

SUNY Potsdam
Fall 2021 Course Surveys

Course: 97584_EVAL_POLS335.001_popovimj_FALL21: Course Evaluation - INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT - Popovic - Fall 2021
Instructor: Michael Popovic *
Response Rate: 13/17 (76.47%)

1 - Reason for taking the course (complete all that apply):				
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses
Major-required	(6)	7	53.85%	
Major-elective	(5)	5	38.46%	
Minor-required	(4)	1	7.69%	
Minor-elective	(3)	1	7.69%	
General Education Requirement	(2)	0	0.00%	
Free Elective	(1)	1	7.69%	
Response Rate		13/17 (76.47%)		

2 - Class Year:									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
Freshman	(6)	0	0.00%						
Sophomore	(5)	1	7.69%						
Junior	(4)	5	38.46%						
Senior	(3)	6	46.15%						
Graduate	(2)	0	0.00%						
Other	(1)	1	7.69%						
Response Rate		13/17 (76.47%)		Mean	3.38	STD	0.96	Median	3.00

3 - Expected grade:									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
4.0	(13)	2	15.38%						
3.7	(12)	4	30.77%						
3.3	(11)	2	15.38%						
3.0	(10)	4	30.77%						
2.7	(9)	1	7.69%						
2.3	(8)	0	0.00%						
2.0	(7)	0	0.00%						
1.7	(6)	0	0.00%						
1.3	(5)	0	0.00%						
1.0	(4)	0	0.00%						
0.0	(3)	0	0.00%						
S	(2)	0	0.00%						
U	(1)	0	0.00%						
Response Rate		13/17 (76.47%)		Mean	11.15	STD	1.28	Median	11.00

4 - I attended class:									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
Always	(5)	6	46.15%						
Frequently	(4)	7	53.85%						
Moderately	(3)	0	0.00%						
Occasionally	(2)	0	0.00%						
Rarely	(1)	0	0.00%						
Response Rate		13/17 (76.47%)		Mean	4.46	STD	0.52	Median	4.00

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5 - How many hours outside of class did you devote to this course on average per week?							
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
9+	(5)	3	23.08%			3.62	
6-8	(4)	3	23.08%				
4-5	(3)	6	46.15%				
2-3	(2)	1	7.69%				
0-1	(1)	0	0.00%				
				0 25 50 100	Question		
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median	
13/17 (76.47%)				3.62	0.96	3.00	

6 - Rate the level of your participation in this course.							
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Very active	(5)	4	30.77%			4.00	
Active	(4)	5	38.46%				
Moderate	(3)	4	30.77%				
Minimal	(2)	0	0.00%				
Not active	(1)	0	0.00%				
				0 25 50 100	Question		
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median	
13/17 (76.47%)				4.00	0.82	4.00	

7 - What overall rating would you give yourself as a student in this course?							
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Excellent	(5)	4	30.77%			4.08	
Good	(4)	6	46.15%				
Adequate	(3)	3	23.08%				
Poor	(2)	0	0.00%				
Very Poor	(1)	0	0.00%				
				0 25 50 100	Question		
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median	
13/17 (76.47%)				4.08	0.76	4.00	

8 - Michael Popovic demonstrates competence in the subject area. -							
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Strongly Agree	(5)	13	100.00%			5.00	
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%				
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%				
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%				
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%				
				0 25 50 100	Question		
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median	
13/17 (76.47%)				5.00	0.00	5.00	

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9 - Michael Popovic's teaching is effective. -					
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Agree	(5)	12	92.31%		
Agree	(4)	1	7.69%		
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate			Mean	STD	Median
13/17 (76.47%)			4.92	0.28	5.00

10 - Michael Popovic is concerned with students' progress in the course. -					
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Agree	(5)	12	92.31%		
Agree	(4)	1	7.69%		
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate			Mean	STD	Median
13/17 (76.47%)			4.92	0.28	5.00

