

## **College of Charleston**

### **POLITICAL SCIENCE 405.002**

#### **Capstone Seminar: Politics at Home and Abroad**

**Dr. Guoli Liu**

**Spring 2009**

**Maybank Hall 316, Tuesday and Thursday 9:25-10:40 am**

**Office: 114 Wentworth Street, Room 103**

**Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:00-12:00, and by appointment**

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This Capstone seminar examines the dynamic interaction of domestic politics and foreign affairs. We are facing serious political, strategic, and socioeconomic challenges at home and abroad. In addition to critical theoretical analysis of the linkages between domestic politics and international affairs, we are going to examine the major challenges that confront citizens and policymakers in many countries. A special focus of our analysis will be the domestic sources of foreign policy in the era of globalization. In this seminar, we emphasize intensive reading and writing, independent research, and application of theories and key concepts to new problems and cases. You will have the opportunity to go beyond comprehending the views of others to articulate and defend your own positions on key issues in domestic politics and foreign policy. All students in this seminar will actively participate and play leadership roles in the College of Charleston Model United Nations on April 10-11, 2009. This model UN will help us to understand numerous challenging issues in the global agenda. A "local-global connections survey" that each student will conduct will help us to appreciate the rapidly growing interaction of local, national, and global affairs.

The Capstone seminar is designed as a culminating experience for political science majors. It should enable you to put into practice the knowledge, values and skills you have developed as political science majors. Registered students will normally have 27 completed hours in the major. The capstone experience include: intensive reading and writing, independent research, an integrative experience, opportunity to apply theories and concepts to new problems and cases, and the opportunity to go beyond comprehending the views of others to articulate and defend one's own views. This seminar will enhance your understanding of the connection between politics and diplomacy, improve your skills of scientific political analysis, and enrich your theoretical insights on the changing reality of local, national, and global life.

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENT AND GRADING POLICY**

You are expected to (1) complete and study carefully all required reading; (2) address

significant questions and articulate well-informed positions on key issues, (3) write an analysis paper and present your paper to the class, (4) participate in the College of Charleston Model United Nations, (5) complete a local-global connection survey, and (6) conduct independent research for a paper and present the paper to the class. You must attend all the seminars, come to every class well prepared, and participate actively and constructively in the discussion. Because of the substantial amount of reading for this seminar, I strongly encourage everyone to start reading the required texts today and move ahead as quickly as possible. Please make notes of your comments and questions about the reading. We will refer to the required reading frequently in our seminar.

You will be evaluated on the basis of your performance of one analysis paper (10)% and presentation (10%), participation in the College of Charleston Model United Nations and a written report about your role in the model UN (10%), class participation including two written participation reports (20%), a local-global connection survey (10%), a research proposal with annotated bibliography (10%), the final research paper (30%) and a research presentation (10%). The lowest ten percent of your grade will be dropped from the final grade. Careful preparation and active class participation are essential for the success of this seminar.

The most significant assignment will be the independent research project. It is designed to give you the opportunity to apply the research and writing skills you have developed as political science majors. You must go beyond what other researchers have done and conduct an original analysis. The research paper should be a serious, substantial piece of independent research (20-25 pages, double-spaced). The topic is to be chosen by you, and you are encouraged to use this opportunity to investigate an issue in which you have substantial interest. You can come see me, or email me, as often as necessary to formulate a topic and discuss the progress of your research. The proposal should indicate what question you intend to address, why the question is significant or interesting, and how you intend to answer it. The preliminary list of sources should be a fairly comprehensive bibliography. The paper is expected to be a scholarly paper, with all that the phrase entails: footnotes, bibliography, a coherent structure, and familiarity with relevant literature. It is important to cite all of your sources accurately. For all of your paper references and citations, please carefully study and follow the “Department of Political Science Guide to Referencing” (<http://polisci.cofc.edu/PDF/POLSCitationGuide5-16-6.pdf>). Although this paper is due at the end of the semester, you will need to begin working on it immediately. Thus, there are a series of benchmarks throughout the semester to insure that you make adequate progress. A one-page research paper proposal is due by Thursday, February 5. **A research proposal with annotated bibliography is due by Thursday, February 19.** By that point in the semester you should have located most of the materials you will be using. You will present and defend your proposal in class. The draft paper is due on Tuesday, March 24. Research presentation will begin on Thursday, April 2. **The final version of the paper is due in class on Thursday, April 23.** Please plan well in advance, work hard, and complete your paper on time. Late paper will be graded down one full letter grade for each day that it is late.

