

CPO 4761: Religion and International Politics

Spring 2023 (Section 15829)

ONLINE

Department Phone: 474-2929

Office and Office Hours: Bldg 50/Rm 126, MW 9:30-11:00 and remote TR, F 10:00-11:00 or by appointment

Instructor: Jacob Shively

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Course Description

"The Pope! How many divisions does he have?" – Joseph Stalin

"One person with a belief is a social power equal to ninety-nine who have only interests."

– John Stuart Mill

"God is the real superpower." – Osama bin Laden

This course analyzes how religious beliefs and institutions shape politics that cross borders. It draws upon an array of writings to examine major global phenomena like the religious roots of international order; religious challenges both to modern states and to recent globalization; and activism amongst global religious movements. In turn, the course concentrates on two major issues for scholars, policy-makers and citizens alike: 1) international religious extremism and violence and 2) religious influences on – and targets of – U.S. foreign policy. Examples of topics covered along the way include Evangelical activism and ideologies, religious terrorism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will evaluate major issues regarding how religious beliefs and practices interact with international politics.
- In small groups, students will identify and share with the larger class multiple perspectives on controversial cases and issues.
- Students will analyze three major issue areas in the context of assigned and recommended readings with a series of response papers.
- Students will demonstrate communication skills through written assignments and class presentations.

Topics

- The modern roots of our current relationship between religion and international politics.
- How religion is frequently applied to mobilize believers for political ends.
- The relationship between religion and conflict, especially war.
- How religious beliefs and traditions inform the formulation and practice of US foreign policy.

Course Materials

- An assortment of readings in PDF and other formats provided on Canvas under our weekly assignments.

Course Requirements

The course requires quizzes worth 15%, participation worth a total of 20% and three papers worth 20%, 20% and 25%.

Participation Most weeks, the topic includes a discussion forum. The guidelines and requirements may vary, but details will appear on the forum assignment. In general, I prioritize considered, thoughtful contributions over many contributions. You can refer to the “Shively Online Discussion Rubric” for more information on expectations for the discussion forums.

*This course demands that you formulate and articulate both your analysis and opinions of sensitive topics. I expect and demand respect for others as individuals as well as a good faith effort to understand and honor views and perspectives not your own.

Quizzes

Many weeks include one multiple choice quiz. It will be on Canvas and will cover that week’s material.

Papers Papers will be due as stated below on the course schedule. The week the papers are due, you will receive a pair of questions/topics, and you will choose one for your paper. These assignments should be seen as a cross between a take-home exam and a short term paper: you will be dealing with an assigned topic from the course and using course materials, but you’ll need to format your work and arguments as a position paper.

Details on paper assignments and the optional presentation appear on the final page of this syllabus.

PAPER GRADING I will consider how well you followed directions as well as focused tightly on your given topic; your mastery (i.e. correct understanding and general use) of the readings; your argument’s clarity, consistency and accuracy; the paper’s overall structure and logic; overall clarity and grammar. We will discuss the papers further as they arise.

If you are struggling with your paper or feel unsure about how to improve your work, feel free to contact me or the University Writing Lab: <http://uwf.edu/writelab/>.

*You MUST turn in all three papers or you may receive a failing grade for the course. Plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty (see below) may also result in a failing grade for the assignment and the course.

Letter Grades

94% or better	A	87% to 89%	B+	77% to 79%	C+	67% to 69%	D+
90% to 93%	A-	83% to 86%	B	73% to 76%	C	60% to 66%	D
		80% to 82%	B-	70% to 72%	C-	59% or less	F

Academic Conduct

PLAGIARISM and ACADEMIC DISHONESTY involve adding others’ words to your text as if they were your own and will not be tolerated. For University policies on plagiarism and other misconduct, see the Student Code of Conduct: <http://uwf.edu/osrr/documents/BOTApprovedStudentCodeofConduct-2010edition.pdf>.

Assistance for Students with Special Needs

If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) at <http://uwf.edu/sdrc/internal/>, which requires documented needs of the individual. For information, e-mail sdrc@uwf.edu or call 850.474.2387.

Career Development & Community Engagement

Career Development & Community Engagement (CDCE) is a free, on-campus resource designed to equip UWF students and alumni with the tools necessary for professional success. CDCE is located in Building 19 and offers resume reviews, assistance with your job or internship search, interviewing tips, and many other strategies to become career ready. For more information, check out Handshake (uwf.joinhandshake.com), visit uwf.edu/career or call 850-474-2254.

Military & Veterans Services

The UWF Military & Veterans Resource Center (MVRC) serves as a leading campus advocate for military and veterans students, working to ensure the needs of these individuals are met through coordinating with multiple university offices and services. The center provides assistance with the following: GI Bill[®] education benefits, active duty tuition assistance, out of state fee waiver, tutoring, paper reading, counseling, disability accommodations, coordinating academic advising and referral to state /federal resources and services. The MVRC is located in bldg. 38. For more information on MVRC services, call 474-2550 or visit <http://uwf.edu/militaryveterans>.

