

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PPOL 650

INTERNATIONAL LAW, POLICY, AND POLITICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

International Law, Policy, and Politics will provide an introduction and overview of the dynamic interplay between peoples, nations, governments and international organizations. This course introduces the student to both the history and the current status of international relationships, including the rise and impact of globalism, the global influences of radical Islam, and the shifting influence and power of nations.

RATIONALE

Over the last twenty years we have observed a definitive global shift with the fall of communism and the rise of terrorism. During this time humanity has witnessed the economic and military strength of nations wax and wane, centers of influence change as the role of the traditional superpower is altered, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) assume varied functions in responding to international crises. Interwoven throughout history and world events is the involvement of international law and policy. Used to assist in accommodating the diverse interests of multiple parties, international law has morphed into its own legal system of sorts, recognized by countless national governments and NGOs. According to Henderson, international law and policy are “indissolubly intertwined” as politics and law shape and guide each other on the worldwide scale.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Define major groups and thoughts that dominate the international political scene.
- B. Identify major groups in the rise and impact of globalism.
- C. Identify major groups in the rise and impact of radical Islam.
- D. Critically analyze present laws and policies in the international arena.
- E. Describe the benefits and difficulties with the United Nations on the international stage.
- F. Articulate a biblical worldview toward international law and policy.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (5)

There will be 5 Discussion Board Forums throughout this course. The student is required to create a thread in response to the provided topic for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 250 words.
- D. Reading Summary and Reflective Comments

The student will summarize and reflect on the main principles of the assigned readings in Modules/Weeks 1–7. The student must critique ideas in light of a biblical worldview. The summaries must be at least 100–125 words, and the reflections must be at least 150–200 words.
- E. Issue Analysis Paper

The student will submit a paper analyzing an issue related to the intersection of international law, policy, politics, and diplomacy. The student must identify a major international crisis, provide a factual background, collect data describing the process used to resolve the crisis, explain whether the plan used was the best course of action, and explain the outcome. The student is required to compare the effectiveness of the plan in light of all the international issues, identify the specific strengths and weaknesses of the approach, and note how diplomacy was used to address the crisis. The student must also include a review of alternate plans that may have been effective in resolving the issue. The assignment must be 5–7 pages.

F. Book Review

After reading *Our Global Neighborhood*, the student will write a 5–7 page paper on the information in the book. For the first third of the paper, the student will summarize the book. In the second third of the paper, the student will critique and evaluate the book. In the final section, the student will apply the reading to current events in public policy.

G. Final Briefing Paper:

The student will prepare a policy briefing paper assessing a current public policy in light of principles found in international law, policy, and politics studied in this course. The student must assume the role of a policy maker, using the paper to advocate for a specific policy. The goal is to prepare a final report for a “client” or “principle” of 10–15 double-spaced pages exclusive of an abstract, references, and appendices. Citations must be consistent with the current Turabian style guide.

1. Briefing Paper Topic Proposal

The student will submit a 1-paragraph Topic Proposal paragraph which identifies the policy problem that will be analyzed in the Final Briefing Paper.

2. Briefing Paper Annotated Bibliography

The student will create an annotated bibliography in current Turabian format which consists of 10–15 scholarly citations that will be used in the Final Briefing Paper. Each annotation must be 200–250 words. For each annotation, the student will give a description of the value of the source for the Final Briefing Paper as well as of the author’s credibility.

3. Briefing Paper Outline

The student will create a full outline for the Final Briefing Paper.

4. Briefing PowerPoint Presentation

The student will create a 10–15-slide PowerPoint presentation about the current public policy he/she has chosen to assess for the Final Briefing Paper.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

| | |
|--|-----|
| Course Requirements Checklist | 10 |
| Discussion Board Forums (5 at 50 pts ea) | 250 |
| Reading Summary and Reflective Comments (7 at 25 pts ea) | 175 |
| Issue Analysis Paper | 100 |
| Book Review | 100 |
| Final Briefing Paper | 175 |
| Briefing Paper Topic Proposal | 25 |
| Briefing Paper Annotated Bibliography | 50 |
| Briefing Paper Outline | 50 |
| Briefing PowerPoint Presentation | 75 |

Total 1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 679 and below

C. Plagiarism and other Academic Misconduct

All academic misconduct, including but not limited to all forms of plagiarism, is strictly prohibited. See the Graduate Catalog for specific definitions, penalties, and processes for reporting.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PPOL 650

Textbooks: Commission on Global Governance, *Our Global Neighborhood* (1995).
 Henderson, *Understanding International Law* (2010).
 Payne, *Global Issues; Politics, Economics, and Culture* (2017).
 United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations* (2009).

| MODULE/ WEEK | READING & STUDY | ASSIGNMENTS | POINTS |
|-------------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Henderson: chs. 1–2 Payne: chs. 1–2 1 presentation 1 website | Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 1 | 10 0 50 25 |
| 2 | Henderson: chs. 3–5 Payne: chs. 3–4 United Nations: Entire Text 1 presentation | DB Forum 2 Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 2 Briefing Paper Topic Proposal | 50 25 25 |
| 3 | Henderson: chs. 6–8 Payne: chs. 5–6 3 presentations | DB Forum 3 Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 3 Issue Analysis Paper | 50 25 100 |
| 4 | Henderson: ch. 9 Payne: chs. 7–8 1 presentation 1 website | DB Forum 4 Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 4 Briefing Paper Annotated Bibliography | 50 25 50 |
| 5 | Henderson: chs. 10–11 Payne: ch. 9–10 2 presentations | DB Forum 5 Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 5 Briefing Paper Outline | 50 25 50 |
| 6 | Payne: chs. 11–12 Our Global Neighborhood: Entire Text 1 presentation | Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 6 Book Review | 25 100 |
| 7 | Payne: chs. 13–14 1 presentation | Reading Summary and Reflective Comments 7 Briefing PowerPoint Presentation | 25 75 |
| 8 | Henderson: ch. 12 1 presentation | Final Briefing Paper | 175 |
| TOTAL | | | 1010 |

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.