**Electronic Submission: NO written work may be submitted to me electronically for credit under any circumstances.** You must have legible printed copies of papers for me to

collect when assignments are due.

Due to the intensive nature of this seminar, regular attendance and participation in class is required. A class sign-up sheet will be distributed at the beginning of each class. You must come to every class on time and remain active until the end of the class. You are allowed a maximum of **two unexcused absences** during the semester; additional absences, unless you can clearly prove personal emergencies or illnesses, will result in the loss of 2 points each additional time. This course will only work successfully if everyone attends class regularly, comes prepared, and participates in discussion. I reserve the right to call on students who do not take the initiative to involve themselves in the discussion. The readings are designed to provoke, and discussion will focus on the readings and the issues they raise. Contributions to class discussion should be informed by the assigned material, although you are of course encouraged to bring to discussion knowledge, ideas, and opinions you have acquired outside the class. It is also essential that students tolerate competing views and treat each other with respect.

<u>Grading Scale:</u>	A	93-100	A-	90-92
	B+	88-89	B	83-87
	B-	80-82	C+	78-79
	C	73-77	C-	70-72
	D+	68-69	D	63-67
	D-	60-62	F:	Below 60

Any student with a diagnosed learning or psychological disability which impedes your carrying out required course work, or which requires special accommodations, should advise me during the first two weeks of the course so we can review possible arrangements for reasonable accommodations.

Academic honesty is very important! When you enrolled in the College of Charleston, you signed the Honor Code. I expect you to abide to the code and it is the only way to maintain the integrity and value of your degree. You will fail this course if you have found to have cheated on an exam or plagiarized any portion of your paper. I will turn the case of Honor Code violation to the Honor Board and vigorously pursue further disciplinary action. Everyone must highly value academic integrity and abide to the Honor Code.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS**

The following required textbooks are available from the College Bookstore. For each important topic especially for the topics that you are conducting independent research, you must go beyond our required reading to search for additional library sources. Please frequently visit [www.un.org](http://www.un.org) to study basic information and key documents of the United Nations. You should spend some time navigating this site. You will find a rich set of links on many topics and issues that will help you to better understand diplomacy and politics in the contemporary world.

1. Steve Smith, Amelia Hadfield, and Tim Dunne eds., *Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
2. David M. Lampton, *The Three Faces of Chinese Power: Might, Money, and Minds*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008.
3. William H. Overholt, *Asia, America, and the Transformation of Geopolitics*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008.
4. George C. Herring, *From Colony to Superpower: US Foreign Relations since 1776*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
5. *Global Issues: Selections from the CQ Researcher*. 2008 edition. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2008.
6. Zbigniew Brzezinski and Brent Scowcroft, *America and the World: Conversations on the Future of American Foreign Policy*. New York: Basic Books, 2008
7. Donald J. Puchala, Katie Verlin Laatikainen, and Roger A. Coate, *United Nations Politics: International Organization in a Divided World*. Upper Saddle River: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007.
8. *The New York Times*. Monday through Friday-subscriptions available from the College of Charleston Bookstore. You can also read most of the paper online at [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com). It is important for you to keep up with current events.

### RECOMMENDED TEXTS

9. Kurt Taylor Gaubatz, *Elections and War: The Electoral Incentive in the Democratic Politics of War and Peace*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1999. [E Resource]
10. Lisa L. Martin, *Democratic Commitments: Legislatures and International Cooperation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000. [E Resource]
11. Kenneth A. Schultz, *Democracy and Coercive Diplomacy*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2001. [E Resource]
12. Paul Gordon Lauren, Gordon A. Craig, Alexander L. George, *Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Challenge of Our Time*. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.
13. Paul Kennedy, *The Parliament of Man: The Past, Present, and Future of the United Nations*. New York: Random House, 2006.

