



**El Camino College**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official**

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| <b>Course Acronym:</b>              | POLI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Course Number:</b>               | 10H                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Descriptive Title:</b>           | Honors Introduction to International Relations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Division:</b>                    | Behavioral and Social Sciences                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Department:</b>                  | Political Science                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Course Disciplines:</b>          | Political Science                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Catalog Description:</b>         | <p>This honors course, intended for students in the Honors Transfer Program, students will examine the factors that determine the relations between nations and the problems that result from the interplay of these factors. The conditions that can lead to both conflict and cooperation among nations will be examined. Major topics include international security, issues of international political economy, and international organizations. International law and diplomacy are examined as alternative means of resolving conflict. This course is enriched through extensive, rigorous reading, writing, and research assignments.</p> <p>*Note: Students may take either Political Science 10 or Political Science 10H. Duplicate credit will not be awarded.</p> <p>**Note: Some UC transferable courses have credit limitations. For details, see a counselor, the Transfer Center advisor, or the articulation officer.</p> |
| <b>Prerequisite:</b>                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Co-requisite:</b>                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Recommended Preparation:</b>     | Political Science C1000 and eligibility for English C1000 or equivalent                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Enrollment Limitation:</b>       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Hours Lecture (per week):</b>    | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Hours Laboratory (per week):</b> | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Outside Study Hours:</b>         | 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Total Course Hours:</b>          | 54                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Course Units:</b>                | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Grading Method:</b>              | Letter Grade only                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Credit Status:</b>               | Credit, degree applicable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Transfer CSU:</b>                | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Effective Date:</b>              | fall 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Transfer UC:</b>                 | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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| <b>Effective Date:</b>                | fall 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>General Education:<br/>ECC</b>     | Area 2B - Social and Behavioral Science                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Term:</b>                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Other:</b>                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>CSU GE:</b>                        | Area D - Social Sciences                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Term:</b>                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Other:</b>                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>IGETC:</b>                         | Area 4 - Social and Behavioral Sciences                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Term:</b>                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Other:</b>                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>CalGETC:</b>                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Term:</b>                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Other:</b>                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Student Learning<br/>Outcomes:</b> | <p><b>SLO #1 Major Theoretical Approaches</b></p> <p>In a written assignment, students will demonstrate knowledge of the major theoretical approaches to studying international politics including but not limited to: Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, Feminism, etc.</p> <p><b>SLO #2 Causes of War</b></p> <p>In a written assignment, students will discuss and critically analyze the causes of war within the international system of states.</p> <p><b>SLO #3 International Political Economy</b></p> <p>In a written assignment, students will discuss and compare and contrast the major theoretical approaches as they pertain to International Political Economy.</p> |
| <b>Course Objectives:</b>             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify and discuss the major approaches to the understanding and practice of international politics.</li> <li>2. Describe and examine the principal historical elements that established the framework within which nations now interact with one another.</li> <li>3. Identify international institutions.</li> <li>4. Describe the roles of national, international, transnational, and sub-national actors.</li> <li>5. Evaluate the major elements of national power.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                     |

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|                             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Assess the components of power in selected countries.</li> <li>7. Analyze the causes of war.</li> <li>8. Compare the strengths and weaknesses of the principal approaches to maintaining and/or restoring peace among nations.</li> <li>9. Define and assess significant reasons for conflict.</li> <li>10. Explain and discuss the role of economic issues in international relation, their impact on diplomacy, war and peace, and their centrality in relations between developed and developing nations.</li> <li>11. Conduct scholarly research independently to enrich multiple reading and writing tasks.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Major Topics:</b></p> | <p><b>I. Introduction (3hours, lecture)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Realism and Idealism in International Politics</li> <li>B. The Behavior of Nations and Leaders</li> <li>C. Methods to Maintain and Restore Peace</li> <li>D. Roles of National, International, Transnational, and Sub-National Actors</li> </ol> <p><b>II. Historical Overview (6 hours, lecture)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. European Roots of State System</li> <li>B. Collapse of Europe - World War I</li> <li>C. Origin and Demise of the Cold War</li> </ol> <p><b>III. Nature and Sources of National Power (5 hours, lecture)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Power, Influence, and Authority</li> <li>B. Characteristics of Power</li> <li>C. National Core Factors <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Population</li> <li>2. Natural Resources</li> <li>3. Geography</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |

