

POL201 Political Geography (3 credit hours)

Syllabus

Course Description

This course emphasizes the relationships among the physical environment, landforms, climate, resources, and political boundaries. Students will compare the importance of geography to the current political map of the world. Students will learn to identify continents, countries, capitals, and major cities.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

By the end of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Identify and differentiate the geography of the world.
 2. Explain the implications of geography on political boundaries.
 3. Analyze the current world political climate as it relates to geography
 4. Using the knowledge gained from the class discussions and written material, critically assess the implications of the world's geographic boundaries and appraise through communicating your views effectively with the spoken and written word in a logical and precise manner.
-

Course Topics

Geopolitics	Colonialism/Imperialism
Territoriality	Devolution
Democracy	The other
Nationalism	Ideology
Nation-state	Anti-statism
Conflict	Political economy
Terrorism	Migration
Governance	Sovereignty
Citizenship	

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Hobbs, J. (2016). *Foundations of world and regional geography* (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole. ISBN: 9781305578265

Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements. Where applicable, Tiffin University has obtained permission to use copyrighted material.

Additionally, you will need a library barcode to conduct research through the University library and access any library resources provided in the course. If you do not already have a barcode, please request one by clicking on the following link:

- Link (online form): [Barcode Request Form](#)

Minimum Student Technology Requirements

In order to have a quality learning experience in your online courses, the University requires that your primary computer (the computer used to access course materials and on which you will be required to install course-specific software) meets or exceeds the following specifications:

- [PC Recommendations](#)

Time Management

Time management is an important part of academic success. Please refer to the approximate (average) times noted below for readings and assignments to help plan your time accordingly.

Course Content

Please refer to individual activities for assessment guidelines.

WEEK 1			
Course Topics	Geopolitics Territoriality Democracy Nationalism Nation-state		
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapters 1, 2 File (PDF): Presentations (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapters 1, 2 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		4.00 hrs. 1.00 hrs.
Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Introductory Discussion: Initial Post	CLO(s): n/a	Monday	0.75 hrs.
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.50 hrs.
Assignment: Research Essay	CLO(s): 1, 2	Sunday	5.00 hrs.
Review: Final Project	CLO(s): as noted	Sunday Weeks 6&7	0.50 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			18.75 hrs.

WEEK 2			
Course Topics	Territoriality Democracy Nationalism Nation-state Conflict Governance	Citizenship Ideology Political economy Migration Sovereignty	
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapters 3, 4 File (PDF): Presentations (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapters 3, 4 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		4.00 hrs. 1.00 hrs.

Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 2, 3	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 2, 3	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.50 hrs.
Assignment: Research Essay	CLO(s): 2, 3, 4	Sunday	5.00 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			17.50 hrs.

WEEK 3			
Course Topics	Geopolitics Territoriality Nationalism Nation-state Conflict Terrorism Governance	Citizenship Anti-statism Political economy Migration Sovereignty	
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapters 5, 6 File (PDF): Presentations (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapters 5, 6 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		4.00 hrs. 1.00 hrs.
Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 4	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.50 hrs.
Assignment: Research Essay	CLO(s): 1, 2, 4	Sunday	5.00 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			17.50 hrs.

WEEK 4			
Course Topics	Geopolitics Territoriality Democracy Nationalism Nation-state Conflict Terrorism Governance Citizenship	Colonialism//Imperialism Devolution The other Ideology Anti-statism Political economy Migration Sovereignty	
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapters 7, 8 File (PDF): Presentations (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapters 7, 8 Some lectures/activities may contain additional resources. See individual lectures/activities for those requirements.		4.00 hrs. 1.00 hrs.
Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 4	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.50 hrs.
Assignment: Research Essay	CLO(s): 1, 2, 4	Sunday	5.00 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			17.50 hrs.