14. David Shambaugh, *Power Shift: China and Asia's New Dynamics*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005. [E Resource]
15. Robert J. Art, *A Grand Strategy for America*. Ithaca; Cornell University Press, 2004.
16. Peter B. Evans, Harold K. Jacobson, and Robert D. Putnam eds., *Double-edged Diplomacy: International Bargaining and Domestic Politics*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993. [E Resource]
17. Bruce M. Russett and John R. Oneal, *Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence, and International Organizations*. New York: Norton, 2001.

The following scholarly journals may provide useful resources for your independent work:

*American Political Science Review*  
*Foreign Affairs*  
*International Organization*  
*International Studies Quarterly*  
*Journal of Conflict Resolution*  
*Journal of Politics*  
*Political Science Quarterly*

*Asian Survey*  
*Foreign Policy*  
*International Security*  
*International Political Science Review*  
*Journal of Peace Research*  
*Perspectives on Politics*  
*World Politics*

## COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Introduction
  - Smith, Hadfield, and Dunne, Foreword and Introduction
  - Lauren, Craig, and George, Preface and Introduction.
  - (Deadline for completing the reading, January 13)**
2. Theoretical and Historical Perspectives
  - Smith, Hadfield, and Dunne, Chapters 1-4.
  - Robert D. Putnam, "Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games," *International Organization* 42, 3 (Summer 1988): 427-460 (JSTOR).
  - Lauren, Craig, and George, Chapters 7-10.
  - Shambaugh, Chapters 11-12.
  - (January 15)
3. Actors, Contexts, and Goals
  - Smith, Hadfield, and Dunne, Chapters 5-11.
  - (January 20)
4. From the Past to the Present
  - Herring, the entire book.

Smith, Hadfield, and Dunne, Chapters 12-20.  
Lauren, Craig, and George, Chapters 1-6.  
(January 27)

5. Debating Global Issues  
*Global Issues*, the entire book.  
(February 3)

**The analysis paper is due in class on Tuesday, February 10.**

6. Economic Globalization, Trade, and Diplomacy  
Lampton, Chapter 3.  
Shambaugh, Chapters 3-4.  
(February 12)

**A proposal with annotated bibliography is due by Thursday, February 19.**

7. Might, Money, and Minds  
Lampton, Chapters 1, 2, 4.  
(February 19)
8. Asia, America, and Geopolitics  
Lampton, Chapters 5-7.  
Overholt, the entire book.  
Shambaugh, Introduction, Chapters 1-2; 5-10, 15-16.  
(February 26)

**Spring break, March 1-7.**

9. Democracy, War and Peace  
Russett and Oneal, the entire book.  
Gaubatz, the entire book.  
Martin, the entire book.  
(March 10)
10. The United Nations and World Politics  
Puchala, Laatikainen, and Coate, the entire book.  
Kennedy, the entire book.  
(March 17)
11. College of Charleston Model United Nations practice  
*Delegation Handbook*, will be distributed in class in advance.  
(March 24)

**The draft research paper is due on Tuesday, March 24.**

12. America and the World  
Brzezinski and Scowcroft, Introduction and Chapters 1-6.  
Art, Introduction, Chapters 1-2.  
(March 31)

**Research presentation will begin on Thursday, April 2.**

13. A Grand Strategy for America and Future of American Foreign Policy  
Brzezinski and Scowcroft, Chapters 7-8.  
Art, Chapters 3-7.  
Shambaugh, Chapters 13-14.  
(April 7)

**College of Charleston Model United Nations, April 10-11.**

14. The Future of Politics at Home and Abroad  
Smith, Hadfield, and Dunne, Conclusion.  
Lauren, Craig, and George, Chapter 12 and Conclusion.  
(April 16)

**The final research paper is due in class on Thursday, April 23.**