COURSE SYLLABUS

INR 2002
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Section:	WD59	**Office Location:**	311-D Phillips Hall
Term:	Summer 2011	**Office Hours:**	Wed 10am - 2pm
Course Location:	N/A	**Office Telephone:**	407-823-2984
Course Time:	Web course	**Email:**	kurt.young@ucf.edu
Credits:	3 Credit Hours		

COURSE DESCRIPTION

International Relations-Theory and Practice is "an analysis of the fundamental principles and factors affecting interstate relations and their application to contemporary global developments."

This is an exciting time to study the many global transformations taking place. At the same time, the current international environment is producing significant levels of change, uncertainty and anxiety. The broad aim of this course is to introduce students to the field of international relations and its theoretical approaches to understanding this global reality. More specifically, the course is a critical examination of the historical contexts, prevailing assumptions and the complex contemporary affairs that comprise the scope of international relations today. Throughout the semester, our analyses will be guided by three central themes. First, the fullest understanding of the contemporary global environment requires an appreciation of the historical forces that shape them. Second, appreciating international realities must be accompanied by a systematic critique of the core assumptions that govern them. Finally, exploring traditional and alternative perspectives in international relations is vital for understanding the totality of contemporary global dynamics. From these perspectives, students will be challenged to both dissect and reflect on important concepts in world affairs such as the state, nationalism, globalization, terrorism and their meaning in international relations discourse.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Relying on lectures by the professor, critical dialog, and student research, the course objective is that at the end of the semester students will have been provided with the ability to:

- Analyze contemporary issues using the fundamental theoretical and methodological approaches in international relations;
- Analyze and understand global systems and organizations.
- Examine and analyze interactions between international actors and institutions;
- Display an understanding of current international transformations, affairs and conflicts; and
- Demonstrate basic skills for critical thinking, analyzing, and discussing matters of international importance.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- World Politics: Trend and Transformation, 12th Ed., Charles W. Kegley, Jr.

- Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics, 13th Ed., John T. Rourke.

GRADING SCALE

90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
59 or lower	F

ASSIGNMENT GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Course Discussions/Postings:	20 percent.
Research Proposal:	10 percent.
Photo Essay:	20 percent.
Mid-Term Examination:	20 percent.
Final Examination:	30 percent.
Total:	100 percent.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS & PROTOCOLS

Participation & Discussion Guidelines:

Students are expected to consistently participate in online discussions. In order to do so, it is critical that all readings be completed as scheduled. Students will be assigned to research groups/themes listed below. Please be prepared to engage group members while respecting the views and opinions of other students as outlined in the course protocols listed below.

In each curriculum Lesson, after completing the assigned reading, look for the discussion questions. Then, go to the Webcourses Discussions link, select the topic that corresponds to your assigned group, and answer the question(s) for each lesson in the thread that has been set up for that lesson. Students must adhere to the following discussion post protocols:

1. Once discussion groups have been unlocked and you have read the posting protocols, you will be able to begin posting answers and comments to the lesson questions.
2. The deadline for discussion responses will always be 10:00 pm on the final Thursday of each lesson (see course schedule in syllabus).
3. You must post in a "timely" manner. Timely posting is defined simply as the posting of at least the initial answer(s) to question(s) on the **Wednesday** (by 10pm) before the Thursdays that lesson postings are due. **Remember, full discussion postings must be completed by 10pm Thursday**.
4. Make certain that you are posting answers and comments for questions in the appropriate thread (LESSON ONE, LESSON TWO, etc.). **Repeat**, do not start your own thread outside of the "LESSON" threads.
5. Once you have begun to post IN the lesson thread, you can create other subthreads IN the lesson thread if you like. **Note: Your posts will be deleted and will not be count if you do not follow these guidelines!**
6. There should be no new threads beyond the lesson threads I have created. This is to keep the posting clean and easy to navigate. You should only post items that relate to a question, debate, answer, etc. in the lessons. Others will be deleted. Post non-lesson related items elsewhere (main, help, notes, announcements, etc.).
7. Your responses should be at least 2-3 **complete** sentences long. The more specific you are the better.
8. *****Each student must post at least 1 initial answer and at least 1 reply to another student's answer for each question asked at the completion of the lesson (at least 2 substantive posts).*****
9. There must be reference to specific concepts, passages, quotes, imagery, characterization, etc., in the readings. You should verify this by citing that item (i.e. Rodney, p. 145). **This is very important!!!**
10. Get your postings in with enough time for others to respond. If you post late you will not be able to reply to other comments regarding your answers and arguments. Remember, post by Wednesday if at all possible.
11. Students are expected to post in their group. However, students can post in other groups after consulting with the professor.
12. Do not post answers without first doing the readings! First of all, it is intellectually dishonest to answer questions for readings you have not done. Second, it is not fair to those who have done the readings.
13. Finally, while you must be certain to follow the course protocols regarding civility, students are encouraged to challenge and critique each other's ideas.

