an adequate diet while simultaneously conserving the natural resources on which agriculture and other economic activities depend. Since human numbers are increasing more rapidly in poor countries than anywhere else, special attention is paid to population growth and the prospects for environmentally sound agricultural development in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The problems arising as a transition is made from communism to a market economy are examined as well since agricultural development has lagged, environmental deterioration has been pronounced, or both in many of the nations experiencing this transition.

GEC Contemporary World course.
Antarctica holds clues to the earth’s past climate stretching back hundreds of thousands of years as well as impacts of potential changes in the future. Yet our understanding of the Antarctica and surrounding environment remains limited making it difficult to formulate practical policies to protect its marine and terrestrial environments. This capstone course first seeks to draw attention to the physical factors controlling the climate before exploring the competing interests and the challenges of implementing any polices in the region. The course then attempts to stimulate objective discussions on factors that must be considered to formulate realistic policies to protect the fragile environments through research based knowledge. The overall goal of the course is to acquaint the students with the global nature of contemporary issues in Antarctica, help them acquire skills needed to develop and then present creative solutions to seemingly impossible problems. Students will be encouraged to draw upon and apply skills acquired in their various majors to tackle the real life challenges posed by potential impacts of changes to the Antarctica and surrounding environment.

Prerequisite: Senior Standing.
Prof. Sharon Houseknecht  
MW 3:30-5:18 PM  
Room 164, Jennings Hall  
Class #: 5723  
Credits: 5

At the present time, hundreds of thousands of children around the globe are suffering from war. This course, Children and War, will explore some of the many ways that children are affected by war. The use of children as soldiers is a common and growing pattern around the world. The children are often forcibly abducted and required to participate. The child soldier phenomenon will be explored, including causes, methods of recruitment, how children are turned into soldiers, the reintegration of child soldiers following war and possibilities for prevention of child soldiering.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or higher.
Globalization & Latin America

Prof. Ana Del Sarto
MW 1:30-3:18 PM
Room 024, Hayes Hall
IS Class #: 26867
Spanish Class #: 26866
Credits: 5

This course explores some of the current debates on globalization in Latin America and recent and interrelated transformations in the economies, politics, and cultures of the region. Three specific "problems" will be examined from several disciplinary perspectives: drugs and drug trafficking, the supposed dissolution of the nation-state, and the rise of indigenous movements. Students will be encouraged to address topics relevant to their major(s) in an interdisciplinary manner. The course is designed around a series of lectures by experts in their fields. This course is cross-listed with Spanish, but is taught in English.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing or Higher.
This course has developed out of the consensus among Middle East experts that a proper understanding of recent events in the Middle East requires more than a casual or narrowly-focused knowledge of the cultural, social, historical, economic, religious and political background of these events. This course will provide students with an opportunity to study, through an in-depth interdisciplinary approach, one of the world's most complex yet important regions which, except for its crises, is virtually ignored in the news media of most Western countries. This course will seek to illuminate the host of factors underlying contemporary issues in the Middle East and in some North African and Central Asian countries. The first 15 minutes of each session will be devoted to discussions and analyses of daily developments in Middle Eastern countries.

Prerequisites: INTSTDS 245 or Junior Standing.
International law is an essential dimension of global governance that affects and shapes the lives of people, the affairs of nations, and the condition of the planet. The objective of the course is to provide students with the foundational and structural forces of international law that shape the content and character of national and international relations. It will examine the complex and varied sources, traditions, customs, functions, and structures of international law and their significance in maintaining stability, order, communication, and continuity between nations, people, and international organizations.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing or Higher.