

Current Issues in World Affairs
Widener University
POLS 204

Location and Time: Rm. 224B, Kapelski Learning Center, MWF 2:00- 2:50 PM

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: Dr. Jeremy R. Backstrom

Email: jrbackstrom@widener.edu

Office Hours: MWF 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM & 12:30 PM- 1:30 PM, Rm. 337 Kapelski Learning Center

Class Web: Campus Cruiser

Required Materials:

- ❖ Payne, Richard J. 2017. *Global Issues: Politics, Economics, and Culture*. 5th edition. Boston, MA: Pearson Education Inc.
- ❖ Marshall, Tim. 2015. *Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps that Explain Everything About the World*. New York: Scribner.

Additional Reading Materials:

***Any additional reading materials will be available via pdf through the class website.

Technology Requirements:

- ❖ Internet access (free access available in campus computer labs)
- ❖ Basic use of a personal computer (word processing and internet research)
- ❖ Access to Widener University Campus Cruiser

Software Requirements:

- ❖ Microsoft Office or Open Office (free alternative to MS Office)

Course Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to current issues in international relations. The course focuses primarily on such issues as relations between rich and poor nations, the race between food and population, energy, technology, and the threat to the environment. In addition, students may examine other issues in the headlines, such as terrorism, immigration, human rights, international trade, and the proliferation of chemical, nuclear, and biological weapons. The course hews rather closely to recent events.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide a general overview of various critical issues facing the international community in world affairs. While we will regularly discuss real world examples during the course, the course will not solely concentrate on a discussion of current events; rather, students will examine current events influencing world affairs through the lens of significant concepts in international relations. The development of the course will cover various global issues which influence not only the international community but the domestic government and politics of countries comprising the community. Moreover, the course will concentrate on three specific

issues in global affairs: politics, economics, and culture. In the course of examining these three issues, we will cover various topics such as international power and hegemony, human rights, democracy promotion, terrorism, weapons proliferation, the global financial crisis, international trade, inequality and poverty, the environment, population and migration, crime, global health issues, and cultural conflict.

Moreover, while the comprehension of the material is important, the course focuses heavily on the development of writing and critical thinking skills. Critical thinking skills and the improvement of writing skills can be beneficial for the student in their political science courses, courses in other disciplines, and their advancement in future endeavors outside of academia.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- ❖ Demonstrate an understanding of the various topics related to international affairs such as globalization, human rights, democracy promotion, terrorism, weapons proliferation, global trade, the global financial crisis, global inequality and poverty, environmental issues, population and migration issues, global crime, global health issues, and cultural conflict.
- ❖ Evaluate and critique literature regarding various current event topics particularly regarding how geography influences politics and government.
- ❖ Use political concepts noted in the textbook and the classroom to examine current real-world events.
- ❖ Improve your general critical thinking, research, and communication skills that can be applied to other courses and future endeavors.

Current Events:

As this is a course in political science, I encourage you as students to become more cognizant of the world and daily events that arise concerning international affairs and politics; foreign policy; conflict and political violence; international law; international organizations; human rights; international political economy; and international relations in general. Therefore, I want you to read the newspaper headlines (New York Times, Washington Post, BBC, Philadelphia Inquirer, etc.), watch the news on television, or read online news (local news or national news such as CNN, MSNBC, FoxNews, BBC, CSPAN). If you gain your information regarding politics and government from headlines for social media newsfeed/trending headlines, please ensure to follow up this headline in a major news resource. If time permits, we will devote time in each class to discussions concerning current events regarding these topics.

Communication and Email:

As indicated above, you can contact me via email at jrbackstrom@widenener.edu. Please ensure that you address the email with the course number (POLS 204) and your last name in the “subject line” (Example: Backstrom- POLS 204). I request that you use proper English in your emails so I can understand your question/issue and offer you an answer or resolution to the issue. Proper English does not include the abbreviated version of words as those you would use in a text message/instant message/tweet. I will respond to your email in a timely manner, typically within

24 hours on the weekdays and 48 hours on the weekends. Please be aware that while this is my general and intended practice for responding to your e-mails, it is subject to the changes and interruptions of life. If you do not hear from me within 48 hours do not assume I got your message and please follow up. Finally, please note I do not discuss grades electronically. If you wish to discuss your grades, you will need to come to my office during my office hours or by appointment.