PowerPoint Photo Essays:

Each student will submit **separate** Photo Essay in PowerPoint format that presents a case study that is directly connected to his or her assigned theme. This case study must explore and illustrate an international issue, debate, conflict or crisis within the assigned research theme (listed below). Thus, along with writing an essay, students are required to illustrate the research project by incorporating images available online (or self-scanned images from magazines, newspapers, etc.). The specific topic in the assigned theme will be left to each student but must be cleared by the Professor (see proposal below). The themes for the case studies are as follows:

1. African Crises in World Affairs
   - Democratic Transition in Egypt
   - The United Nations & Conflict Resolution in the Sudan
   - NATO and the Libyan Uprising
   - The International Criminal Court (ICC) & President Omar al-Bashir
   - NATO and the Dispute in Cote d'Ivoire
   - Understanding Piracy in Somalia
   - The Genocide Question in Darfur
2. U.S. – China Post-Cold War Relations: Détente or Superpower Tensions?
   - Implications of a Chinese Superpower
   - China & the Human Rights Dilemma
   - China & the Global Economy
   - China & the Socialism – Capitalism Debate
   - China & the Korean Crisis
   - Chinese Interests in the Developing World – Sudan
   - Chinese Interests in the Developing World – Venezuela
3. The Impact of Neo-liberal Globalization: Case Studies in the Global South
   - Structural Adjustment Programs in South Africa
   - Structural Adjustment Programs in Ghana
   - Washington Consensus & Venezuela
   - NAFTA, Mexico & the Zapatista Movement
   - Neo-liberalism & the Haitian Economy
   - The Free Trade Debate & Jamaica
   - The Free Trade Area of the Americas Debate
4. U.S. – Iran Relations: Diplomacy or Confrontation?
   - The 'Axis of Evil' as Foreign Policy Towards Iran
   - The Obama Administration & a New Iranian Foreign Policy
   - Iran & U.S. Interests in the "Middle East": Iran & the Palestinian Question
   - Iran & U.S. Interests in the "Middle East": Iran – Iraq Relations
   - Implications of a Nuclear Iran
   - Mossadeq, the Shah & Iranian Foreign Policy
   - Iran & the Military Option
5. U.S. – Pakistan Policy: Implications for U.S. Interests
   - Pakistan, Afghanistan & U.S. Regional Interests
   - India, Pakistan & U.S. Regional Interests
   - The U.S., Pakistan & the Taliban
   - The "War on Terror" and President Pervez Musharraf
   - The "War on Terror" and President Asif Ali Zardari
   - The Assassination of Benazir Bhutto: Implications for U.S. Interests
   - U.S. – Pakistan Relations: Contrasting Bush & Obama

6. Resolving the Israel – Palestinian Conflict: Prospects for Peace
    The Palestinian State Debate
    The Israeli Settlement Debate
    Prospects for a Two-State Solution
    Continuity & Change: Contrasting Bush & Obama
    Israel, Iran & U.S. Influence
    The Hezbollah Factor in Israel
    Israel – Palestine & the War in Iraq

Again, note that, although the term "group" is used here, your Photo Essays will be individual projects.

Regarding actual structure of the Photo Essay, a good way to look at it is that you will submit a thoughtful and well-written essay that is illustrated with images that depict whatever perspective or hypothesis you are exploring. There should be some clear focus that you are trying to convey that determines the pictures you select and the paragraphs you write per each slide. The Photo Essay must include at least the following:

