PLIR 4500: Political Behavior in the Global Economy
Fall 2015
(version: 11/22/15)
Tuesdays, 1-3:30 pm
Location: Nau 242

Professor Sonal S. Pandya
Email: spandya@virginia.edu
[allow 24 hours for replies to email]

Office: Gibson 262
Office Hours: Mondays, 4-6 p.m.

Course Description and Goals

This course examines the foundations of public opinion regarding international affairs including war, terrorism, and international economic policy. We adopt a highly interdisciplinary approach that draws on political science, economics, psychology, and business. Students will learn and practice basic skills including academic research and analytical social science writing.

Requirements
Final course grades are based on three requirements.

1. Papers

Students have two options for completing the course’s paper requirement.

Option 1: Four Reading-Based Papers

Students will write four papers based on assigned readings. Each paper is five pages in length (no more, no less), double-spaced, 12-point font, and has one-inch margins. To receive credit papers must be submitted by the student, in hard copy form within the first five minutes of the class in which the paper topic’s will be discussed. Papers that deviate from these terms (e.g. submitted late, emailed to the instructor, submitted by someone other than the student, on a different topic than that week’s scheduled class topic) will not receive credit. Students must also post an abstract of their paper to the Collab discussion site (see below for further details).

Papers will be given letter grades. Students may choose the weeks for which they write papers within the following parameters:

- The first paper must be submitted on September 8 or September 15
- The second paper must be submitted on September 22 or September 29
- The third paper must be submitted on October 20 or October 27
For each short paper, students must STAPLE to their paper a completed copy of the writing worksheet (available on in Collab Resources folder).

Option 2: Independent Research Paper

Students will write an original research paper on a course-related topic of their choosing. The paper is 15-20 pages in length, double-spaced, 12-point font, and has one-inch margins. The paper is due December 16. A hard copy must be delivered to Professor Pandya’s office. Final papers will be given letter grades. Students are required to submit intermediary products of the research and writing process that will approximately match the schedule for the four reading-based papers:

- A proposal must be submitted on September 8 or September 15
- A critical literature must be submitted on September 22 or September 29
- A detailed outline and 2 page summary must be submitted on October 20 or October 27
- A complete rough draft must be submitted on November 17

Students who wish to write a research paper should consult with Professor Pandya at the start of the semester to discuss the scope and requirements.

2. Writing Assignments

Students will complete two writing assignments designed to develop and reinforce specific research and writing skills. Assignments will be distributed one week in advance and are due at the beginning of the following week’s class session. Writing assignments will be graded on the scale: check plus, check, check minus.

3. Class Participation

Class participation is a central element of the course and consists of two parts:

a. Posting discussion questions or paper abstract to the Collab site in advance of class.

For weeks in which there is assigned reading, students are required to post discussion questions about a given week’s readings 12 hours prior to the beginning of class. Questions must critically engage one or more assigned reading, identifying points of discussion for the class. In class, students may be called upon to pose their posted questions in order to initiate discussion. For those weeks that a student as written a paper they may post an abstract of their paper. The abstract should briefly summarizing the
paper’s thesis, evidence, and how it builds upon that week’s assigned readings. Those writing research papers will summarize the main points of their intermediary product and its implications for how the research should move forward. Posts should be a minimum of 1-2 paragraphs (approximately 300 words).

Students can also choose to post course-related current events to the designated Collab forum. Posts should describe the event and reflect on its implications for the course. These posts are purely optional but will contribute to students’ course participation grade.

b. Active engagement in class

Throughout the semester there will be in-class exercises that require students to collaborate and produce some collective output. The instructor will assess each student’s participation/contribution to their group and factor this into class participation grades. See separate handout on class participation for more specific guidelines.

Students who do not provide quality discussion questions prior to class or participate in class discussions will receive lower class participation grades.

Attendance
Students are allowed one unexcused absence during the semester – no questions asked. Students will receive a zero class participation grade for any subsequent unexcused absences. Unexcused absences are those without written documentation of medical illness or other exceptional circumstances. Students who anticipate missing class for official university events (e.g. scheduled athletic events) should provide their schedules at the beginning of the semester.

Composition of Final Grade:
4 short papers @ 20% each = 80% [option 1]
1 Research paper = 80% [option 2]
Class Participation = 15%
Completion of Final Course Evaluations = 5%

Materials
All readings are available electronically on the course Collab site or at the web link indicated on the syllabus.

In-Class Computer Use

Professor Pandya and the students will discuss a policy regarding in-class computer use. Students texting will be asked to leave class for the remainder of the class session and will receive no class participation credit for that class session.
**Honor Code**

All students are subject to the University of Virginia’s Honor Code. If a student has questions about any aspect of this code, he or she should consult the instructor for guidance. Students should take particular care to adhere to standard practices for the citation of published work. For further details see: [http://www.virginia.edu/honor/wnew/links.html](http://www.virginia.edu/honor/wnew/links.html)

**Statement on Violence Prevention**

The University of Virginia is dedicated to providing a safe and equitable learning environment for all students. To that end, it is vital that you know two values that I and the University hold as critically important:

1. Power-based personal violence will not be tolerated.
2. Everyone has a responsibility to do their part to maintain a safe community on Grounds.

If you or someone you know has been affected by power-based personal violence, more information can be found on the UVA Sexual Violence website that describes reporting options and resources available - [www.virginia.edu/sexualviolence](http://www.virginia.edu/sexualviolence).

As your professor and as a person, know that I care about you and your well-being and stand ready to provide support and resources as I can. As a faculty member, I am a responsible employee, which means that I am required by University policy and federal law to report what you tell me to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator's job is to ensure that the reporting student receives the resources and support that they need, while also reviewing the information presented to determine whether further action is necessary to ensure survivor safety and the safety of the University community. If you would rather keep this information confidential, there are Confidential Employees you can talk to on Grounds ([See http://www.virginia.edu/justreportit/confidential_resources.pdf](http://www.virginia.edu/justreportit/confidential_resources.pdf)). The worst possible situation would be for you or your friend to remain silent when there are so many here willing and able to help.
Schedule

**August 25**: Course Overview


**Part I: Theoretical Concepts and Mechanisms**

**September 1**: Foundations of National Identity

*First writing assignment due*


**September 8**: Formal and Informal Political Behavior


**September 15**: Nationalism vs. Cosmopolitanism

*Last date to submit first reading-based paper*


**September 22:** Elite Priming: Media & Elected Officials


**September 29:** Consumption and National Identity

*Last date to submit second reading-based paper*


[October 6: Fall Break, No Class]

**October 13:** In-class writing workshop – bring to class a copy of first paper without identifying information

*Part II: Substantive Applications*

*IIa. National Security*

**October 20:** Terrorism


**October 27: Public Support for War**

*Last date to submit third reading-based paper*


**November 3: Foundations of Interstate Relations**


Joshua D. Kertzer and Brian C. Rathbun. 2015.“Fair is Fair: Social Preferences and Reciprocity in International Politics,” *World Politics* forthcoming.

**IIb. Economic Integration**

**November 10: Climate Change**


**November 17:** International Trade  
**Second writing assignment due**


**November 24:** Immigration


**December 1:** Foreign Direct Investment [Students’ Choice]  
**Last date to submit fourth reading-based paper**


**December 8:** In-class writing workshop: In-class writing workshop – bring to class a copy of fourth paper without identifying information

FINAL RESARCH PAPERS DUE: Hardcopy must e delivered to Professor Pandya’s office by Wednesday, December 16 at 5 pm ET.