INR 2002 - International Relations: Theory and Practice
Instructor: Rebecca Kaiser

FALL 2015 Syllabus

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Rebecca Kaiser (Mrs. Kaiser)
Office	302 Howard Philips Hall
Office Hours	Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10:00 – 11:30 Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 – 2:30 Or by appointment
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Course Information

Course Name	International Relations: Theory and Practice
Course ID & Section	INR 2002, (90776, 0002-LEC)
Credit Hours	3 credit hours
Semester/Year	Fall 2015
Location	Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-4:15, Building BA2, Room 207

Course Description

INR 2002 COS-POLS 3(3,0), International Relations-Theory and Practice:

Pre-requisite: ENC 1102 (Composition II) or C.I. (Consent of Instructor). The course will focus on the analysis of the fundamental principles and factors affecting interstate relations and their application to contemporary global developments. Offered Fall, Spring. This class is a lecture format to introduce the student to the theoretical trends prevalent in the study of international relations. Prerequisite: ENC 1102 or C.I.

Course Objectives

Objective 1:

Students will develop knowledge and analysis skills about international relations theories and contemporary issues.

Objective 2:

Students will learn presentation and discussion skills.

Objective 3:

Students will enhance critical thinking skills.

Objective 4:

Students will enhance writing skills.

Required Text

- Required Text: Nau, Henry R: *Perspectives on International Relations: Power, Institutions, and Ideas,* Fourth Edition, Sage Publishing, 2015, 4e + National Geographic Atlas of the World, ISBN 978-1-4833-6976-1

  Available at UCF Bookstore under INR 2002, Kaiser

  Student access available at: https://edge.sagepub.com/nau4e
  (recommend Chrome or Firefox for full admin functionality)

Supplemental Texts

- Top Five: Read and be prepared to discuss and analyze the top five international relations events as reported daily Monday through Friday for the semester. The types of events to read will be explained during the first week of class. Resource used by the instructor is: Yahoo World News, available at http://news.yahoo.com/world/

- Other Readings as may be assigned.

Course Requirements

Assignments	Percentage of Final Grade	Due Date
Course Activity	0	08/25/15, 5:00 PM
“About Me” Assignment	5	09/05/15
Quizzes	20	Weekly as listed in schedule
Current Event Discussions	10	Weekly as listed in schedule
Writing Assignment Proposal	5	10/17/15
Midterm Exam	20	10/27/15
Writing Assignment	15	11/14/15
Oral Presentation	5	Based on weekly topics as listed in schedule
Final Exam	20	12/10/15, 1:00-3:50 pm
Total	100%	Grades posted 12/23/15

Scantrons will be required for the Midterm and the Final. Student activities in the Student Union provides a limited number for free, or you may purchase them from the bookstore or vending machines. Please obtain the tan-colored scantron.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit

All written assignments and quizzes will be submitted online through webcourse submission. Assignments are due by 11:00 pm on the day of the assignment. Late assignments will be penalized 10% of the assignment points for each full calendar day they are late, up to as much as 30% of the assignment points, unless a compelling and verifiable explanation is offered and documented. Make-up exams may be given if they are missed for compelling, unexpected, and sufficiently verifiable reasons. However, students making up exams must take them within the week unless health problems keep them from coming to campus. Students making up exams will not be given the same exam that was originally

administered. The make-up exam will be similar to the original exam, and will cover the same topical areas, but will have different questions to answer.

Extra Credit: Opportunities for Extra Credit will be given during class meetings and through online assignments and discussions.

Evaluation and Grading

Grades are based upon your performance of the assignments and requirements of this course.

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

Academic Activity

During the first week of school, the university requires each student to conduct an activity for each class. This activity will by a syllabus quiz for this course and will be available on the webcourse under the section “Quizzes”. Please complete the required activity online for this course by Friday August 28, 2015 at 5:00PM Orlando time.

Teaching Philosophy

Education is a tool for improving the quality of life. Education is not an end in itself but a process. My teaching philosophy is to encourage critical thinking, innovative problem-solving, practical application of theory, and tolerance of diverse ideas and cultures from an international perspective. To achieve these goals, I employ an interactive teaching style, which empowers students by encouraging them to contribute to the ongoing discussion of both familiar and unfamiliar topics and materials. My teaching goals are both to share my academic knowledge and experience with my students and to inspire and help them to become life-long learners. I am willing to assist my students to achieve their goals and objectives. It is my responsibility to provide the opportunity and tools to learn and achieve the course objectives.

