POLS 3331.001 – International Relations

Fall 2011 Syllabus, Version 1.0

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer L. Epley

Office Location: Bay Hall 3.41

Office Telephone: (361) 825-2554

Office Hours:
- Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30pm-5pm plus Wednesdays 1-3pm
- By appointment (in case of class or employment conflicts only)
- During busy periods, a sign-up sheet will be hung on the door to reserve slots.
- Please save detailed conversations for office hours instead of directly before or after a class session.

Email: jennifer.epley@tamucc.edu
- Please consider e-mail as official correspondence.
- Efforts will be made to address your e-mail within 48 hours. If you do not receive an email within 48 hours, please send a follow-up email.
- No email correspondence on weekends.
- No email correspondence on the day before an examination.
- E-mail communications should be about class business. E-mail is not the place for summaries of lectures, discussions, or readings, however.
- Please use the subject line in a way that indicates the content of the message. Please also use professional language and include your full name, section number, and a complete inquiry in the body of the message.
- Please keep copies of e-mails that are sent and received for records purposes.

Course Website: Blackboard online (https://iol.tamucc.edu)

Course Section and Location:
POLS 3331.001 International Relations, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00am-12:15pm (BH 126)

Course Description & Objectives:
Political Science 3331 is an upper-division course in International Relations. As per the university course catalog, we will engage in the “examination of the structure and function of the international system focusing on the power relationships among states, international organizations, and the critical issues animating contemporary international relations.” Through a process of collaboration, cooperation, and discovery, we will develop our knowledge base and skills. Substantive knowledge, critical thinking and analysis, developing and defending arguments, and the clear and concise articulation of ideas and evidence will be important components of the discussions, writings, and evaluations in this course.
Learning Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course students will be able to:
- Define and recall factual/conceptual knowledge related to international relations
- Express and interpret theoretical knowledge related to international relations
- Demonstrate and employ facts and data to develop arguments related to international relations
- Appraise and analyze the usefulness of the various theoretical approached related to international relations
- Develop appropriate research methodologies
- Analyze primary and secondary sources for key concepts
- Collect and evaluate data and information for a research paper
- Create a theoretically grounded piece of original research

Required Text:

The textbook website provides excellent resources to students. Example materials include chapter summaries, practice quizzes, flashcards, and different academic exercises. Go to http://nau.cqpress.com/ to access and explore the free website.

Additional readings (paper and online) and websites will be required. These sources will supplement the textbook chapters and the instructor’s lectures. The instructor will provide the copies and links to students in class, via Blackboard, and/or by email.

Performance Evaluation and Grading:
Your final course grade will consist of the following components:

40% Four Major Examinations – Each examination is worth 10% of the course grade. The exam format will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, and short answer.

20% Course notebook/binder – Students are expected to maintain a notebook/binder of original class notes for each chapter and each chapter’s study questions. The course notebook/binder will be collected and graded five times during the semester.

10% Vocabulary Flash Cards – Students are expected to make vocabulary flash cards for key terms from each chapter. Flash cards are due nine times during the semester.

30% Policy Project – In pairs, students will create a policy project and present key findings to the class. Guidelines will be provided on November 1, 2011.

Make-Up Policy:
Late submissions of the course notebook/binder, flash cards, or the policy project are only permitted for students with a documented excused absence for the day of the deadline. Make-up examinations will be given only if you have a documented excused absence. Students are
required to provide the instructor with formal written documentation from a doctor, coach, academic advisor, or other professional staff member appropriate to the nature of the excused absence. Examples of excused absences include religious observances, sickness or other serious medical reasons, officially-sanctioned trips for members of the university’s academic and athletic teams, and accommodations for students with special needs.

Students should provide advance written notice, which will in turn be acknowledged in formal writing by the instructor. If you do not have a written response by the instructor, you do not have prior approval. In cases where advance notification is not possible (e.g., sickness or emergency), students need to provide notice by the end of the second working day after the absence. This particular notification should include an explanation as to why the notice could not be provided in advance.

Make-up examinations may be different in content and format from those given in class.

For documented excused absences, students will have a maximum of one week from the original submission deadline to turn in the course notebook/binder to the instructor. This policy applies to the flash cards and policy project as well. Students will have a maximum of one week from the date of the original event to complete the make-up examination, or if there is less than one week left in the semester, until the last day of the semester at a time designated by the instructor. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor in sufficient time and making themselves available so that the make-up examination is completed within the allowed time.