Additionally, I will be available during my office hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays after our class from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. If this does not meet your needs, if you need to meet with me at a different time, or if you need to meet with me for a longer period of time, please email me and schedule an appointment to meet with me.

Attendance Policy:

Regardless of course format, Widener University considers regular attendance, participation, and interaction with the instructor and other students to be essential components of successful learning in a Widener class. Courses are conducted for the benefit of students, and it is important that students attend regularly and participate in class activities, however attendance and participation are defined by the course instructor. The academic program takes priority over other obligations, whether sponsored by the college or not. The student is responsible for attending class and for work missed due to absence, and the faculty are not required to make special arrangement for student absences. The presence of a qualifying disability accommodation may allow some flexibility on attendance and due dates, but the essential academic integrity of course goals and student learning will be preserved. Good communication from the students to the faculty about any problems related to attendance and deadlines is crucial. See the Undergraduate Catalog for the full policy statement.

As adults, you are expected to attend every class. **Attendance is required and roll will be taken at every class.** In addition, you are expected to be in the classroom on time. If you continue to have a problem with being on time. If you continue to have a problem with being on time, you will be listed as absent for the day. Excessive absences or tardiness will count against you for your final grade. Each late arrival (1-10 minutes) will count as a tardy. If you are tardy twice, this will count as an absence. If you arrive late by 10 minutes or more, you will be marked as absent. If you depart early, you will also be marked as absent unless you discuss the necessity for an early departure with me before we begin class.

You have a total of three absences that you may use at your discretion. **At the fourth absence and each subsequent absence, your overall grade for the course will be reduced by one letter grade.** Additionally, it is *your responsibility* to obtain the notes for the missed class from one of your fellow students.

Finally, as a student in this course, you are expected to come into each class having read the required readings and be prepared to participate in the discussion. My lectures complement the readings and it will benefit you to take notes from my lectures in addition to reading the required chapters.

Additional Policies:

Personal laptops or I-Pads may be used to take notes during the class; however, this is not an invitation to check your email, chat online, check the internet for topics outside of the classroom discussion; or any other activity that would disturb your attention and those around you from your class work. If caught engaging in one of these infractions, I will warn you only once. After this warning, you will not be allowed to use your laptop in the class.

Cell phones, I-Pods, or any other electronic communication device must be shut off or silenced during class. Similar to the policy regarding laptops, I will warn you only once. After this event, I will not tolerate any violation of this policy. You will be asked to leave the classroom for that day and be listed as absent for the class.

This is a course on current events in global affairs and each of us has our own personal thoughts and opinions on the matter. As your instructor, I strongly encourage scholarly debate and discussion in the classroom. However, you must be respectful of your fellow students and their opinions. I will not tolerate any outbursts or demeaning (hateful, racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, obscene, and/or etc.) attacks/comments against your fellow students regarding their opinions or observations. If this does occur, I will consider it as a disturbance to the learning experience of the classroom, instruct you to leave for that day, and you will be listed as absent. At the instructor's discretion, a student that violates these guidelines may be removed from the course and possibly the campus.

Assignments and Grading:

Map Quizzes: (5 quizzes on different regions of the world- This section is worth 10 % of your grade- 2% on each quiz)

Throughout the semester, there will be five quizzes that I will announce beforehand. Each quiz will cover countries within a particular section of the world. If you miss the class when a quiz is given, you will not be permitted to make up the quiz unless you provide some form of documented medical proof for the absence. Otherwise, you will receive a zero for the quiz. I will provide the schedule of dates for the map quizzes at a later time.

Research Paper Assignments: (2 assignments- This section is worth 50% of your grade- 25% on each assignment).

The following guidelines must be followed to fulfill the research paper assignments for this course:

- 8-10 pages in length
- Must be typed/word processed
- Double spaced
- Times New Roman Script
- 1 inch margins
- No grammatical errors
- Only your name at the top of the paper
- Handed in on time at the beginning of class
- Submit the assignments through www.turnitin.com via the class website on Campus Cruiser as well as in hard copy (paper).

Research Paper 1: Our textbook, *Global Issues: Politics Economics, and Culture*, lists several topics of interest for the course (globalization, global American power, human rights, democracy promotion, terrorism, weapons proliferation, the global financial crisis, trade, global inequality and poverty, environmental issues, population and migration, transnational crime, global health issues,

and cultural conflict). Select one of the topics we already discussed or will discuss during the course and conduct an in-depth investigation of the issue and how it influences the United States and at least one other country (preferably a non-Western country).