Your Major

If you are interested in but not yet a major in **Political Science, Pre-Law, or International Studies** you should contact **The Department of Government at 474-2929**. If you are undecided about your major you should contact your academic advisor or the Career Center at 850-474-2254.

Course Modality

Faculty may opt to hold some class meetings or other course material in a modality/format other than that originally designated in order to ensure that instruction continues despite unforeseen interruptions. University of West Florida operations and/or individual course sections may be disrupted from time to time by weather, pandemics, and other emergencies. At the start of an academic term, faculty may require student access to devices that enable electronic or other contingent course delivery. For example, in the event of a hurricane, faculty may reschedule assignments or move some face-to-face class meetings or other material online.

Recording in Class

According to Florida Statute 1004.97, students may, without prior notice, record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as an educational presentation delivered by faculty or guest lecturer, as part of a University of West Florida course, intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. The following actions are prohibited: recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab sessions, student presentations (whether individually or part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), clinical

presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of UWF-REG 3.010 Student Code of Conduct and may be a violation of the law.

Course Schedule*

*Readings not in assigned texts will appear in PDF form in eLearning > Course Materials>Content
Some dates and assignments may be changed. I will announce these by email and in class.

<u>Week 1</u> Jan 9	<u>Introduction</u> <u>Realism and Secular States</u> - Haynes 14-23 - Rowe 3, 6-16
<u>Week 2</u> Jan 16	GLOBAL RELIGION and GLOBAL POLITICS <u>Political Theology</u> - Jurgensmeyer and Kitts ch 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 - Hamid, " The Roots of the Islamic State's Appeal "
<u>Week 3</u> Jan 23	<u>The Modern States System</u> - Haynes ch 4 (76-82) - Berger, Peter (2013) "Can Judges Define the Structure of the Universe?"
<u>Week 4</u> Jan 30	<u>Globalization</u> - Haynes ch 10 - M&W, Introduction
<u>Week 5</u> Feb 6	<u>Interaction Zones</u> - Huntington, Samuel (1993) "The Clash of Civilizations?" <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 72(3): Summer. 22-40. - Shively, (2016) "Clash of Civilizations" <i>SAGE Encyclopedia of War</i>
<u>Week 6</u> Feb 13	<u>Analysis #1</u> ANALYSIS PAPER 1 DUE
<u>Week 7</u> Feb 20	ACTIVISM and VIOLENCE <u>Mobilization</u> - Haynes, ch 5 - Rowe (2016) "Religious Movements and Religion's Contribution to Global Civil Society"
<u>Week 8</u> Feb 27	<u>Extremism</u> - Almond, Gabriel (2006) ch 2 "Fundamentalism: Genus and Species" - Buruma, Ian (2006) <i>Murder In Amsterdam: Liberal Europe, Islam and the Limits of Tolerance</i> New York: Penguin. Selections
<u>Week 9</u> Mar 6	<u>War and Terrorism</u> - Austin, et al. (2004) "God and War: An Audit and An Exploration" - Fine, <i>Political Violence in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam</i> , "Summary & Conclusions"

Mar 13-19	SPRING BREAK
Week 10 Mar 20	<u>Conflict Mitigation</u> - Rowe ch 10, Religion and Conflict Resolution
Week 11 Mar 27	<u>Analysis #2</u> PAPER 2 DUE
Week 12 Apr 3	GOD and COUNTRY <u>Foreign Policy</u> - Haynes ch 4 (82-92)
Week 13 Apr 10	<u>American Tradition</u> - Magee, Malcolm (2017) "U.S. Foreign Policy and Religion" - RECOMMENDED: Joustra (2019) "A Just and Durable Peace? American Evangelicals and the Quest for Peace after WWII."
Week 14 Apr 17	<u>Religious Interests, National Causes</u> - Walt and Mearsheimer, "Unrestricted Access" - Ross, "Mind-set Matters" - Video selections
Week 15 Apr 24	<u>Analysis #3</u>
Week 16 May 2	PAPER 3 DUE

Paper Assignments

Overall: These will be a cross between a take-home exam and an academic essay. One week before these are due, you will receive an assigned question and we will spend one class period summarizing the current topic and evaluating related scholarly articles. You will use these sources and those already covered in the syllabus to write your paper.

Specifics for each paper will appear on the prompt that I circulate in class and post on eLearning.

REQUIREMENTS Cite as many sources as possible from the current topic area that appear on the syllabus; however, at least 3 should come from the most recent "Analysis Session." You may use outside sources, but they are not required. Papers will be no fewer than three full pages long with the following format: double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman or 11 point Calibri, 1 inch margins.

Title and works cited pages do not count towards the page total. Quotations cannot exceed two typed lines. You may choose your citation style, but you must use that style consistently throughout.

An electronic copy is DUE before class starts one week after the questions are assigned. **Submit to eLearning**: locate and upload to the appropriate assignment course page. As a safety measure, you may email your text to me before it is due, but unless there is an emergency, I will only grade the version on eLearning.

LATE PAPERS lose 5 points a day.