

**Miyazaki International College  
Spring 2018**

**Course Syllabus**

Course Title (Credits)	<b>SSC103-1: Introduction to Political Science (3 credits)</b>
Course Designation for TC	N/A
Time and Location	Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:40-12:15
<b>Content Teacher</b>	
Instructor	Atsushi Yasutomi, Ph.D.
Email address	ayasutomi@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp
Office/Ext	MIC 1-328/ Ext.
Office hours	Tuesdays 13:00 – 17:15
<b>Language Teacher</b>	
Instructor	Cathrine-Mette Mork
Email address	cmork@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp
Office/Ext	MIC 1-303/ Ext. 3722
Office hours	Tuesdays 13:00 – 17:15
<b>Course Description</b>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
<b>Course Goals/Objectives</b>	
<p>By the end of the course, students will be able to...</p> <p>CONTENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• analyze power, interests, and collective action.</li> <li>• demonstrate political theory, comparative politics, international relations, and political economy orally and through writing.</li> </ul> <p>LANGUAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employ general and specialist vocabulary necessary to do the above.</li> <li>• Write concise paragraphs that clearly and logically demonstrate understanding and analysis of key concepts covered in the course.</li> <li>• Explain in English (orally) key concepts covered in the course.</li> <li>• Gain confidence in using dictionaries, thesauri, and encyclopedias.</li> </ul> <p>CRITICAL THINKING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• critically analyze key political concepts and the practice of politics based on information presented in the course and through out-of-class research.</li> <li>• Employ basic note-taking and other study skills</li> </ul>	

<b>Course Schedule</b>		
<b>Session #</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	Unit 1 Introduction to the units covered in the course	Syllabus & Course Introduction Introduction of students and teachers Handouts for Unit 1, Lesson 1. HOMEWORK Lesson 1: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A
2	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 1 <i>Politics and Interests</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about politics and interest, vocabulary check pair work
3	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 1 <i>Politics and Interests</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 2: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 1: complete worksheet for submission
4	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 2 <i>Politics and Power</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about politics and power, vocabulary check pair work
5	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 2 <i>Politics and Power</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, types of power image match activity HOMEWORK Lesson 3: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 2: complete worksheet for submission
6	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 3 <i>Politics and Collective Action</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about political and collective action, vocabulary check pair work
7	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 3 <i>Politics and Collective Action</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 4: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 3: complete worksheet for submission
8	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 4 <i>Studying Politics</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about studying politics, vocabulary check pair work
9	UNIT 1 WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE? Lesson 4 <i>Studying Politics</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 5: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 4: complete worksheet for submission, do video

		submission and video reply to at least 3 classmates.
10	<b><u>UNIT 1 Test</u></b> UNIT 2 POLITICAL THEORY Lessons 5 <i>Politics as the Good Life</i>	TEST Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about politics as the good life, vocabulary check pair work
11	UNIT 2 POLITICAL THEORY Lessons 5 <i>Politics as the Good Life</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 6: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 5: complete worksheet for submission
12	UNIT 2 POLITICAL THEORY Lessons 6 <i>Classical Types of Government</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about classical types of government, vocabulary check pair work
13	UNIT 2 POLITICAL THEORY Lessons 6 <i>Classical Types of Government</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 7: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 6: complete worksheet for submission
14	UNIT 2 POLITICAL THEORY Lessons 7 <i>The Social Contract</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about the social contract, vocabulary check pair work
15	UNIT 2 POLITICAL THEORY Lessons 7 <i>The Social Contract</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 8: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson7: complete worksheet for submission, do video submission and video reply to at least 3 classmates.
16	<b><u>UNIT 2 Test</u></b> UNIT 3 COMPARATIVE POLITICS Lesson 8 <i>The Development of the Modern State</i>	TEST Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about the development of the modern state, vocabulary check pair work
17	UNIT 3 COMPARATIVE POLITICS Lesson 8 <i>The Development of the Modern State</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 9: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 8: complete worksheet for submission

18	UNIT 3 COMPARATIVE POLITICS Lesson 9 <i>Modern Democracy</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about modern democracy, vocabulary check pair work
19	UNIT 3 COMPARATIVE POLITICS Lesson 9 <i>Modern Democracy</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 10: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 9: complete worksheet for submission
20	UNIT 3 COMPARATIVE POLITICS Lesson 10 <i>Constitutions</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about constitutions, vocabulary check pair work
21	UNIT 3 COMPARATIVE POLITICS Lesson 10 <i>Constitutions</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 11: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 10: complete worksheet for submission, do video submission and video reply to at least 3 classmates.
22	<b><u>UNIT 3 Test</u></b> UNIT 4 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Lesson 11 <i>Realism &amp; Anarchy</i>	Write test, Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about realism & anarchy, vocabulary check pair work
23	UNIT 4 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Lesson 11 <i>Realism &amp; Anarchy</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 12: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 11: complete worksheet for submission
24	UNIT 4 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Lesson 12 <i>Idealism &amp; International Society</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about idealism & international society, vocabulary check pair work
25	UNIT 4 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Lesson 12 <i>Idealism &amp; International Society</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 13: 1) do vocabulary section of worksheets 2) read the passage 3) do online Q&A; Lesson 12: complete worksheet for submission
26	UNIT 4 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Lesson 13 <i>Globalization</i>	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about globalization, vocabulary check pair work