11 - Michael Popovic is available to students outside of class -					
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Agree	(5)	11	84.62%		
Agree	(4)	2	15.38%		
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate			Mean	STD	Median
13/17 (76.47%)			4.85	0.38	5.00

12 - Examinations relate well to the stated course objectives.					
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Agree	(5)	9	69.23%		
Agree	(4)	4	30.77%		
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate			Mean	STD	Median
13/17 (76.47%)			4.69	0.48	5.00

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13 - The work required in this course relates well to the stated course objectives.									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
Strongly Agree	(5)	13	100.00%		5.00				
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%						
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%						
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%						
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%						
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%						
				0 25 50 100	Question				
Response Rate				Mean	STD		Median		
13/17 (76.47%)				5.00	0.00		5.00		

14 - Michael Popovic evaluates student performance fairly. -									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
Strongly Agree	(5)	12	92.31%		4.92				
Agree	(4)	1	7.69%						
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%						
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%						
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%						
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%						
				0 25 50 100	Question				
Response Rate				Mean	STD		Median		
13/17 (76.47%)				4.92	0.28		5.00		

15 - I learned a great deal in this course.									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
Strongly Agree	(5)	13	100.00%		5.00				
Agree	(4)	0	0.00%						
Neutral	(3)	0	0.00%						
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%						
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%						
Does not apply	(0)	0	0.00%						
				0 25 50 100	Question				
Response Rate				Mean	STD		Median		
13/17 (76.47%)				5.00	0.00		5.00		

16 - Overall rating of Michael Popovic: -									
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
Excellent	(5)	11	84.62%		4.85				
Good	(4)	2	15.38%						
Adequate	(3)	0	0.00%						
Poor	(2)	0	0.00%						
Very Poor	(1)	0	0.00%						
				0 25 50 100					
Response Rate				Mean	STD		Median		
13/17 (76.47%)				4.85	0.38		5.00		

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17 - THE COURSE: Please comment on course content, requirement or any other aspect of the course.

