

<b>Course</b>	<b>INTL 5100-62 Research Methods and Perspectives</b>
<b>Term</b>	<b>(Summer, 2009)</b>
<b>Instructor</b>	Name: Dr. Emmanuel Uwalaka Phone: 314, 977-3039 Email: Uwalaka@webster.edu
<b>Catalog Description</b>	Students are introduced to skills, methodological issues, and bibliographic resources, which enhance their ability to evaluate critically and to conduct research in the field of international relations
<b>Prerequisites</b>	Student should be familiar with the concepts taught in International Relations 5000
<b>Course Level Learning Outcomes</b>	Students will demonstrate knowledge of a variety of research methods in political science. Students will demonstrate competence in research design, including the development of questions for research, the selection of appropriate methods for gathering, analyzing and interpreting information, and the preparation of a research proposal. Students will understand the logical structure of social scientific inquiry.
<b>Materials</b>	Johnson, J. Buttolph, and Reynolds, T. H with Mycoff, Jason D. 2008. <u>Political Science Research Methods</u> , 6 <sup>th</sup> edition. Washington, D.C., CQ Press. Patten, M. L. 2005. <u>Proposing Empirical Research: A Guide to the Fundamentals</u> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition, Los Angeles, Pyrczak Publishing. Roselle, Laura, and Spray Sharon.2008. <u>Research and Writing in International Relations</u> , Pearson Longman.
<b>Grading</b>	<b>Grading Scale and Distribution of Percentages</b>  Midterm Exam-----40% Final Exam-----40% Research Proposal-----20%  <b>The Numerical Equivalents of Letter Grades Are:</b>  93-100=A; 90-92=A-; 87-89=B+; 83-86=B; 80-82=B-; 70-79=C+; 0-69=C
<b>Activities</b>	Examinations, research proposal (not more than 10 pages, text) will be used in evaluating the performance of students. Students will be given the midterm (40%) and final (40%) exams. A guide in writing a research proposal will be given in class.
<b>Policy Statements: University Policies</b>	University policies are provided in the current course catalog and course schedules. They are also available on the university website. This class is governed by the university's published policies. The following policies are of particular interest:

	<p><b>Academic Honesty</b> The university is committed to high standards of academic honesty. Students will be held responsible for violations of these standards. Please refer to the university’s academic honesty policies for a definition of academic dishonesty and potential disciplinary actions associated with it.</p> <p><b>Drops and Withdrawals</b> Please be aware that, should you choose to drop or withdraw from this course, the date on which you notify the university of your decision will determine the amount of tuition refund you receive. Please refer to the university policies on drops and withdrawals (published elsewhere) to find out what the deadlines are for dropping a course with a full refund and for withdrawing from a course with a partial refund.</p> <p><b>Special Services</b> If you have registered as a student with a documented disability and are entitled to classroom or testing accommodations, please inform the instructor at the beginning of the course of the accommodations you will require in this class so that these can be provided.</p> <p><b>Disturbances</b> Since every student is entitled to full participation in class without interruption, disruption of class by inconsiderate behavior is not acceptable. Students are expected to treat the instructor and other students with dignity and respect, especially in cases where a diversity of opinion arises. Students who engage in disruptive behavior are subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the course.</p>
<b>Course Policies</b>	Students are required to attend class sessions regularly and punctually. It is the responsibility of students to make up all work missed during any period of absence. During class, <b>cell phones must be turned off or to vibrate mode</b> . If you need to respond to a call, please step outside the room
<b>Weekly Schedule</b>	<p>Week 1: <b>Class organization</b>. Definition and the scope of the study of international relations. Studying politics scientifically. Required Readings: Johnson and Reynolds. Chapter 1, ps. 1-3; and Chapter 2, Studying Politics Scientifically. Argyle, Nolan J., “Methods, “Science,” and Politics: Modes of Analysis in Political Science.” Patten, ps. 3-4</p> <p>Week 2: <b>Theories, hypotheses, and variables and conceptualization</b> Johnson and Reynolds. Chapter 3 Patten, Topics 3-11 Roselle/Spray, Chapter 1, Topic Selection and Question Development</p> <p>Week 3: <b>The structure of inquiry, continued: Operationalization and</b></p>

	<p><b>indicators – measurement.</b> Johnson and Reynolds, Chapter 4  Research Proposal Topics Due  Roselle/Spray, Chapter 2, Scholarly Literature and Literature Review  Johnson and Reynolds, Chapter 6, Conducting a Literature Review</p> <p><b>Week 4: Research Design</b>  Johnson and Reynolds. Chapter 5, ps. 122-126.  Roselle/Spray, Chapter 3, Project Definition and Systematic Investigation  Examples of previous research proposal will be given to students</p> <p><b>Week 5: Midterm Examination</b>  <b>Modes of Observation</b>  Johnson and Reynolds. Chapter 10, Survey Research and Interviewing  Patten, Topic 13  “Ronald Reagan and the Social Issues: Rhetorical Support for the Christian Right,” by M. C. Moen. (Given to students as an example of a research using “content analysis.”)</p> <p><b>Week 6: Sampling</b>  Johnson and Reynolds. Chapter 7  Patten, Part F, Topics 25-29</p> <p><b>Week 7: Analysis of Data: Univariate Data Analysis and Descriptive Statistics</b>  Johnson and Reynolds. Chapters 11.</p> <p><b>Week 8: Analysis of Data Continued: Bivariate Data Analysis</b>  (Measures of Association and Test of Significance)  Johnson and Reynolds. Chapters 12.</p> <p><b>Week 9: Research Proposal Due</b>  <b>Final Exams</b></p>
<p><b>Additional Information</b></p>	<p>The reading schedule indicates the material with which students should be familiar on the date specified. Students should, therefore, be looking ahead in the schedule and planning their reading accordingly.</p>