

Political Science

Course # HUSS 1114

Credits 4

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites: None

Course Description

This course examines the complex and evolving role of the state within the contemporary global system, challenging the traditional view of the sovereign state as an autonomous actor. It analyzes how processes like globalization, economic interdependence, transnational social movements, and the rise of influential non-state actors (such as multinational corporations and international organizations) simultaneously constrain state power and create new demands for state intervention. Students explore critical tensions between global forces and domestic politics, investigating how states adapt their sovereignty, authority, and policy instruments to manage issues—from climate change and financial markets to security and human rights—that transcend national borders, ultimately questioning the state's continued primacy as the fundamental unit of political life.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

- Describe and discuss theories of the state
- Apply theoretical perspectives on the state to real life events and situations
- Reflect on the complex interrelation of states with each other as well as with other actors
- Analyze the varied impact of globalization and technological innovations on states
- Develop critical thinking skills in evaluating state responses to global issues.

Course Assessments and Grading

Item	Weight
Participation: <i>Participation in class sessions</i> <i>4 Case study discussions</i>	10% 10%
Oral presentations	25%
Quizzes	15%
Writing Tasks	20%
Final Paper	20%