**Miyazaki International College**

**Course Syllabus**

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| Course Title (Credits) | | **DLAS1030: Introduction to Political Science (2 credits)** | |
| Course Designation for TC | | N/A | |
| Time and Location | | Tuesdays and Thursdays, 13:00~14:30 | |
| Instructor | | Cathrine-Mette Mork | |
| Email address | | cmork@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp | |
| Office/Ext | | MIC 1-303/ Ext. 3722 | |
| Office hours | | Mondays, from 13:00 | |
| **Course Description:** | | | |
| This course introduces a variety of approaches to political science and political thinking. The course covers major political issues of contemporary societies at the local, national, and global level and introduces key concepts and themes of the major subfields of political science. Active, co-operative learning methods will be used to think about and understand political science. Pair and group work will be used to help students develop an understanding of course materials and practice the language. Students will share ideas and opinions through games, projects, and various tasks in addition to discussion. | | | |
| **Course Goals/Objectives:** | | | |
| By the end of the course, students will be able to…  CONTENT   * analyze power, interests, and collective action. * demonstrate political theory, comparative politics, international relations, and political economy orally and through writing.   LANGUAGE   * Employ general and specialist vocabulary necessary to do the above. * Write concise paragraphs that clearly and logically demonstrate understanding and analysis of key concepts covered in the course. * Explain in English (orally) key concepts covered in the course. * Gain confidence in using dictionaries, thesauri, and encyclopedias.   CRITICAL THINKING   * critically analyze key political concepts and the practice of politics based on information presented in the course and through out-of-class research. * Employ basic note-taking and other study skills | | | |
| **Course Schedule:** | | | |
| **Day** | **Topic** | | **Content** |
| 1 | Introduction  Lesson 1 *Politics and Interests* | | Syllabus, Course, and teacher/ participant Introductions  Introductory reading  **Receive worksheets for Lesson 1**  **HW:** Complete lesson 1 video activity |
| 2 | Lesson 1 *Politics and Interests* | | Listening to lectures, note-taking, oral paraphrasing, reading about politics and interest  **HW:** Complete vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 1 |
| 3 | Lesson 1 *Politics & Interests* | | Homework check, speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting  **HW:** Complete lesson 2 video activity, complete all of worksheet lesson 1 |
| 4 | Finish Lesson 1,  Lesson 2 *Politics & Power* | | Review analysis section of lesson 1  **Receive worksheets for Lesson 2**  Listening to lectures, note-taking, oral paraphrasing, reading about politics and power  **HW:** Complete vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 2, submit worksheet for lesson 1 next class |
| 5 | Lesson 2 *Politics & Power* | | Homework check, speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting  **HW:** Complete lesson 3 video activity, complete all of worksheet 2 |
| 6 | Finish Lesson 2,  Start Lesson 3 *Politics & Collective Action* | | Review analysis section of lesson 2  **Receive worksheets for Lesson 3**  Listening to lectures, note-taking, oral paraphrasing, reading about politics and collective action  **HW:** Complete vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 3, submit worksheet for lesson 2 next class |
| 7 | Lesson 3 *Politics & Collective Action* | | Homework check, speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting  **HW:** Complete all of worksheet lesson 3, complete lesson 4 video activity |
| 8 | Finish Lesson 3  Start Lesson 4 *Classical Types of Government* | | Review analysis section of lesson 3  **Receive worksheets** **for Lesson 4**  Listening to lectures, note-taking, oral paraphrasing, reading about classical styles of government.  **HW:** Start vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 4, study for quiz lessons 1,2,3, submit worksheet for lesson 3 next class |
| 9 | Review | | Quiz Lessons 1,2,3  Video recording for lessons 1,2,3  **HW:** Complete vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 4 |
| 10 | Lesson 4 *Classical Types of Government* | | Homework check, speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting  **HW:** Complete lesson 5 video activity, complete all of worksheet 4 |
