International Relations Theory & Practice (INR2002. 0002)

Credit: 3 Units

Professor Nikola Mirilovic

University of Central Florida

Spring 2012
MWF 1:30-2:20 pm
Classroom Building I 0120 (CL1 0120)

Office	Phillips Hall 302 J
Office hours	MWF: 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM, W: 3:30 – 5:00 PM; or by appointment
Voice	(407) 823-5082
Email	Through Webcourses (https://webcourses.ucf.edu)
Required book	Jeffry A. Frieden, David A. Lake, Kenneth A. Schultz *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions* ISBN: 978-1-60871-686-9. Available at the Bookstore.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Sabrina Stein. Email: sstein@knights.ucf.edu. Office hours: Tue 12-2 PM (Phillips Hall 312); W 8:15-10:15 AM (cpu lab, Phillips Hall 310)

Course Description: The study of international relations addresses issues of great importance. What are the causes of war and peace? What are the prospects for international cooperation? Will international economic integration continue to progress? In this class we address these and other relevant questions pertaining to international relations in the realms of security, of economic interactions, and of the politics involving transnational networks. We will introduce the key analytical tools and perspectives needed to understand these issues. We will also address the key contemporary international relations facts and developments.

Course Goals: 1) Students will be introduced to the key analytical tools needed to understanding international relations. 2) Students will further their knowledge of facts about key aspects of international relations and about developments with contemporary policy relevance. 3) Students will improve their writing and analytical skills.

Course Requirements: Your final grade will be based on a paper (5 pages; double spaced, standard formatting), a midterm exam, and a final exam.

The paper will account for 30% of your grade. It will build on course readings and the information included in class lectures. External research is neither required nor expected. The midterm will account for 25% of the final grade. The final exam will account for 45% of the final grade. The midterm and the

final will be based on the information covered in the course readings as well as the information included in the lectures.

Attendance is not mandatory in this course. However, please remember that the material covered by the course is delivered via readings as well as via in-course lectures. There is important information in the readings that may not be specifically addressed in class, and in-class lectures may go beyond the readings. The best way to do well in the course and develop a strong grasp of the material it covers is to attend the course regularly, read and carefully consider the required materials beforehand, and be prepared to analyze and discuss those materials in class.

We will be addressing contemporary events in this class: you should read newspapers and follow current events.

Extra Credit and Participation: You may receive an additional bonus towards your final grade, up to 5%, based on your participation in class discussions.

Course Correspondence and Webcourses: All correspondence with the instructor will be via Webcourses (https://webcourses.ucf.edu). I will usually respond to your message within 48 hours on business days.

Make-up Exam Policy: Make-up exams will be granted only in the case of an emergency and/or a university documented absence. If exam dates conflict with a religious holiday, please notify the instructor about this at the beginning of the class. I will seek to accommodate you.

Paper Lateness Policy: the penalty for submitting a paper late is one letter grade reduction for each day of lateness (i.e., an A paper submitted a day late will receive a grade of B; if submitted two days late it will receive a grade of C, etc.).

UCF Disability Statement: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center, Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

UCF Rules of Conduct: As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating are very serious academic offenses. Please refer to the University's Rules of Conduct (available at: http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu) for more information on these issues. Failure to comply with university rules may subject violator(s) to appropriate action by university authorities and/or appropriate civil authorities. The penalty for students who plagiarize or cheat on an exam or an assignment will include a grade of F on that exam or assignment.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100 points
A-	90 – 92 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	83 – 86 points
B-	80 – 82 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C-	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	63 – 66 points
D-	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

Course Schedule

Introduction, History and Fundamentals

January 9: Introductory Session (1 class)

No readings

1) January 11-18: Historical Background (3 classes)

Frieden, Lake and Shultz (FLS), Introduction & Chapter 1. pp. xix-xxx; 1-38.

NOTE: January 16: Martin Luther King Day: no class

2) January 20-25: Analytical Categories (3 classes)

FLS, Chapter 2. pp. 40-79.

International Security: War and Peace

3) January 27-February 1: Causes of War (3 classes)

FLS, Chapter 3, pp. 80-125.

4) February 3-8: Domestic Politics and War (3 classes)

FLS Chapter 4, pp. 126-168.

5) February 10-15: International Institutions and International Security (3 classes)

FLS Chapter 5, pp. 170-213

February 17: Midterm

International Political Economy

6) February 20-24: Trade (3 classes)

FLS Chapter 6, pp. 214-259

7) February 27 – March 2: International Finance (3 classes)

FLS Chapter 7, pp. 260-294

NOTE: March 5-9: Spring Break (no class)

8) March 12-16: International Migration (3 classes)

Readings: TBA

9) March 19-21: International Monetary Relations (2 classes)

FLS Chapter 8, pp. 296-329

10) March 23-28: Economic Development (3 classes)

NOTE: March 26: Paper due at the beginning of class

FLS Chapter 9, pp. 330-361.

Transnational Politics

11) March 30-April 6: Transnational Networks and Terrorism (3 classes)

NOTE: April 4: TBA (Professor attending a conference)

FLS Chapter 10, pp. 364-407

12) April 9-13: Human Rights (3 classes)

FLS Chapter 11, pp. 408-443

12) April 16-18: Environmental Politics (2 classes)

FLS Chapter 12, pp. 444-483

Looking Ahead

13) April 20-23: The Future of International Politics (2 classes)

FLS Chapter 13, pp. 486-530

Final Exam: Monday, April 30, 1:00 – 3:50 PM, our classroom (CL1 0120)

Note: This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion if necessary. Changes to the syllabus, if any, will be announced in class and the updated syllabus will be posted at Webcourses.