27	UNIT 4 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Lesson 13 <i>Globalization</i>	Speaking pair work using new vocabulary, content analysis pair/group work, activities/games when appropriate/ time permitting HOMEWORK Lesson 14, 15: read the passages, do online Q&A; Lesson 12: complete worksheet for submission, do video submission and video reply to at least 3 classmates.
28	<b><u>UNIT 4 TEST</u></b> UNIT 5 POLITICAL ECONOMY (mini section) Lesson 14 Democracy & Capitalism Lesson 15 Governing Capitalism	TEST Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about democracy & capitalism; governing capitalism Project work HOMEWORK Lesson 16: read the passages, do online Q&A
29	UNIT 5 POLITICAL ECONOMY (mini section) Lesson 16 Measuring Development	Listening to lectures, note-taking, paraphrasing, reading about measuring development Project work
30	Review Project	Q&A review game Project (presentations and/or written work)
EXAM WEEK	Final Exam	Final Exam

### 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. All of the handouts that your teachers give 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. At the end of the course you will present a portfolio containing all your lecture notes, lesson materials, and vocabulary notes for part of your Homework assessment.

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 one of your teachers.

## 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. Worksheet homework & online questions	30%
2. Unit tests	30%
3. Final exam	20%
4. Video discussions	10%
5. Project work	10%
Total:	<u>100%</u>

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:

Again, please remember to bring your mobile devices to class as you may be using them to access online materials. You will learn about important apps and URLs you will need to access in class.

文部科学省から採択された 大学教育再生加速プログラム 		Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging	No Attempt
Critical Thinking	Ability to Identify & Solve Problems	Insightful comments in class discussions Student shows proven ability to analyze data, gather and assess resources, and disseminate opinions in a scholarly manner.	Able to contribute to class discussions, and to perform a basic analysis of data, gather and assess resources, and express opinions in an adequate manner.	Beginning to visualize the ways in which information can be combined and applied to solving a given problem, but struggles with complex and relationships	Student shows motivation but must learn the concepts and mechanisms that apply to critical thinking, such as information gathering, assessment and synthesis	No attempt was made to achieve these objectives.
	Information Gathering					
	Assessment of Credibility					
Advanced Communication Proficiency	Public Speaking	Speaking is clear, using a broad range of vocabulary and relative jargon. Student uses appropriate social cues and nuance.	Able to create a relevant response when asked to express an opinion or respond to a complicated situation, but pronunciation and grammar can often make responses and explanations unclear to a listener and must be interpreted.	Able to answer questions and give basic information. However, inconsistent pronunciation, intonation and stress may sometimes make their responses difficult to understand or interpret.	Student is unsuccessful or finds it very difficult when attempting to explain an opinion or respond to a complicated scenario. The response may be limited to a single sentence or part of a sentence.	
	Social Skills					
	Professional Skills					
Global Perspectives	Cultural Relevancy	Fully engaged in current events and shows and understanding of social inequalities and cultural differences.	Student is aware of current events and world cultures, but is unable to apply macro-level situations to her/his own life.	Exhibits interest and intrigue in current events and world culture, but has difficulty understanding relevancy.	Student expresses one-sided ideals from an ethnocentric point of view. Completely lacks awareness of world issues or events.	
	Awareness of Current Events & Global Issues					
English Language Ability	Reading	Exhibits fluency/near fluency in speaking and writing. Grammar and reading ability similar to native English speaker. Able to use context clues when faced with unfamiliar vocabulary.	Proficient English ability; relies mainly on familiar vocabulary. Should be encouraged to advanced beyond comfort zone.	Adequate English ability; must reference dictionary often	Student has some English ability, but lacks confidence in using and understanding. Very limited vocabulary knowledge, struggles with grammar and pronunciation Unable to form questions	
	Writing					
	Oral Communication					
Japanese Language Ability	Reading	Able to express one's self clearly and succinctly both in writing and orally. Able to use context clues when faced with unfamiliar vocabulary.	Proficient oral and written communication; relies mainly on familiar vocabulary. Should be encouraged to advanced beyond comfort zone.	Adequate oral and written communication; tends to have difficulty clearly expressing ideas.	Student shows a lack of confidence in writing, reading, and oral communication. Very limited vocabulary knowledge, struggles with grammar Unable to form questions	
	Writing					
	Oral Communication					