| 11 | Finish Lesson 4  Start Lesson 5 *The Development of the Modern State* | | Review analysis section of lesson 4  **Receive worksheets** **for Lesson 5**  Listening to lectures, note-taking, oral paraphrasing, reading about the development of the modern state  **HW:** Complete vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 5, submit worksheet for lesson 4 next class |
| 12 | Lesson 5 *The Development of the Modern State* | | Homework check, speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting.  **HW:** Complete lesson 6 video activity, complete all of worksheet 5 |
| 13 | Finish Lesson 5,  Start Lesson 6 *Modern Democracy* | | Review analysis section of lesson 5  **Receive worksheets** **for Lesson 6**  Listening to lectures, note-taking, oral paraphrasing, reading about the modern democracy  **HW:** Complete vocabulary section of worksheet lesson 6, submit worksheet for lesson 5 next class |
| 14 | Lesson 6 *Modern Democracy* | | Homework check, speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting.  **HW:** Complete all of worksheet 6, review for lessons 4,5,6 quiz |
| 15 | Finish Lesson 6 *Modern Democracy*  Review | | Review analysis section of lesson 5  Quiz Lessons 4,5,6  Video recording for lessons 4,5,6  Q&A review game and other activities for exam, extra materials (time permitting)  **HW:** Complete all of worksheet 6 for submission |
|  | Final Exam | | Final Exam – online & essay |
| **Required Materials:** | | | |
| Students will not be required to purchase a specific textbook. We will work from a number of handouts to be distributed online. You will need to lined A4 paper for note-taking and a folder or binder to keep them in. It is important for you to keep your course materials organized. Handouts that your teacher gives you or you download from the course site - including worksheets, readings, and other materials - must be put in your folder or binder together with your notes.  Every class you are required to bring these things to class.   * + - Course materials (handouts from teacher, etc.)     - Binder (A4, 2-hole) or folder to keep all materials and class notes in     - Lined white paper (A4, 2 holes) + writing implements (pens, pencils)     - Dictionary (one on smart phone is fine)     - Smartphone (if you have one) to access apps and course (you can share if you do not have one) | | | |
| **Course Policies (Attendance, etc.);** | | | |
| Attendance and participation in class are extremely important. Students should attend and be on time for all classes. If you do not attend class or are late for class, you will have difficulty following the course content. All assignments must be handed in on time. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have been sick. All medical absences require a note from your doctor. In short, each class that you are late for, or miss will lower your final grade. If you miss a class, first talk with a classmate and then with your teacher. | | | |
| **Student Preparation and Review Time:** | | | |
| Students are expected to spend at least one hour preparing for every hour of lesson, and one hour reviewing and doing homework. The nature of these tasks may be different from week to week, but you should always:   * Review all lesson materials. * Study new vocabulary and keep a vocabulary notebook. * Keep an organized folder/binder including all lesson notes and handouts. * Reflect on lesson content and identify difficulties to ask questions about in class. * Reflect on lesson content and draw parallels to current events in Japan and the world. * Consult with one or both of your teachers if you are struggling or have questions to give or feedback to offer.   In principle, graded work will be returned within one week of submission with appropriate feedback, i.e., grade, comments, etc. | | | |
| **Grades and Grading:** | | | |
| Grades will be determined by:   1. 40% Worksheet homework 2. 20% Quizzes x 2 3. 30% Final exam 4. 10% Video Recordings x 2   You are expected to do the online questions, but there are no points for that  The grading system at MIC is as follows:   * A (Excellent) 90-100% * B (Above average) 80-89% * C (Average) 70-79% * D (Below average) 60-69% * F (Fail) 59% or less | | | |
| **Diploma Policy Standards Satisfied by Course Objectives:**  Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):  1. Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought)  2. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations  3. The ability to identify and solve problems  4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English  5. Proficiency in the use of information technology | | | |
| **Notes:**  Please remember to bring your (mobile or other) devices to class as you may be using them to access online materials. You will learn about relevant apps and URLs you will need to access in class. | | | |

