

Syllabus

Political Geography

POLS 3332-27942

T/TH 12:00-13:20

Benedict Hall Rm 205

Dr. Anthony Kruszewski

Spring 2020

Course Description: The study of political phenomena and the impact of decision-making in their spatial context.

Pre-requisites: POLS 2310 and 2311

Course Context: The course will survey and analyze the basic concepts used in the study of political Geography and relate them to the national policies and decision-making of specific countries. It will further delve into relative strengths of individual countries stemming from their geographical locations. The course will review the political, economic, demographic and social resources at selected countries and relate them to their policies, alliances and conflicts. Lectures based on the Atlas and the textbook will provide particular examples of differences and similitudes between countries. The particular emphasis will be paid to the ethno-national composition of each nation as well as its physical, human, political, and economic potential.

The goals of the course are to disseminate knowledge of political geography of the world and political perspectives determining individual countries' policies. The course is set in the broad comparative and international context. It aims to advance the understanding of the foreign challenges and consequences confronting American decision-making. The framework of contemporary world's problems and dangers emanating from existence of some 200 different nation-states, will be discussed and assessed.

Course development: Part I of the course will be based on the Atlas (which you have to bring to class every lecture), and the Xerox material "Developing Nature of Political Geography" distributed in class. Part I aims at developing a firm base of knowledge of Political Geography in order to be able to understand and assess the theoretical models involved in the geographic linkages with world economic issues and the decision-making on the nation-state and local levels). Part II will be based on the textbook material and lectures.

Course obligations: They include study and discussion of assigned reading materials and lecture-originated discussion, 3 course exams, term paper and final exam. NO late assignments or exams will be accepted except under special (and documented) circumstances. Class attendance is expected and participation in discussion will be evaluated. Students are expected to follow the

Carr, Matthew, Fortress Europe: Dispatches from a gated continent, New Press (paperback, if possible) 2012.

Smith, Dan, The penguin State of the World Atlas, Penguin Books (paperback) 9th edition, 2012.

Territorial Cooperation in Europe. A Historical Perspective, EU 2015

(How to get it FREE ~ 1 copy via EU Bookshop)

<http://bookshop.europa.eu>

Exams: Midterm-March 12Th, Term paper-April 21Th, Final Exam-May 12Th. Type potential exam questions will be given prior to exams in class. Final cannot be rescheduled!!

Evaluation and Grades: As listed. "D"- 60%. C-70%. B-80%. A-90%. Make ups to be arranged within a week after exam. No makeup-an automatic- "F". Reasons for missed Exams to be documented.

Course Policies and Attendance: Academic dishonesty will be immediately reported to the Dean of Students (cheating, collusion, plagiarism, etc.) for disciplinary action. Students will be dropped for persistent absences. No cell phones in class. Last day to drop 4/4/20. Complete withdrawal from the University- 5/8/20.

Office Location:

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Lecture/ Reading Assignments:

January	21 Intro 23 Study of maps and Nation-States (basic) 28 Developing Nature of Political Geography 30 Week 2 sign-up for 3articles to be analyzed
February	4 Study Chap. 1 6 Study Chap. 2 11 Week 3 Black World Map exam 13 Study Chap. 3 18 Study Chap. 4 20 Study Chap. 5 25 Study Chap. 6 27 Study Chap. 7
March	3 Study Chap. #8 5 Study Chap. #9 10 Study Chap. #10 12 Midterm Exam 21 Grades due 24 Territorial Cooperation in Europe 26 Territorial Cooperation in Europe 31 Territorial Cooperation in Europe
April	2 Carr - Chap 1-2 3 Drop 7 Carr- Chap 3-4 9 Carr- Chap 5-6 14 Carr- Chap 7-8 16 Carr- Chap 9-10 21 Carr- Chap 11-12 23 Carr- Chap 13- Epilogue 28 Class Presentation 30 Class Presentation
May	5 Class Presentation 7 Class Presentation 12 Final Exam