**Grading Scale:**
A = 90 – 100  B = 80 – 89  C = 70 – 79  D = 60 – 69  F = 59 and below

**Additional Notes:**
No extra credit options are available for this course. No exceptions. Please do not request extra credit from the instructor at any point during the semester.

**Grade Appeal Process:**
*Major Examinations, Course Notebook/Binder, Flash Cards, and Policy Project* – Students have one week from the date that a score is posted on Blackboard for each individual component to make a grade appeal. First see the instructor during office hours to discuss the matter. If after the meeting a student wants to file a formal appeal, he/she should then follow the university’s appeal procedures: [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). Students may also contact the Office of Student Affairs for assistance.

*Final Grade* – As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure.
13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

**Academic Honor Code:** Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code published in the University Student Handbook. The Academic Honor Code is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student’s own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the university community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the university community. Violations of the Academic Honor Code will not be tolerated.

**Students with Disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816 or visit them in Driftwood 101. Please also contact the instructor as soon as possible if you require assistance.

**Veterans:** If you are a veteran who is experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the instructor and/or the Disability Services Office at (361) 825-5816. Veterans can find more information online at http://vets.tamucc.edu.

**Student Caregivers:** If you have caregiving responsibilities (e.g., parent of a child or care for elderly parents) and you anticipate scheduling difficulties, please discuss this at the beginning of the semester with the instructor to work out an appropriate strategy.

**Academic Advising:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and their telephone number is (361) 825-3466.

**Classroom Policies:**
- Be on time to class. Please be considerate of your peers and the instructor by being punctual. Students who are ten or more minutes late without proper documented excuses (see make-up policy section of this syllabus) will result in a 2% penalty on the final score for the course notebook/binder for each infraction. In other words, repeat lateness results in repeat penalties.
- Stay until the end of class. “End of class” means when the instructor verbally releases students to leave. Please do not start to pack up your belongings too early as this is a distraction to other students and the instructor. If you need to leave early (again with a proper documented excuse), please sit in a seat closest to one of the classroom exits in order to minimize the disruption of your early departure.
• Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

• The instructor will assume that prior to class you have made an earnest effort to understand the material. This will allow you to be prepared to engage the material in more detail or address misunderstandings during class. Reviewing “basic facts” will primarily be reserved for examinations, not lectures.

• There will be opportunities for the instructor to answer your questions and for you to engage and discuss important questions with the instructor and your peers. Students are invited to have open discussions and respectful debates during designated periods. Indeed, such debates are essential both for your learning and for progress in political science more generally. To foster an intellectually supportive environment, students should adhere to the dialogue guidelines (see additional handout).

• ***Unless directed by the instructor for specific course activities, the use of laptops, mobile phones, texting devices, entertainment gadgets, music devices, headphones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), etc. is prohibited. Phones in particular should be set to “vibrate” if you must have a phone to receive emergency calls. Phones should not be visible to other students or the instructor. In other words, keep your phone in a bag, backpack, pocket, etc. The abovementioned items limit a student’s active participation, can disturb other students, and distracts the instructor. If a student is found to be using any of the aforementioned technological devices without permission, the instructor will politely request that the student leave the class.***

Academic Dishonesty, Cheating, and Plagiarism:
Academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism of any kind are unacceptable. There are no exceptions. Consequences for academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism include, but are not limited to, a failing grade for an assignment, a failing grade for the course, noncredit for an assignment, additional work, and/or direct referral to university officials.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the use of unauthorized information during a quiz or exam, plagiarism, submitting the same paper for multiple courses without permission, or depriving another student of the ability to perform his or her work. The term cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments, plagiarism; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material
belonging to a member of the university faculty or staff. The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Plagiarism also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling or distribution of term papers or other academic materials. If you have questions about the university’s policy on academic dishonesty, please see the Student Code of Conduct at http://judicialaffairs.tamucc.edu/StudentCofC.html.