You may select any topic of interest that we discuss as well as two countries to research. You should refer to the chapter on the topic from the Payne textbook, and then investigate and research the topic using additional 3-5 professional resources (preferably academic sources) to discover more information regarding the topic and how it influences the two countries you selected. Write a research paper describing the issue and how the topic of interest influences the United States and the second country you selected. **This assignment is due on October 16, 2017.**

Research Paper 2: Although this is not a course on American politics, this is a course on International Relations and the United States plays a significant role in international affairs. Interestingly, this course coincides with the inauguration and first few months of the Donald J. Trump presidency. You are now assigned as a foreign policy advisor for President Trump and he wants your analysis and assessment on a current international event.

Write a short paper on a current event regarding international affairs. Examples would include: the Syrian civil war, Russia, China and Taiwan, the conflict in Yemen, terrorism in general, the Islamic State, conflict in Afghanistan, possible conflict with North Korea, India and Pakistan, Israel and Palestine, various conflicts in Africa, involvement in the United Nations, multilateral vs. unilateral responses to international conflicts, etc. (If you question whether your topic of interest fits the assignment, please contact me as soon as possible.) Ensure to provide the following: a brief summary of the event; three options on how President Trump could respond to this event; which course of action you suggest that he takes and why; and why he should not proceed with the other two options.

Ensure that you do not merely write an account of the event but rather analyze the event and the possible options to respond to it. There are no incorrect assessments- I just want you to analyze and critique the options on how to respond to the international event. Finally, please note that any preconceived notions of how President Trump feels about this issue is not a concern. You may note that an option parallels his previous or current stance on the issue; however, you do not have to select and promote the option that he previously endorsed. **This assignment is due on the date of the final exam during December 11-15, 2017.**

Presentation of Research Paper #2: (This section is worth 10% of your grade)

During the final three meetings of the class (including the final exam date), you will provide a brief 5-10 minute presentation of your final paper. You should approach this presentation in a professional manner by creating a power point presentation of the policy issue and policy recommendation for President Trump you analyzed for research paper #2. During the presentation, ensure that you provide an effective and parsimonious analysis of the topic of interest including the background and current developments of the issue, the three possible options President Trump may take, and your selected course of action, and why you chose this option. This assignment for the course will assist in the development of your public speaking skills and therefore, you should provide a professional presentation of your paper. **Please ensure that you do not read your paper to the class but provide a professional presentation.**

Participation: 20% of your grade

The course is designed to provide you with an overview of current events of interest in international affairs. You are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to the designated date in accordance to the course calendar. Moreover, we will read and critique a book on how geography influences the politics and government of various countries. On these dates, this course will resemble a discussion-based seminar in which the instructor and the students will interact and discuss the assigned readings of the Marshall book. Therefore, it is imperative for you to complete the assigned readings and be prepared to discuss the concepts and arguments during the following class. Furthermore, in order to prepare for the discussion, you should be able to identify the author's arguments concerning the respective topic but also identify possible flaws/shortcomings of the arguments or questions concerning the theory presented. Remember you are a scholar, not a student.

Please note that if I observe that the discussion continues to linger without participation, if I am solely leading the discussion, or if there are only a few students participating, I will devise a weekly quiz that will allow me to determine whether you completed the assigned readings and if you understand the theories presented. If this situation arises, you will not be permitted to use the assigned readings or your notes from the readings to take the quizzes. Finally, if you miss the weekly quiz, there are no quiz make-ups.

Weekly Thought Papers: 10% of your grade

At the beginning of each class week (Monday), you are expected to write a thought paper regarding the assigned readings for the week or a particular discussion we had in the classroom during the week prior **ON THE WEEKS YOU DO NOT HAVE A RESEARCH PAPER DUE DATE.** You can offer your thoughts, feelings, opinions, etc. regarding a particular topic that you found interesting, highly significant, or controversial. With a class this size and highly divisive topics such as politics and government, terrorism, war and political violence, immigration, and other topics, we may not have the opportunity to address all viewpoints, opinions, or arguments. Therefore, this allows you to express your feelings, thoughts, opinions, and arguments with me specifically and I can engage in dialogue with you concerning this. This is a method of continuing our classroom discussions outside of the actual classroom. The thought papers are not intended to be conducted in an academic research format and you do not need to include formal citations but rather reference the article(s) or book chapter if you discuss it. Moreover, **please do not merely regurgitate the information provided in a lecture or reading.** I know what the articles and book chapter argue... I want your criticism, praise, thoughts, feelings, and opinions regarding the readings or a discussion in class. You will receive full credit if you abide by the following formatting guidelines:

- 2-3 pages in length
- Only your name at the top of the paper
- Must be typed/word processed
- Double spaced
- Times New Roman Script
- 1 inch margins
- No grammatical errors
- The thought paper must explicitly address either: 1) an aspect/article of this week's reading or 2) a discussion we had in class.

- Handed in on time (Monday at the beginning of class)
- Hard copy (paper)

Grading Rubric:

A: 94-100%

A-: 91-93%

B+: 88-90%

B: 85-87%

B-: 81-84%

C+: 78-80%

C: 75-77%

C-: 71-74%

D+: 68-70%

D: 60-67%

F: 59% and below

Late Work Policy:

All assignments for this course are expected on or before the deadline as indicated on the assignment. As a reasonable person, I understand that uncontrollable personal circumstances may arise. Thus, I am willing to work with you through such issues should they arise and you must submit a late assignment. **If you need to submit a late assignment, you must contact me in advance of the deadline for my approval and for arrangements to be made concerning the assignment.** Written documentation will be required in order to confirm your request to submit a late assignment.

Late homework assignments will be heavily penalized unless there are extenuating circumstances. There is a 10 point penalty per day for late homework assignments. This includes weekends and holidays. If the assignment has not been submitted within 5 days, you will receive a “0” for the homework assignment.

Tentative Reading and Course Outline:

***Payne textbook= (P)

***Marshall book= (M)

*****NOTE:** Due dates for thought papers and assignments are listed in **Bold** while important dates for Widener University related academic issues are listed in *Italics*.

Week 1:

Aug. 28: Introduction to the course and discussion of the syllabus

Aug. 30: Global Issues: Challenges of Globalization: Chap. 1- (P)

Sept. 1: Global Issues: Challenges of Globalization: Chap. 1- (P)

Week 2:

Sept. 4: *No Class- Labor Day observed*

Sept. 5: *Last day for dropping and/or adding classes*

Sept. 6: Russia: Chap. 1- (M)

Sept. 6: Thought Paper Due

Sept. 8: The Struggle for Primacy in a Global Society: Chap. 2- (P)

Week 3:

Sept. 11: The Struggle for Primacy in a Global Society: Chap. 2- (P)

Sept. 11: Thought Paper Due

Sept. 13: China: Chap. 2- (M)

Sept. 15: Human Rights: Chap. 3- (P)

Week 4:

Sept. 18: Human Rights: Chap. 3- (P)

Sept. 18: Thought Paper Due

Sept. 20: United States: Chap. 3- (M)

Sept. 22: Promoting Democracy: Chap. 4- (P)

Week 5:

Sept. 25: Promoting Democracy: Chap. 4- (P)

Sept. 25: Thought Paper Due

Sept. 27: Western Europe: Chap. 4- (M)

Sept. 29: Global Terrorism: Chap. 5- (P)

Week 6:

Oct. 2: Global Terrorism: Chap. 5- (P)

Oct. 2: Thought Paper Due

Oct. 4: Africa: Chap. 5- (M)

Oct. 6: Weapons Proliferation: Chap. 6- (P)

Week 7:

Oct. 9: Weapons Proliferation: Chap. 6- (P)

Oct. 9: No Thought Paper Due: Work on Research Paper #1

Oct. 11: The Middle East: Chap. 6- (M)

Oct. 13: The Global Financial Crisis: Chap. 7- (P)

Week 8:

Oct. 16: The Global Financial Crisis: Chap. 7- (P)

Oct. 16: Research Paper #1 Due

Oct. 18: India and Pakistan: Chap. 7- (M)

Oct. 20: Global Trade: Chap. 8- (P)

Week 9:

Oct. 23: *No Class- Fall Break*

Oct. 25: Global Trade: Chap. 8- (P)

Oct. 25: Thought Paper Due

Oct. 27: Korea and Japan: Chap. 8- (M)

Week 10:

Oct. 30: Global Inequality and Poverty: Chap. 9- (P)