Academic Honesty

Do not cheat, as this clearly violates the UCF Golden Rule Student Handbook and violates several aspects of the UCF Creed. Unless otherwise specified by the instructor, your work must be your own, so don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. Cheating can come in many forms, including plagiarism. Plagiarism is when writers use other people's words or ideas and do not give them credit. Use footnotes or endnotes to give credit for direct quotes, paraphrased quotes, or borrowed ideas. Feel free to discuss readings and ideas with fellow students, but if you use their ideas, please reference them accordingly. If you don't know what footnotes or endnotes are, please ask me. Do not quote or paraphrase without giving credit in footnotes or endnotes. Do not copy or use papers or sections of papers from the web or other sources. I assume that all students in this class could write a better term paper than the junk sold on the Internet and will not resort to such dubious sources for their assignments. In the event that I suspect a paper of being plagiarized, I will use Turnitin.com to help with that determination. Instances of cheating that result in a grade being penalized will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Assignments on which cheating occurs will be penalized with an F and the weight of that assignment when factored into the final grade will be increased two-fold. For example, cheating by plagiarizing a portion of the short writing assignment would mean that 30% of your final grade would be a 0. I will adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students who need accommodations must be register with Student Accessibility Services, 4000 Central Florida BLVD, Ferrell Commons 7F, room 185, phone (407) 823-2371.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

About Me

This written assignment is one page minimum, two pages maximum in length. Your paper must include your name, why you were named that name by your family, and demographic details you want to share. Explain your goals for school and your goals for the next year. Tell a true story about any travels you have experienced out of the country. If you have never been outside the United States, you can explain out-of-state travel. If you travel anywhere outside the United States, where would you go, why, and how long would you travel? Explain why you decided to take this class and what you hope to learn in it. Finally, explain where and what you see for yourself in five years time. Please follow the written assignment guidelines and submit on webcourses by the due date.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes will be offered on the web courses for this class and will consist of multiple choice questions. The quizzes will have a time limit, must be taken alone without the aid of any other student, and you may take the quiz only once. The quizzes are designed to assess your knowledge of the material covered during the previous week's assignment.

Midterm and Final Exams will be administered in class on the dates outlined in this syllabus. These exams are multiple choice and short answer covering the material covered in class up to the date of the exam. The exams are designed to test your individual knowledge of the course material. You will need a scantron sheet for the multiple choice portions of the exams.

Writing Assignment

This written assignment is a minimum of 2000 words, maximum of 2500 words in length. You will choose a theoretical perspective and a contemporary global issue for your paper topic. Topics must be approved by the instructor in advance and you will submit a short one page summary of your topic and what you will analyze. (Please see schedule for proposal due date). After your topic has been approved, you will write your paper and use at least five current references (published scholarly journal articles or magazine articles, dated 2013-2015) to support your analysis. Types of references and how to find them will be discussed in class. You may also obtain assistance from the USF Library staff. The focus of this assignment is your ability to analyze the international relations in the contemporary global environment.

Discussion

Class discussions are an important part of the class and will focus on topics in the text and current events. All class discussions can become testable material found on quizzes and/or tests.

General Policies

In accordance with the university's rules and regulations, the instructor will pursue the following general policies:

1. The instructor reserves all rights to modify the content of the syllabus, class schedule, and/or the course, as it becomes necessary.

2. With no exception, students **MUST** only use Course Mail, if they need to contact the instructor.

3. **The 24 hour promise:** All student messages will be responded within 24 hours of receipt. If you do not receive a reply from the instructor within 24 hours (during regular business days & hours) after sending your message (when instructor is not out-of-town), it means that your message was not received. Please re-send the original message.

4. Respecting students' privacy, the instructor provides a student record only to the student himself/herself on a one-to-one basis. She will not discuss one student's case in front of others in any public forum. Thus, students must directly contact the instructor, if they have questions about their own records, grades, or particular situations.

5. The instructor encourages and welcomes questions as well as comments from all students. However, she will not allow any student to intimidate other students or dominate the class discussion. No student is allowed to impose his/her ideas on others or create an unhealthy class environment.

6. Your course grade will be based upon your performance on quizzes, midterm and final exams, writing assignments, presentations, and class attendance, posing critical thinking questions, and participating actively in the discussions. Please direct any questions about your grade to the Instructor.