Dropping a Class:
The instructor hopes that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with the instructor before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Please refer to the academic calendar online for information about the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Academic Calendar Reminders from http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/academic_cal.html:
- Wednesday, August 31, 2011: Last day to register or add a class.
- Friday, November 4, 2011: Last day to drop a class.
- Monday, December 5, 2011: Last day to withdraw from the University.
- Tuesday, December 6, 2011: Last day of classes and last day to apply for May 2012 graduation.
- Thursday-Friday, December 8-9, 2011 and Monday-Wednesday, December 12-14, 2011: University-wide final examinations period.
- Saturday, December 17, 2011: Fall Commencement.

➢ For the latest information on dates and deadlines, please inquire at the appropriate university office (e.g., Academic Affairs Office, Office of the Registrar, Dean’s Office of your major, main department of your major, etc.), with your academic advisor, and your professors.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Course Topics and Tasks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Thursday, August 25</td>
<td>FIRST DAY OF CLASS&lt;br&gt;⇒ Professor &amp; student introductions&lt;br&gt;⇒ Review of syllabus&lt;br&gt;⇒ Lecture: Academic advice including how to study and take notes</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Tuesday, August 30</td>
<td>Due:&lt;br&gt;1) Read Introduction and Chapter 1 – How to Think about International Relations (pages 1-68).&lt;br&gt;2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of the Introduction and Chapter 1.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Thursday, September 1</td>
<td>Due:&lt;br&gt;1) Vocabulary flash cards for Introduction and Chapter 1</td>
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| 3     | Tuesday, September 6 | (1) Read *Chapter 2 – Perspectives on World History* and *Chapter 3 – World War I* (pages 69-128).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 2* and *Chapter 3*. |
| 3     | Thursday, September 8 | (1) Vocabulary flash cards for *Chapter 2* and *Chapter 3*.          |
| 4     | Tuesday, September 13 | ➤ **COURSE NOTEBOOK DUE AT START OF CLASS**  
➤ **FIRST MAJOR EXAMINATION**: Covers *Introduction* to *Chapter 3*. |
| 4     | Thursday, September 15 | (1) Read *Chapter 4 – World War II* (pages 129-159).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 4*. |
| 5     | Tuesday, September 20 | (1) Read *Chapter 5 – The Origins and End of the Cold War* (pages 160-198).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 5*.  
(3) Vocabulary flash cards for *Chapter 4* and *Chapter 5*. |
| 5     | Thursday, September 22 | (1) Read *Chapter 6 – From 11/9 to 9/11* (pages 199-226).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 6*. |
| 6     | Tuesday, September 27 | (1) Read *Chapter 7 – Terrorism and the World After 9/11* (pages 227-259).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 7*.  
(3) Vocabulary flash cards for *Chapter 6* and *Chapter 7*. |
| 6     | Thursday, September 29 | ➤ **COURSE NOTEBOOK DUE AT START OF CLASS**  
➤ **SECOND MAJOR EXAMINATION**: Covers *Chapter 4* to *Chapter 7*. |
| 7     | Tuesday, October 4  | (1) Read *Chapter 8 – History of Globalization* (pages 261-301).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 8*. |
| 7     | Thursday, October 6 | (1) Read *Chapter 9 – How Globalization Works in Practice* (pages 302-327).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 9*.  
(3) Vocabulary flash cards for *Chapter 8* and *Chapter 9*. |
| 8     | Tuesday, October 11 | (1) Read *Chapter 10 – Trade, Investment, and Finance* (pages 328-360).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 10*. |
| 8     | Thursday, October 13 | (1) Read *Chapter 11 – Miracle and Missed Opportunity* (pages 361-392).  
(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of *Chapter 11*.  
(3) Vocabulary flash cards for *Chapter 10* and *Chapter 11*. |
| 9     | Tuesday, October 18 | ➤ **COURSE NOTEBOOK DUE AT START OF CLASS**  
➤ **THIRD MAJOR EXAMINATION**: Covers *Chapter 8* to *Chapter 11*. |
<p>| 9     | Thursday, October 20 | (1) Read <em>Chapter 12 – Foreign Aid and Domestic Governance</em> (pages... |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, October 25</td>
<td>393-417)</td>
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<td>(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of Chapter 12.</td>
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<td>(1) Read Chapter 13 – Global Inequality, Imperialism, and Injustice</td>
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<td>(pages 418-437).</td>
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<td>(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of Chapter 13.</td>
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<td>(3) Vocabulary flash cards for Chapter 12 and Chapter 13.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Monday</td>
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<td><strong>Due:</strong></td>
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<td>(1) Read Chapter 14 – World Environment (pages 439-462).</td>
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<td>(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of Chapter 14.</td>
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<td>11 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 1</td>
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<td><strong>Due:</strong></td>
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<td>(1) Read Chapter 15 – Global Civil Society (pages 463-488).</td>
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<td>(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of Chapter 15.</td>
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<td>(3) Vocabulary flash cards for Chapter 14 and Chapter 15.</td>
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<td>11 Monday</td>
<td>Thursday, November 3</td>
<td><strong>COURSE NOTEBOOK DUE AT START OF CLASS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FOURTH MAJOR EXAMINATION:</strong> Covers Chapter 12 to Chapter 15</td>
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<td>12 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 8</td>
<td><strong>Due:</strong></td>
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<td>(1) Read Chapter 16 – Global Governance (pages 489-513).</td>
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<td>(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of Chapter 16.</td>
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<td>12 Monday</td>
<td>Thursday, November 10</td>
<td><strong>Due:</strong></td>
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<td>(1) Read Conclusion (pages 514-524).</td>
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<td>(2) Course notebook: Answer study questions at the end of Conclusion.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(3) Vocabulary flash cards for Chapter 16 and Conclusion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 15</td>
<td><strong>COURSE NOTEBOOK DUE AT START OF CLASS</strong></td>
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<td>Policy project day</td>
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<td>13 Monday</td>
<td>Thursday, November 17</td>
<td>Policy project day</td>
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<td>14 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 22</td>
<td>Policy project day</td>
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<td>14 Monday</td>
<td>Thursday, November 24</td>
<td>NO CLASS due to Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<td>15 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 29</td>
<td>Policy project day</td>
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<td>15 Monday</td>
<td>Thursday, December 1</td>
<td>Policy project day</td>
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<td>16 Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 6</td>
<td>Policy project day</td>
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<td>16 Monday</td>
<td>Thursday, December 8</td>
<td><strong>FINAL PROJECTS DUE at the beginning of class &amp; In-Class</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Presentations:</strong> 11:00am-1:30pm</td>
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COURSE NOTEBOOK/BINDER GUIDELINES:

➤ See syllabus for the submission deadlines.
➤ On the front of your notebook/binder, please include your full name, student identification number (A number), the class title and section number, the instructor’s name (Dr. Jennifer Epley), and your preferred email address.
➤ On the top of each page of notes, please indicate the date and the textbook chapter number.
➤ Please avoid loose or missing pages. No late or missing pages will be graded. No exceptions.

(1) Quantity
• Your notebook/binder must include notes for each chapter’s study questions.
  o Minimum Length: 1 page of notes for each chapter’s study questions
  o Maximum Length: None
• Your notebook/binder must include notes for each textbook chapter.
  o Format style: “metacognitive note-taking” (see handout)
  o Length: 1 page only for each chapter

(2) Quality
• Notes may be typed or handwritten. Please write legibly. Scores cannot be provided if the writing is unclear.
• The best notes answer the following questions completely and accurately:
  o Who are the actors?
  o What are their preferences/interests?
  o How do they get their preferences/interests?
  o What are the consequences?
• Students are responsible for creating original notes. Do not copy notes from other students. To repeat an earlier section of the syllabus: Academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism of any kind are unacceptable. There are no exceptions. Consequences for academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism include, but are not limited to, a failing grade for an assignment, a failing grade for the course, noncredit for an assignment, additional work, and/or direct referral to university officials. The aforementioned consequences are dependent upon the severity of the infraction.

VOCABULARY FLASH CARDS GUIDELINES:

➤ See syllabus for the submission deadlines.
➤ Please write legibly. Scores cannot be provided if the writing is unclear.
➤ 3x5 cards preferred; 4x6 cards permitted. Cards can be with or without lines. Cards can be in any color. Label the front of a plastic bag or small container with your name, student number, class and section, and the instructor’s name (Dr. Jennifer Epley).
➤ On one side of each card should be the vocabulary word from the designated chapters. The list of vocabulary words can be found at the end of each chapter in the blue box called “Key Concepts.” On the other side of the card should be the term’s definition and whenever possible a specific example or application of the term.
➤ Students should use the formal definitions provided by the textbook, but are also welcome to include formal definitions from additional political science resources. Cite sources as needed.