INR 4603.0M80
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY

COURSE SYLLABUS

Dr. Robert Bledsoe
6:00-8:50pm M
D150/212

robert.bledsoe@ucf.edu
drbledsoe@ucf.edu

OFFICE: Main Campus/Phillips Hall 302"I"
Daytona Campus 150/200
HOURS: 9:00-10:00/12:00-3:00 MWF (Main)
5:00-5:50M (Daytona)

Course Purpose: This one semester course is designed to provide you with an in-depth introduction to a variety of theoretical approaches to the study of international relations. It will initially focus on such "major" theoretical traditions in the discipline as realism, liberalism, the so-called English school and a variety of alternative theoretical approaches, including Marxism (a somewhat pivotal approach viewed as both a major theoretical tradition and an alternative theoretical approach), constructivism (viewed by some as a new contender as a "major" theory), poststructuralism/postmodernism, critical theory, feminism, and global justice/environmentalism.

Course Requirements: The course will consist of a series of lectures/outside assignments revolving around each of the theoretical approaches to the study of international relations. Reading assigned chapters before we discuss them is critical to your success in the course, since we will be discussing substantive material from the chapters in your textbook. The textbook for the course is:

Paul Viotti and Mark Kauppi, *International Relations Theory*. 5th ed. Longman. 2012.

Reading the assignments and keeping up with lectures is your responsibility. Pace yourself according to the topics under consideration during lecture periods as reflected in the Assignments section of the syllabus. Since this is a "M" (reduced seat-time) course, we will meet on alternate Mondays and, for the blank weeks, you will do outside online assignments as part of the course. This way, the course will nurture your critical thinking and writing skills

Examinations: There will be 3 examinations during the course on the following days.

Monday, February 10
Monday, March 17
Monday, April 28

Each examination will consist of ten short answer essay questions. Please provide me with 3 test booklets ("blue books"), which will be used for your exam answers. When giving them to me, please make sure they are in new condition and not crumbled, folded,

or soiled. Would you want to take you exam in one in that condition? Give me all 3 at the same time to make it easy for me to record that you have given them to me. Put your name in the upper right hand corner of one of them when you hand them in to me. This is a course requirement and failure to comply will result in a grade reduction at the end of the course. It is not my responsibility to provide you with exam booklets. **There are no makeup examinations**. Furthermore, there will be no early final, so plan your marriage, holiday vacation, etc. for after finals week. All exams will be written in pen (not pencil). Once exams have started, no one may leave the classroom. Make sure you are ready to stay for 50 minutes without a break (or up to 3 hours in case of the final).

Grading Scheme: There are 10 possible grades for the course.

3 midterm exams (10 points each)		= 30 points
7 assignments (10 points each)		= 70 points
	Total	= 100 points

Just remember, there are no makeup exams. There are also no makeup assignments for missed assignments. Once the deadline for turning them in has passed, they may not be turned in late, period. Plan wisely!

Course Grade:

90-100	= A	
80-89	= B	
70-79	= C	
60-69	= D	
< 60	= F	Note: no +/- grades

Assignments: These are Chapters in the course textbook.

January 6:	(class) Introduction; IR Theory	(1)
January 13:	(class) Realism	(2)
January 20:	(no class) Assignment: *Lord of the Flies*	
January 27:	(class) Liberalism	(3)
February 3:	(no class) Assignment: Interviews	
February 10:	(class) 1st midterm exam; Critical Theory (Economics)	(4)
February 17:	(no class) Assignment: Wallerstein	
February 24:	(class) English School	(5)
March 3:	Spring Break	
March 10:	(no class) Assignment:	
March 17:	(class) 2nd midterm exam; Constructivism	(6)
March 24:	(no class) Assignment: *Wag the Dog*	
March 31:	(class) Feminism	(8)
April 7:	(no class) Assignment	
April 14:	(class) Normative Theory	(9)
April 21:	(no class) Assignment	
April 28:	Final Exam (7:00-10:00pm)	

WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY AND MAY YOU HAVE A SUCCESSFUL SPRING SEMESTER

Some Ground Rules

Classroom:	No attendance is taken but continued absences will be reflected in your course grade, as what we do in class is not always in the textbook If you are late for class, please come in anyway but try not to disturb the class when doing so No food, drink (except water), or smoking in classroom Use of laptops or tape recorders are ok but all other electronic devices are turned off
Communications:	In addition to normal office hours, you may reach me via e-mail (see top of front page of syllabus – please note that the University e-mail is accessible to the public, so my private e-mail address should be used if you are concerned about confidentiality) or via telephone Main campus (407-823-2608) Daytona campus (386-506-4066)
Final grades:	During the term, grades are handed back with exams and are not posted on myGrades. Only the final course grade is posted for you to retrieve online. If you wish materials returned to you, provide me with a stamped, addressed mailer and I will do so at the end of the grading period. No grades will be given out by the Department staff, so please do not call them

Note: Changes in the syllabus during the course are at the discretion of the Instructor