Instructor: R.J. Vega
Office Hours: M/W 10:00 am to 11:00 am and by appointment – North Academic Building 152
Office Phone: (310) 233-4698 (phone mail box: #4995) e-mail address: VegaRJ@lahc.edu

Syllabus for Political Science 7 – Contemporary World Affairs

Course Description: An analysis of the basic political, historical, geographic, economic and strategic factors that underlie and influence conflict and cooperation among nation-states, international organizations, and other political actors in the international system.

Class Schedule: Section 0771 - Monday/Wednesday 11:10 am to 12:35 pm – NEA 115
Section 0726 – Friday 8:00 am to 12:10 pm – NEA 115

Class Program and Activities: At the end of the course, the students will have
(1) read the book *International Relations Perspectives and Controversies* by Keith Shimko;
(2) listened to lectures on international relations;
(3) completed seven unit assignments/activities;
(4) answered true/false and multiple-choice questions on six unit tests and the final exam;
(5) written answers to four essay questions;
(6) analyzed and discussed issues on world affairs;
(7) met Harbor College Course Student Learning Objectives (see addendum below)


Program Schedule

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<td>Chapter</td>
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<td>10/1-5</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>War and “Human Nature”</td>
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<td>War and Democracy</td>
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<td>VI</td>
<td>International Law</td>
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<td>Humanitarian Intervention</td>
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<td>VII</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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*Labor Day Holiday; **Veteran’s Day Holiday; ***Thanksgiving Day Holiday – college closed

Unit Tests: Six unit tests are planned (Unit 7 is incorporated into the Final Exam). Unit Test 1 has 20 objective questions. Unit Tests 2 through 6 each have 40 objective questions.

Essay Tests: Four essay tests worth ten points each are planned.
Final Exam: The Final Exam has 80 objective questions (40 questions are on Unit 7 and 40 questions are comprehensive). The Final Exam is mandatory. Failure to take the final exam will result in a grade of F for the class.

Make-Up Test Policy: If good cause can be shown why a test was missed, a “make-up test” may be permitted. If permitted, the instructor will decide the time, format, and increased difficulty of the test.

Unit Assignments: Each unit will have a 10 point assignment. Each assignment will consist of 10 fill-in-the-blank questions plus a bonus question. Each assignment will be due on or before the day of that unit’s test. Any assignment turned in late will be penalized with a two point deduction.

Class Discussions: Participation in class discussions can be an enriching experience. It can stimulate interest, add knowledge, and make the class fun. No one will be penalized for not participating, but the instructor may award up to 20 extra credit points to students who deserve special recognition for their contribution to the class. Any award of extra credit for class discussions is subject to the sole discretion and judgment of the instructor.

Attendance: Attendance is vital. Lacking proof of a valid excuse, a student will be excluded from class on his or her third absence. Also, a student may be excluded following the third time he or she arrives after roll has been taken or leaves before class has been dismissed. Readmission to class may be permitted, subject to no further absence, late arrival, or early departure. No one will be readmitted a second time. If a student has perfect attendance, he or she will be awarded 10 extra credit points.

Honors Credit: Students wanting honors credit must do an original research project designed by the instructor and the student jointly. The project will consist of a paper and an oral presentation to the class. The paper will follow recognized term paper format (e.g., MLA, Turabian, etc.), typed or printed, double-spaced, using legible fonts, 2000 words or eight pages long. The oral presentation will be 15 minutes maximum with five minutes for questions. This project is in addition to all tests and class work. This project is worth 50 points. For more details, see the instructor and the Harbor College honors program counselor.

Extra Credit: No extra credit work will be allowed and no extra credit will be given except for class discussion and attendance.

Student Conduct: Students are expected to act legally and ethically. Cheating and plagiarism are wrong and will be reported to the college administration. Also, students will be respectful to the instructor and fellow students. Students should be sensitive to the feelings of others and tolerant of views different from their own. Profanity is unacceptable. Threats of violence will be reported to campus law enforcement. Any misconduct shall be grounds for exclusion from the class.

Classroom Etiquette: All cell-phones or pagers must be turned off while class is in session. Unless shown to be medically required, no food or drink (except water) is permitted in the classroom.

Grading Standard: Student grades will be based on percentages of the points on tests and assignments weighted by the top and/or average scores of all active students in Political Science 7 this semester. The percentage scale to be used this semester is:

90-100% = A; 79-89% = B; 61-78% = C; 50-60% = D; 0-49% = F

Notice: The instructor reserves the right to make any adjustment to this syllabus that is reasonable and just, following notice to and with the advice and consent of the students.
Withdrawal Dates for fall 2012:

(1) Last day to drop and receive a refund or not pay fee: September 10
(2) Last day to drop without a grade of “W”: September 6 (in person)
       September 9 (on-line)
(3) Last day to drop with a grade of “W”: November 15 (in person)
       November 18 (on-line)

Addendum to Syllabus for Political Science 7

Student Learning Objectives
(Source: Los Angeles Harbor College Course Outline)

"Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

(1) Apply historical and geographic lessons of the past to recent international affairs.

(2) Examine explanations of the causes of war in light of their levels of analysis.

(3) Examine alternative approaches to achieving and maintaining peace.

(4) Evaluate the success of international law, the United Nations, its affiliated non-governmental organizations and international tribunals.

(5) Appraise the impacts of regional economic integration, multilateral economic institutions, and globalization on development and social movements.

(6) Analyze terrorism and United States responses to international terrorism.

(7) Use two approaches to a contemporary dilemma in world affairs."
Instructor: R.J. Vega

Course: ____________________ Section: __________

STUDENT PROFILE,
(please print your responses)

Student Name: ____________________________________________

Telephone Number (optional): __________ e-mail address (optional): ________________________

High School Graduate: Yes Name of High School: _________________________________
No Do you have a GED certificate? Yes No

Harbor College Status (1st year, 2nd year): __________ Number of units this semester: ______

Other Colleges Attended/Attending: _________________________________________________

Major/Minor: ________________________________

Educational Goal (AA, BA, BS, Ph.D.): ________________________________

Planning to transfer to (e.g. CSULB, UCLA): ________________________________

Career Goal: ________________________________________________

Previous coursework in political science: _________________________________________

Have you taken or are you taking College Reading and Composition 1 (English 101)? Yes No

Do you need to make arrangements with Special Programs and Services? Yes No

Employment: No Yes full-time part-time Employer: _______________________________

Apart from a good grade, what do you hope to get from this class? ______________________________