4. Technology

5. Economic Structure

D. Political and Military Organization

**IV. The Causes of War (4 hours, lecture)**

A. The Level-of-Analysis Approach

B. How Wars Commence

C. The Use of Force

D. Conditions for the Successful Use of Force

**V. Approaches to Peace: The Balance of Power and Collective Security (6 hours, lecture)**

A. The Nature and History of Balance of Power System

B. Strengths and Weaknesses of Balance of Power Systems

C. The Nature of Collective Security Systems

D. Problems and Advantages of Collective Security Systems

**VI. Approaches to Peace: Arms Control and Disarmament (3 hours, lecture)**

A. Arms Control and Disarmament in History

B. The Role of Nuclear Weapons - Deterrence and Defense

C. Theories of Nuclear Deterrence and Defense

D. Methods of Arms Control

E. The Logic of Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) - The Balance of Terror

**VII. Approaches to Peace: International Law and Diplomacy (5 hours, lecture)**

A. The Nature of International Law - Strengths and Weaknesses

B. World Peace Through World Law

C. The Nature of Diplomacy

D. Traditional Versus Modern Diplomacy

E. The Uses and Limitations of Diplomacy

**VIII. Implementing Means to Peace: International and Regional Organizations (6 hours, lecture)**

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|                                | <p>A. The Function of Regional Organizations</p> <p>B. The European Union</p> <p>C. Trade Organizations</p> <p>1. North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)</p> <p>2. World Trade Organization (WTO)</p> <p>D. International Organizations</p> <p>E. The League of Nations</p> <p>F. The United Nations</p> <p>1. Role of Peacekeeping and Peacemaking</p> <p>2. Social and Economic Activities</p> <p><b>IX. International Trade (3 hours, lecture)</b></p> <p>A. Free Trade</p> <p>B. Protectionism</p> <p><b>X. International Financial System (3 hours, lecture)</b></p> <p>A. Relations within the Developed World</p> <p>B. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank</p> <p>C. The Role of Multinational Corporations</p> <p>D. Relations with the Developing World</p> <p><b>XI. The Developing World (6 hours, lecture)</b></p> <p>A. The Impact of Imperialism</p> <p>B. The Cost of Development</p> <p><b>XII. International Security and Political Economic Issues (4 hour, lecture)</b></p> |
| <b>Total Lecture Hours:</b>    | 54                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Total Laboratory Hours:</b> | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Total Hours:</b>            | 54                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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| <b>A.1. Primary Methods of Evaluation (Part 1 - CCN courses only):</b>            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>A.2. Primary Method of Evaluation (Part 2 - all courses; choose one):</b>      | 1) Substantial writing assignments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:</b>                     | In a ten- to twelve-page research paper, compare and contrast the two major theories of international relations, realism and liberalism. In your paper you should discuss among other things, what are the strengths and weaknesses of each theory, how have the theories evolved over time, particularly during the last half century with the introduction of its two strands, neorealism and explanatory power and why? Use case studies pertaining to conflict and resolution in world politics in support of your arguments.                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Critical Thinking Assignment 1:</b>                                            | Write a research paper approximately ten- to twelve-pages in length on an issue in International Relations (IR) that interests you. Proceed to research your topic (i.e., war, cooperation, interdependence, role of morality in IR, humanitarianism, globalization, international law, institutions, etc.) and analyze it using some of the major theories in IR that we would have covered throughout the course. By using some of the tenets, assumptions, beliefs, of the theories you will be able to ascertain their usefulness, strengths, and weaknesses in terms of their explanatory power to help answer questions about your specific topic in world events. |
| <b>Critical Thinking Assignment 2:</b>                                            | Write a ten- to twelve-page paper in which you analyze the sources of power in International Politics. Given the changes occurring in world politics do you think the nature of power is being transformed? Are we moving away from the typical measurements of hard power such as GNP, and military spending, and placing more consideration on power being defined as "soft?" Use the Cold War and post-Cold War eras to support your arguments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Other Evaluation Methods:</b>                                                  | Essay Exams, Multiple Choice, Term or Other Papers, Written Homework                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Instructional Methods:</b>                                                     | Discussion, Lecture, Multimedia presentations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>If other:</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Work Outside of Class:</b>                                                     | Answer questions, Required reading, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>If Other:</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Up-To-Date Representative Texts:</b>                                           | Jon C. Pevehouse, Joshua S. Goldstein. International Relations.13th ed. Pearson, 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Alternative Texts:</b>                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Required Supplementary Readings:</b>                                           | Required supplementary reading of articles and/or electronic resources as assigned.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Other Required Materials:</b>                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Requisite:</b>                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Category:</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box.</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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| <b>Requisite and Matching skill(s):</b> Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Requisite Skill:</b>                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s):</b> Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Requisite course:</b>                                                                                                                           | Political Science C1000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Requisite and Matching skill(s):</b> Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).                     | <p><b>This course involves reading college level textbooks, developing written assignments, and answering essay questions. A student's success in this class will be enhanced if they have these skills</b></p> <p><b>Students who have taken Political Science C1000 have knowledge of concepts, theories, and functions of the American political system. This gives them a better chance for success in this course.</b></p> <p>POLI C1000 - Identify the theoretical foundations and the applications of the American political system.</p> <p>POLI C1000 - Analyze major political institutions: the presidency, bureaucracy, Congress, Judiciary, elections, political parties, and interest groups.</p> <p>POLI C1000 - Examine and assess the implementation of democracy, including the different perspectives of elitism, pluralism, and majoritarianism.</p> <p>POLI C1000 - Examine and discuss the process of public policy making in relation to international and domestic policy issues.</p> |
| <b>Requisite Skill:</b>                                                                                                                            | Eligibility for English C1000 or qualification by appropriate assessment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s):</b> Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable | <p><b>Students need well-developed reading skills in order to understand and interpret information in their textbooks and writing skills to develop essays and term papers.</b></p> <p>Summarize, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize college-level texts.</p> <p>Write a well-reasoned, well-supported expository essay that demonstrates application of the academic writing process.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Enrollment Limitations and Category:</b>                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Enrollment Limitations Impact:</b>                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Course Created by:</b>                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Date:</b>                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Original Board Approval Date:</b>                                                                                                               | 12/18/2017                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:</b>                                                                                                            | Eduardo Munoz                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| <b>Date:</b>                     | 09/25/2025 |
| <b>Last Board Approval Date:</b> | 12/16/2026 |
| <b>Effective Term:</b>           | FA 2026    |