Oct. 30: Thought Paper Due

Nov. 1: Global Inequality and Poverty: Chap. 9- (P)

Nov. 3: Latin America: Chap. 9- (M)

Week 11:

Nov. 6: Environmental Issues: Chap. 10- (P)

Nov. 6: Thought Paper Due

Nov. 7: *Last day for class withdrawal without academic penalty*

Nov. 8: Environmental Issues: Chap. 10- (P)

Nov. 10: The Arctic: Chap. 10- (M)

Week 12:

Nov. 13: Population and Migration: Chap. 11- (M)

Nov. 13: Thought Paper Due

Nov. 15: Population and Migration: Chap. 11- (M)

Nov. 17: Global Crime: Chap. 12- (M)

Week 13:

Nov. 20: Global Crime: Chap. 12- (M)

Nov. 20: Thought Paper Due

Nov. 22: Global Health Challenges: Chap. 13- (M)

Nov. 24: *No Class- Thanksgiving Break*

Week 14:

Nov. 27: *No Class- Instructor out of town*

Nov. 29: Global Health Challenges: Chap. 13- (M)

Nov. 29: Thought Paper Due

Dec. 1: Cultural Clashes and Conflict Resolution: Chap. 14- (M)

Week 15:

Dec. 4: Cultural Clashes and Conflict Resolution: Chap. 14- (M)

Dec. 4: No Thought Paper Due: Work on Research Paper #2

Dec. 6: In class presentations

Dec. 8: In class presentations

Dec. 8: *Last day of classes*

Week 16:

Dec. 11-15: In class presentations

Dec. 11-15: Research Paper #2 due on date of final exam (TBD)

Dec. 15: *End of Fall semester*

Outline of the Course:

Section 1

- ❖ Global Issues: Challenges of Globalization
- ❖ The Struggle for Primacy in a Global Society
- ❖ Human Rights
- ❖ Promoting Democracy

Section 2

- ❖ Global Terrorism
- ❖ Weapons Proliferation
- ❖ The Global Financial Crisis
- ❖ Global Trade

Section 3

- ❖ Global Inequality and Poverty
- ❖ Environmental Issues
- ❖ Population and Migration
- ❖ Global Crime
- ❖ Global Health Challenges
- ❖ Cultural Clashes and Conflict Resolution

******The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and calendar due dates as necessary to manage and conduct this course.***

Institutional Polices:

***Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

FERPA is a federal law that protects your privacy by limiting access to your educational and personal records. Educational and personal information cannot be distributed or discussed with your parents or legal guardians or anyone else without a legitimate education interest without your written permission. Educational and personal information includes your social security number or institutional identification number, citizenship, gender, grades, GPA, or class schedule. Additional information and FERPA waivers (waiver of release of information forms) are available from the registrar or the Office of Student Affairs.

Finally, please note I do not discuss grades electronically. If you wish to discuss your grades, you will need to come to my office during my office hours or by appointment.

***Overall Statement on Academic Support for Traditional Undergraduates:**

Students have academic support resources available to them at no charge. The Academic Support offers course-specific tutoring services, academic coaching services, writing services, and disabilities services. The Writing Center offers tutoring to assist with writing and reading support for any class. The Disability Services office provides impairment-related accommodations consistent with the ADA and its amendments. Academic Coaching offers services where students are paired with an Academic Coach, who can assist the student in various ways. For help or further information, contact the Writing Center at (610) 499-4332; the Disabilities Services at (610) 499-1266; and the Academic Coaching at (610) 499-1193.

***Academic Coaching Statement:**

Academic Coaching offers various resources to assist Widener students with their academic success that is tailored to the student's needs. Students have academic support resources available to them at no charge. Academic Coaching offers assistance on study skills, time management, test taking, academic planning, textbook reading, and note taking. Further information can be found at: <http://www.widener.edu/academics/support/coaching.aspx>. Academic Coaching can be reached at (610) 499-1193 or through Tim Cairy at tjcairy@widener.edu.

***Tutoring Services Statement:**

Tutoring Services offers tutoring for students by trained Widener University students for introductory and upper level courses. Moreover, these services are offered to Widener students at no additional charge outside of your tuition. Further information can be found at: <http://www.widener.edu/academics/support/tutoring/>. Tutoring Services is located at 522 E. 14th Street in Pineapple House (9:00 AM- 5:00 PM Monday through Friday) or via email at: tutoringservices@widener.edu.