Response Rate	13/17 (76.47%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micheal has been not only shown his expertise in the subject of International Conflict, but was so brave and kind to share his own experiences with the violent dissolution of Yugoslavia. He also shows these attributes in every class he teaches and shows the deep intellectual understanding but grace while teaching and giving students helpful resources. Michael has also shown that he cares deeply for the material he's teaching, but also for his students. Our classroom always has productive and respectful dialogue on difficult subjects and he talks on difficult subjects with respect and grace. This semester I personally have been struggling medically and Michael has been diligently working with me to make sure I am able to get the full benefits of the course while being accommodating to me and my health struggles. I have taken many classes with Michael over my college experience and I would recommend any of his classes to any student who wants an amazing professor and a kind amazing human teaching them. • The course content goes in dept and is very detailed. • I love the concept of this course and think it is a great course for Political Science majors regardless of where someone wants to go within the field. It's important to understand the international level as well as the domestic level in a deeper level than an introduction class. However I feel that there was an exceeding amount of work for the class. I understand that this is an upper division course however there is only so much a student can do. • The course content deals with outside the u.s.a., all countries and about the conflict they go through. it shows you what countries go through and what type of violence occurs. it is a seriuos and eye opening course. The course has documentaries and readings in it and some quizzes but it is mostly lecture. • While discussions tend to get dark in the class, they are never shied away from and having the dialogues help to discuss worries and our overall understanding of the world stage. Trying to pretend that these events are not happening does no help to a generation entering the world out of college. Overall the class has helped in further understanding how we function. • The course content was very dense and detailed, but it was needed to gain a deep understanding of the topic of International Conflict. • The course content while demanding was challenging, always pushing me to do better. The topics in this class were interesting and I believe that Professor Popovic does not get paid in proportion to how much he cares for the betterment of his students. • Our final project this year is a podcast about an international conflict. I thought this was a great idea, and provided a chance for us students to do something different while still accomplishing the goals of a research project. This project was certainly challenging because I had never done anything like it before, but overall it was a great learning experience, and I am glad that I completed it! This course was heavy on content, with many very complex and abstract readings which took a lot of time to fully grasp and understand. However this is the nature of an upper division elective, and I think all of the readings related well to the course objectives. I certainly learned a great deal from this course. I think my favorite part of this course was the time spent in discussion. This approach really makes students dig in and critically think about root causes and how difficult successful remedies can be to find. • I feel that the weekly readings and videos bring interesting perspectives that I wouldn't have thought of and be able to see things differently. The challenge we had as a class was being able to stay on track for the calendar regarding the deadlines, but we have managed to catch up on the readings later on. • Subject matter of this course was quite interesting, useful, and applicable to current events and trends in human history. The content allowed us as students to engage in meaningful dialogue that undoubtedly be used in the future. The final exam of the class, in the form, of a podcast is a new but exciting idea that enriched my experience as a student. • Sometimes when I leave a classroom I feel as I did not learn or gain much. That was not the case with this course. It has proved to be nothing short of an excellent experience. • The course content were article or pdfs of text book readings that relate to international conflict. There were videos we were assigned to watch that also relates to the class content like technology influence in politics and non state actor influence in international politics. We also did discussion leadership where students were each student was assigned a reading of their choice and had to present the reading and lead a discussion. We also had to do a presentation on a topic of our choice and a literature review on said topic, this was a part of our podcast final which relates to the topic we chose to study and present. • The course content was very helpful and useful when trying to understand how conflict works in international politics. The assignments given for each class were mostly reading important texts about conflict in a more traditional manner but also watching videos that were about media and technology and how these influence our lives and thus conflicts and wars. What I liked about the content was the variety of their information, theories and opinions, e.g. we were not just given texts made about the United States but about the whole world, as well as texts with different inclination in theories such as the realist, liberalist, constructivist and so on. It was also very helpful that from time to time we revised in class terms that were concerned with international relations as well. Another very original idea was to do a podcast instead of a long paper at the end of the semester. This assignment had different steps (case presentation, case prospectus, literature review, etc.) in order to be completed that made very much sense in order for us, the students, to engage with a specific case about international conflict and to feel as if we already have worked on the most part of the podcast even before we have to record it. 	

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18 - THE INSTRUCTOR: Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of Michael Popovic. Would you take another course from this instructor? -

