



Global Politics

Nature of the Subject

DP global politics is a course that seeks to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of world politics, specifically by critically engaging with the political, economic, and social changes that are taking place on a global scale in the contemporary world. As such, the course draws on various disciplines within the social sciences as it seeks to make connections in the study of global politics from the local to the global levels. Students critically engage in an understanding of politics at a global level by focusing in on key concepts such as power, legitimacy, sovereignty and interdependence, through a variety of country case studies that are illustrative of power interactions, political systems, and frameworks.

Distinction between Higher and Standard Level:

The major difference between higher level and standard level is in the number of hours per week of class time, and an additional assessment via a Paper 3, which includes stimulus-based questions related to the HL extension syllabus which focuses on global political challenges. SL students taking the course are likewise required to answer 2 Paper 2 questions as opposed to 3 that the HL students are required to respond to.

Syllabus outline

The course begins with the core unit, which focuses on understanding power dynamics in a global context. This unit provides the basis for further analysis of the

key themes of the course. Thematic areas include a unit on rights and justice, with a focus on both individual and group rights and their universality versus their cultural context; political and social justice; liberty, and interpretations of equality. A third unit focuses on development and sustainability and the interconnection between these, while the final thematic unit, peace and conflict, tries to critically explore what peace means, how to measure it and attain it; peace movements and the role of civil disobedience. Contemporary real-world examples are used as illustrative cases to apply the key concepts of each unit and allow students to analyze and synthesis information, claims, and political lenses.

Prior Learning

Students are not expected to have prior knowledge of global politics. All course context and skills will be taught throughout the course. Following the news and the political events that are unfolding in the contemporary world do help students apply the knowledge they acquire, and thus students are encouraged to keep abreast of important political issues as they are emerging.

Assessment Objectives

Having followed the Diploma Programme course in global politics, students will be expected to:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- power relations
- political concepts
- relevant source material
- political issues and challenges

Apply and analyze:

- relevant concepts and tools to analyze contemporary issues and challenges in a variety of contexts
- identify and analyze information, claims and perspectives in source material
- identify and analyze relevant evidence to formulate, present and sustain an argument

Synthesize and evaluate:

- evidence (including source material)
- perspectives and approaches to global politics
- and examine and synthesize perspectives on political beliefs, positions, and biases

Use and apply appropriate skills:

- with respect to research & investigating political issues and their challenges
- in communication and analysis of political issues
- and in reflecting on the process and results of research and investigation

Teaching Approach

The IBDP at Anatolia College places emphasis on active learning, which allows students to engage with course material in a hands-on way. Inquiry-based learning emphasizes various types of questioning (factual, conceptual and debatable) and these are utilized in a classroom setting in global politics. Class debates, student presentations and inquiry-based units such as role play are utilized in the classroom. Global politics particularly focuses on international mindedness and actively applying country case examples which students can select when discussing and analyzing global political challenges using various political lenses (realism, liberalism, and various “critical theories” such as feminism, post-colonialism, and neo-Marxism).

Why students might choose this subject

Global politics is one of the social sciences, and would be of particular interest for those interested in studying economics, law, political science and particularly international relations. Students interested in international business, and other related careers will find the course useful and informative providing for a greater understanding of current events and world affairs.

Course Assessment

In-school assessment consists of both formative and summative assessments. Formative assessments have as a main goal to assist students in scaffolding for

analysis and synthesis, and focus on understanding and comprehension of the key concepts and theoretical lenses of global politics. These take the form of homework assignments, examination of particular country case studies, and other such assignments. Summative assessments include paper assessments done in class, structured debates in class, and inquiry-based unit activities such as structured role play and class presentations which are marked according to the IBDP marker's guide.

The **final Diploma grade** in the subject is determined by global politics assessment components which consist of:

1. Internal assessment:

Engagement Project

- A written report on a political issue explored through engagement and research

2. External assessment: Written examinations

Paper 1

- Source-based questions that address topics from the global politics core in an integrated way

Paper 2

- Extended response questions based on prescribed content from the thematic units of study

Paper 3 (HL only)

- Stimulus-based questions related to the HL extension syllabus (global political challenges)