14. First slide = title slide with a cover photo and student information.
15. Second slide = introductory PARAGRAPH detailing focus of the photo essay. No photo needed. Slide text fonts should be either size 14 or 16.
16. Content slides = the main body of the essay including content paragraphs coupled with images that illustrate the point being expressed in the text. Minimum of 10 and a maximum of 25 content slides. Slide text fonts should be between size 14 and 18. Multiple pictures are allowed on one content slide but should not exceed 4 per slide. The source of the images should be pasted in the caption (no need to cite the sources).
17. Final four slides = a four (4) item annotated bibliography using ONLY scholarly and non-website sources including books and journal articles (1 source per slide). These sources must be cited in the content slides/body of the essay any version of the Chicago style.
    a. No Internet encyclopedias (i.e. Wikipedia) will be accepted as scholarly sources.
    b. Use of course textbooks as sources is not allowed.
    c. Newspapers and magazines are not considered scholarly but exceptions can be made only after consultation with the professor.
    d. Be sure to cite all your sources in the body of the photo essay.
    e. Sources must include at least 1 book and at least 1 journal article.
    f. Full text scholarly Journal articles posted at online library databases are acceptable for your bibliography. Be sure to cite the source (journal or periodical) first, followed by the URL.
    g. Annotations should be at least 5 sentences long per each source. Text fonts for bibliography slides must be size 12.
18. Essay line space must be 1.5.

Research Proposal:

Prior to submitting the photo essay, students must submit a research project proposal in the appropriate assignment. The purpose of this is to outline in clear terms the specific focus of your photo essay. The research proposals explain the specific topic

that you will base your photo essay on. NOTE: The essay should NOT be the same as the theme but on a narrow topic in that theme. Proposals must be submitted using the following format:

I. Statement of the Problem Introduce and explain the issue/problem you are researching and why it is important in and/or to the topic you are researching. One 4-sentence paragraph.
II. Research Question In one sentence, translate the issue you outline above into the form of a question. The photo essay will then provide what may be answers to that question. One question.
III. Hypothesis Based on the preliminary research on your topic, what do you think are the answers to your research question? In other words, what do you think the research will demonstrate? Two sentences.
IV, Tentative Bibliography What are the significant scholarly sources that you have found that may contribute to the research? List 4 items. Properly cite only scholarly sources. No need to annotate here. Again, internet encyclopedias (i.e. Wikipedia), blogs, newspapers, magazines, online media sites and other non-scholarly sources are not acceptable.

Photo essays proposals must adhere to the following guidelines:

19. Proposal must be organized according to the categories provided in the chart above.
20. Proposal must be submitted in the assignment entitled "Research Proposals."
21. All proposal resubmittals must be returned within one week after initial grades.
22. No final project will be accepted without an approved proposal.
23. Proposal changes require approval from the professor and submittal of a new chart.
24. Final assignments that differ from the approved proposal are unacceptable and will not be graded.

There are no exceptions to these procedures and failure to follow them will result in an "F" for the assignment.

Useful Research Sites:
The following format should be used for annotations:

- http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/AnnBib_content.html

The following sites are useful examples of photo essays:

- http://www.cbc.ca/arts/photoessay/rexdale/index.html
- http://www.pbs.org/now/photo_essay20/1.html
- http://www.pbs.org/now/photo_essay20/1.html

The following sites are useful examples of citations:

- http://www.lib.usm.edu/research/guides/turabian.html

- http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocChicago.html
- http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/legacylib/mlahcc.html

Exams:

All exams will be completed in Webcourses. Exams will open on the assigned day in the "Assessments" link. Students are allowed two hours to complete the exam. Please note that answers will not be provided online and students must visit the professor to discuss scores. The Final will be cumulative. Please see Webcourses protocol below for technical difficulties during exams.

COURSE POLICIES & PROTOCOLS

Regarding technical difficulties, missed/late assignments & make-up examinations:

25. ***<u>Students citing technical difficulties with Webcourses as responsible for a missed or incomplete assignment, exam or posting deadline must record and provide the following information immediately</u>:***
    a. The name of the "techranger" or other UCF/Webcourses tech support staff person you consulted for help;
    b. The day and time you called for help;
    c. The instruction(s) they provided you; and
    d. The outcome after your attempts to correct the problem(s).
26. Students who miss an assignment as a result of an excused reason must submit the assignment upon return to coursework.
27. Excuses for medical reasons must be accompanied by a doctor's (or health professional's) signed statement on their business letterhead.
28. Students who miss an exam as a result of an excused absence must consult the professor upon return to coursework in order to schedule a make-up exam (within one week).
29. Students who miss an assignment for any unexcused reason will have three (3) days after the due date to submit it. Please note that the assignment grade will be dropped one letter for each day. No assignments will be accepted after the third day.
30. Students who miss the mid-term or the final examination for any unexcused reason will not be allowed a make-up.