Response Rate	13/17 (76.47%)
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- Please see above.
- An amazing and very caring teacher that is there for his student and try in any way he can to provide us with a safe class environment. I would definitely take another course with him and as a Nero-divergent student, I feel that Mike's teaching style is easily one of the most effective out of all my professors and he always checks in on his student and advisees.
- I love Popovic, he is a great professor and very knowledgeable. I appreciate how he really works with his students throughout the course and is someone I feel we are all comfortable with if we ever needed to talk to outside of class either academic or personal. I would take another course with this professor, however I don't think I could take an upper division course with other upper division courses due the extensive amount of work given in the class with all other work in a full semester. I think he is a great part of the Politics Department and SUNY Potsdam and would love to see Popovic throughout the rest of my academic career here at Potsdam.
- In the experiences I've had with Mr. Michael Popovic, I have encountered no weaknesses from him and only had positive experiences being a student in his classes. He is a positive, out going, fair, honest and intelligent professor. He has standards for his students but treats you fairly and is flexible to fix any problems you encounter. He is one of the best professors at Potsdam and highly recommend other students take any courses he offers. Yes I would take another course if he offered.= or if it was required in my major.
- Michael is engaging and each class I fell satisfied learning something new. While nearly a two hour class, I never felt the need to space out or to not contribute to what that class session was designated towards. I would take another class with this instructor.
- Popovic strength comes from his in depth knowledge of International conflict, because of that when it came to questions I had on the topic he would always provide a in depth response. Another strength of his is consideration for the mental health of students. His weakness is not something I really saw at all this semester.
- Professor Popovic is a lenient teacher who provides students with the ability to better their knowledge on the content of the course. I have been taking professor Popovic's classes since my freshman year. I am now a senior and even then, I believe that he has not let me down since then. If I could, I would take another of his classes.
- Michael Popovic is excellent at getting students to engage in discussions. His enthusiasm and his love for the material makes it easier for us students to engage in it more. I would certainly take another course with Professor Popovic, but sadly I do not think I will have that opportunity. I am very grateful for being one of his students, and definitely learned a great deal from all of his courses over the years. Best of luck moving forward, and THANK YOU!!!!
- The strength of Professor Popovic is that he is a caring professor who always tries to work with the students in a way that would help them in terms of needing clarification. Another strength I would highlight is his capacity to use his sense of humor to positively change the class atmosphere. One thing to work on is the deadlines for assignments because he had to change the literature review 2nd draft and have to do the podcast outline around the same time, so he realized that both assignments would have been tremendously time-consuming. Overall, I feel that Professor is genuinely concerned about our well-being and he always tries his best to accommodate all the students.
- Michael's substantial expertise in the subject area is profound and impressive. His particular background and schooling have made him a perfect match in terms of educating on international relations. Michael consistently engages with students to inform and motivate on the content areas of the course. He asks insightful and thoughtful questions that are imperative when teaching a seminar style course such as this. Michael is fair in his grading, but genuinely wants to see students succeed and will do whatever he can to help and support. Furthermore, Michael's sincerity goes a long way with his students, and his thoughtfulness and kindness help the success of the class, the students, and the university. Dr. Popovic is my favorite instructor I have had at SUNY Potsdam and I would definitely take another course with him.
- Michael has been my degree coordinator and advisor for the last two years and this is my first time being apart of one of his classes. I knew before hand that he truly cared about his students and helping them achieve, but taking a class with him only opened my eyes even more. Michael is able to produce the most engaging and quality classroom discussions I have ever had the pleasure of being apart of, and Potsdam is the second college I have attended. I believe his personal connection to the subject matter, his devotion to this field, and his genuine care for his students pave way to producing classroom discussions where practically every student is engaged. Michael stands out amongst all other educators I have had the pleasure of being mentored by. Any institution would be more than fortunate to have Michael be apart of their community. He is someone that everyone, not just students, can look up to for guidance and inspiration. Thank you Professor Popovic!
- Strengths: Tries to help students out with their progress in whichever way he can. Understands how difficult fall semester 21 has been for students who are back on campus after two semesters on zoom. Popovic also is willing to help when it comes to a reasonable extension if one is overload with work in other classes. Weaknesses: The schedule for this class was a bit unorganized in the sense of deadlines being switched and other stuff on the syllabus being switched. However, It is very clear and important to note that Dr. Popovic cares for his students and that's why he is concerned with student's progress and getting things done at a reasonable time. Dr. Popovic not only cares about the students in his class but the overall student population on campus. This is not something I would categorize necessarily as a weakness rather this is to point out that a professor like Dr. Popovic who cares greatly about his students in class makes students and outside of the classroom as well. Outside committee and campus work, like for any other teacher, is an extra workload aside from teaching.
- Michael Popovic is one of the professors who knows how to work with his students in a way that doesn't seem superior but still displays how much knowledge he has about the course he is teaching. His way of teaching are very good proportioned meaning that he knows when to be serious, when to make jokes and he always knows how to respectfully treat his students. Furthermore, he is always there for his students to support them and answer every question that one has. He also has the skills to let students know that he expects them to work without putting pressure on them and still being there in case there may be some issues of any form. Because I had the opportunity to have many classes about politics I can surely admit that Michael is one of the best if not the best professor I had in this subject. If I had the chance I would always take another course from him and encourage every other student that is seriously interested in international politics to do the same!