WEEK 5			
--------	--	--	--

Course Topics	Geopolitics Territoriality Democracy Nationalism Nation-state Conflict Terrorism Governance Citizenship	Colonialism//Imperialism Devolution The other Ideology Anti-statism Political economy Migration Sovereignty	
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapter 9 File (PDF): Presentation (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapter 9		2.00 hrs. 0.50 hrs.
Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Discussion: Initial Post All Discussions: Secondary Posts Assignment: Research Essay	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3 CLO(s): as noted CLO(s): 1, 2, 4	Wednesday Saturday Sunday	3.00 hrs. 1.50 hrs. 5.00 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			15.00 hrs.

WEEK 6			
Course Topics	Geopolitics Territoriality Democracy Nationalism Nation-state Conflict Terrorism Governance Citizenship	Colonialism//Imperialism Devolution The other Ideology Anti-statism Political economy Migration Sovereignty	
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapter 10 File (PDF): Presentation (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapter 10		2.00 hrs. 0.50 hrs.
Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Discussion 1: Initial Post Discussion 2: Initial Post All Discussions: Secondary Posts Assignment: Final PPT Presentation	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3 CLO(s): 4 CLO(s): as noted CLO(s): 1, 2, 4	Wednesday Wednesday Saturday Sunday	3.00 hrs. 1.00 hrs. 1.50 hrs. 6.00 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			14.00 hrs.

WEEK 7			
Course Topics	Geopolitics Territoriality Democracy Nationalism Nation-state Conflict Terrorism Governance Citizenship	Colonialism//Imperialism Devolution The other Ideology Anti-statism Political economy Migration Sovereignty	
Read/Review			Approx. Time
Textbook, Lectures, and Other Resources	Textbook: Chapter 11 File (PDF): Presentation (BrooksCole, 4e) – Chapter 11		2.00 hrs. 0.50 hrs.

Activity Type	Course Learning Outcomes	Due	Approx. Time
Discussion 1: Initial Post	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3	Wednesday	3.00 hrs.
Discussion 2: Initial Post	CLO(s): 4	Wednesday	1.00 hrs.
Assignment: Final Paper	CLO(s): 1, 2, 3, 4	Thursday	6.00 hrs.
All Discussions: Secondary Posts	CLO(s): as noted	Saturday	1.50 hrs.
Approximate Weekly Time on Task (includes resources and activities)			14.00 hrs.
Approximate Time on Task for Entire Course			114.25 hrs.

Grading Structure

Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	TOTAL
Introductory Discussion	n/a							0
Discussion 1	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	175
Discussion 2	25	25	25	25	no	25	25	150
Assignment	100	100	100	100	100	no	no	500
Final Paper						75		75
Final PPT Presentation							100	100
TOTAL	150	150	150	150	125	125	150	1000

Activity Categories	Percentage of Total Points
Discussion	32.5%
Assignments	50.0%
Final Paper	10.0%
Final Presentation	7.5%
Total	100%

Grading Scale	
Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Please see the Course Policies document for grade appeal information.

Course Policies and University Services

Course Policies

Additional requirements for the course can be found in the Course Policies document. Please read the document and familiarize yourself with those policies to guide you through the course.

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects student information. Other than directory information, such as name, address, phone number, etc., students must give consent for individuals to gain access to a student's educational record, including grades, transcripts, and behavior reports (unless the student is under the age of 18). Students also have the right to review their educational records. For a more detailed explanation, please see the Student Handbook.

Office for Student Accessibility Services

Please refer to your Moodle Home page for Office for Student Accessibility Services contact information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Veterans

Please refer to your Moodle Home page for services for veterans, service members, and their families.

Moodle and Non-Moodle Technical Support

Blackboard Student Services will provide 24x7 Moodle helpdesk support for all Tiffin University students and faculty. Locate contact information for Blackboard Student Services (Moodle-related issues) and for Tiffin University ITS helpdesk (non-Moodle related issues) on your Moodle Home page.

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the University.