Regarding student conduct:

31. **<u>Students caught cheating or found guilty of plagiarism will be automatically issued a grade of "F" for the course and pursued under any applicable university-level sanctions</u>.** Please note the following definitions of plagiarism:
    - Using another student's work, meaning anything from borrowing one phrase to copying an entire paper.
    - Submitting a paper or report (or any portion of such a paper) purchased from a commercial source.

- Borrowing the exact words of another writer without acknowledging the debt by quotation mark and either a citation or an overt, explicit reference to the source in the body of your essay.
- Borrowing the ideas of another writer by paraphrasing or rewording without acknowledging the source.

32. Please consult the University of Central Florida's "Golden Rule" policy. http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/

Additional Policies & Protocols:

33. Please remember to send all course related emails to Webcourses Course Mail and not GroupWise. Your GroupWise emails regarding course concerns and questions will not be answered.
34. Patience is necessity in online courses. Please expect replies to your emails within 48 hours. Do not expect replies to emails over the weekend and holidays.
35. Students with disabilities and requiring alternative arrangements must register with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116. Students should then inform the instructor and provide any relevant documents.
36. **Copyright notice: I have taken steps to ensure that all course material, including this syllabus and the lectures associated with this class, are protected by copyright law as my own original expression. Students are authorized to take notes in class and thus create their own "derivative work" from my lecture, but this authorization extends only to your personal use. Reproduction, distribution, or publication (on-line or otherwise) of transcribed or taped versions of my lecture or course material is not permitted without my express written consent.**
37. The professor reserves the right to alter the syllabus as needed. Students will be notified accordingly.
38. All students opting to remain in this class demonstrate an agreement with the policies outlined above.

COURSE SCHEDULE*

LESSON	WEEK	TOPIC	REQUIRED READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS	DEADLINES
1	5/16	Introduction Research Assignments International Relations as a Discipline International Relations	*World Politics*, Chapter 1	Initial post by: 5/18 Final post by: 5/19
2	5/23	IR Theory & Approaches Theoretical Approaches in IR Security & Realism Peace & Liberalism	*World Politics*, Chapter 2 *World Politics*, Chapter 14 *World Politics*, Chapter 16 Online: *John J Mearsheimer,* "Hans Morgenthau and the Iraq war: realism versus neo-conservatism"	Initial post by: 5/25 Final post by: 5/26
3	5/30	Defining & Extending Power in IR International Decision-making The Global South in IR Research Proposals Due 6/3	*World Politics*, Chapter 3 *World Politics*, Chapter 5 *Taking Sides, Issues 16 & 17*	Initial post by: 6/1 Final post by: 6/2
4	6/76	International Actors IR & the Great Powers Non-State Actors in IR	*World Politics*, Chapter 4 & 7 *World Politics*, Chapter 6 *Taking Sides, Issues 5 & 21*	Initial post by: 6/9 Final post by: 6/9
5	6/13	The International Political Economy The Globalization Debate: The Declining State? The Globalization Debate: A Global Village? Mid Term Examination: 6/17	*World Politics*, Chapter 9 *World Politics*, Chapter 11	Initial post by: 6/22 Final post by: 6/23
5	6/20	The International Political Economy The Globalization Debate: International Trade Globalization In Practice: The Developing World	*World Politics*, Chapter 10 *Taking Sides, Issues 1 & 2*	Initial post by: 6/22 Final post by: 6/23
6	6/27	International Conflict & Warfare Contemporary Threats & Conflicts National Security in IR Collective Security PowerPoint Photo Essays Due 7/1	*World Politics*, Chapter 13 *World Politics*, Chapter 15 *World Politics*, Chapter 17 *Taking Sides, Issue 13 & 14* Documentary: The Fog of War	Initial post by: 7/6 Final post by: 7/7
7	7/4	Sustainability in IR Sustainability & the People Sustainability & the Planet	*World Politics*, Chapter 8 *World Politics*, Chapter 12 *Taking Sides, Issue 19* Audio: An Hour With Vandana Shiva (requires realplayer)	Initial post by: 7/6 Final post by: 7/7
	7/11	Concluding Discussions IR into the 21st Century	*World Politics*, Chapter 18	Final post by: 7/12

		Final Examination: 7/15		