***Writing Center Statement for Regular/Day Courses:**

You are encouraged to visit the Writing Center early and often throughout the semester to help build a strong foundation for writing in this course and in all of your courses. The center's peer tutors and director will work with you at any stage of the writing process, from developing and organizing ideas to revising and editing drafts. Tutors are also available to discuss and practice approaches to managing the college reading workload and reading more effectively. The center is located on the first floor of the Old Main Annex and can be reached at (610) 499-4332. Appointments are strongly recommended to ensure availability particularly during midterms or the end of the semester.

***ADAA Statement on Services for Students with Disabilities:**

Consistent with the ADAA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Widener University welcomes students with disabilities into the college's educational programs. If you need impairment-related academic adjustments in this course, please contact Anna Bachus, Director of Disability Services, by email at apbachus@widener.edu, by phone at (610) 499-1266, or at the office of Disability Services at 520 East 14th Street. It is important to make this request as soon as possible so that we will have time to make any necessary arrangements.

***Withdrawal:**

During the drop/add period as established by the registrar, students can drop or add classes at any time online. If a student cannot add a course online, the student will need to bring a Registration form signed by his or her advisor to Enrollment Services in Lipka Hall.

After the first six days, any student desiring to withdraw from a course must submit to the Enrollment Services a Registration form signed by his or her advisor and the instructor of the course. Any student who withdraws from the course after the first six days but before the last four weeks of the semester will be given a grade of "W" (Withdrawal). A "W" will not affect the student's cumulative average.

If a student drops a course during the last four weeks of the semester without the signed approval of the associate provost or stops attending a class at any time without officially withdrawing from the class through Enrollment Services, the student will receive a grade of "F" for the course.

***Harassment Policy:**

It is the policy of Widener University not to discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, pregnancy status, age, race, national origin or ethnicity, religion, disability, status of veteran of the Vietnam era or other covered veteran, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, or genetic

information in its educational programs, admissions policies, employment practices, financial aid, or other school-administered programs or activities. This policy is enforced under various federal and state laws including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”) prohibits discrimination based on sex and gender in educational programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Title IX also protects students and employees from unlawful sexual harassment (including sexual violence) in university programs and activities. In compliance with Title IX, the university prohibits discrimination and harassment based on sex in employment as well as in all programs and activities.

The university’s Title IX coordinator monitors compliance with Title IX and its accompanying regulations. Individuals with questions or concerns about Title IX and/or those who wish to file a complaint of noncompliance may contact the Title IX coordinator or deputy coordinators: The university’s Title IX coordinator is Assistant Director for Employee Relations Grace Karmioli, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; telephone: (610) 499-1301; email: gckarmioli@widener.edu.

***Academic Integrity Policy:**

Cheating, plagiarism, and other attempts to engage in academic fraud will not be tolerated in this class. A full definition of these concepts is available in the Standards for Academic Integrity in the Widener University *Undergraduate Catalog*.

Plagiarism is a particularly prevalent method of academic fraud. The *Undergraduate Catalog* states that “(p)lagiarism- submitting the work of others as one’s own- is a serious offense. In the academic world, plagiarism is theft. Information from sources- whether quoted, paraphrased, or summarized- must be given credit through specific citations. When a student paraphrases a work, it is still necessary to cite the original source. Merely rearranging a sentence or changing a few words is not sufficient.”

“Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional. However, since each student is responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism, unintentional plagiarism is as unacceptable as intentional plagiarism and commission of it will bring the same penalties.”

Also, “(s)tudents are required to obtain permission prior to submitting work, any part of which was previously or will be submitted in another course. The instructor has the option of accepting, rejecting, or requiring modification of the content of previously or simultaneously submitted work.”

For more information on Academic Integrity, see pages 22 and 23 of the *Undergraduate Catalog*.

Plagiarism/cheating in this course will result in an instant failure for the semester. This applies to any work submitted for the course, including, but not limited to, take home tests, tests, quizzes, and papers. Ignorance is not an acceptable excuse. If you have any questions on plagiarism, please contact me. You may also wish to consult the OWL Purdue Online Writing Lab website on plagiarism: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>.

***General Statement:**

The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and calendar due dates as necessary to manage and conduct this course. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor and seeking clarification of any requirement that is not understood.