7. The instructor respects religious holidays & may modify a deadline on an occasion. Please inform the instructor at least two class meetings ahead of time if your religious holiday is not listed on the UCF calendar. Opportunity to accommodate your religious obligations will be provided.

8. Since some of our course materials are on-line, all students MUST check Course Mail, class Web Forums, and their e-mails at least three times a week (recommend Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) for new class announcements, news, messages and/or updates by the instructor.

9. Without exceptions, ALL written (gradable) assignments (postings and quizzes) MUST be submitted to our Course Website. **The format requirement is double-spaced format, black color font, New Times Roman font, and 12-point font size.** You are responsible for grammar and spelling in all your work. While this is not an English Grammar class, you are expected to present your thoughts in a readable fashion without distractions from spelling errors, poor word choices, and long continuous sentences. Be careful with your punctuation and the use of dashes is discouraged. It is recommended that you READ YOUR WRITING OUT LOUD at least twice before you finish the assignment and turn it in. A good tip for spelling and grammar, in addition to using the word processor spell checker, is to start at the end of your paper and work backwards. You will find those mistakes commonly missed more often using this method. Be especially careful of homonyms (such as there, their, and they're) and whenever possible, avoid contractions (such as don't; use do not instead). **You must list any references you use that are not your own ideas.**

10. For this course, email communications will be conducted through the course web site on webcourse. The Instructor must use students' e-mail addresses from the UCF e-Community. Email addresses from other Internet providers (Yahoo, Gmail, AOL, etc.) are not considered official, and will not be used for this course by the instructor. Students should use their official student email account.

11. If you have an official name change during the term, you must inform the instructor immediately, since UCF does not do that.

12. Students should regularly check our Website Assignments Deadline page and avoid submitting assignments to our Course Website at the last minute. The Website clock may be different from your own time, and that may lead students to miss a deadline. Late assignments are considered missed. ALL Assignments will be submitted through the UCF online course (WebCourses) assignment submission process. It is your responsibility to submit assignments before the Website deadlines, which for this class will always be **11:00 PM (Orlando time) on the date an assignment is due.**

Viruses

A virus can spell disaster. Your use of a reputable anti-virus program is a requirement for participation in this course (good ones include McAfee or Norton).

Also, back up your files!! Saying "My hard drive crashed." "My modem doesn't work." "My printer is out of ink," are today's equivalents of "My dog ate my homework." Although these events really do occur and they are really inconvenient when they do, you should always save your file(s) regularly as you work. These are not valid excuses for failing to get your work submitted on time.

Technical Resources

For specific problems in any of the areas below or for further information go to the corresponding link for assistance.

- UCF Home Page will help find UCF resources
- UCF Service Desk – You can also call the Service Desk at 407-823-5117.
- Learning Online This site provides information on study skills for distance learners, the library and the writing center.
- Buying a new computer or upgrading your current equipment – http://www.cstore.ucf.edu/
- Hardware/Software Requirements
- Technical Discussion Topic: If you have technical questions and/or problems, please post a message to the Technical Discussion Topic. I encourage members of the class who are technically proficient to also monitor this discussion topic and assist your classmates.
- If your equipment problems prevent you from using e-mail from home, there are many computer labs on campus and virtually every public library offers Internet access.

Schedule

Time Frame	Topic	Assignments	Due Dates
August 27, 2015	Last Day to Drop	Last Day to Drop and Request Full Refund	Thursday, August 27, 2015 11:59 PM
August 28	Add Deadline	Last Day to Add Courses	8/28/15 Friday 11:59 PM
August 25 – August 29	Introductions and Course Overview	Read and Review Syllabus Complete Attendance Activity Online Read Introduction and Chapter 1	8/28/15 Friday 11:00 PM
August 30 - September 5	Module 1: How to Think about International Relations	Review Chapter 1 Discussion Quiz Chapter 1 Read Chapter 2 **"About Me" Short Paper due** **Thursday – NO CLASS,** Classes dismissed at 3:00 PM for the UCF Football Game	9/05/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
September 6 – September 12	Module 2: World War I	Review Chapter 2 Discussion	9/12/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
September 13-September 19	Module 2: World War I	Review Chapter 2 Discussion Quiz Chapter 2 Read Chapter 3	9/19/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
September 20 -September 26	Module 3: World War II	Review Chapter 3 Discussion	9/26/15 Saturday 11:00 PM

September 27 – October 3	Module 3: World War II	Review Chapter 3 Discussion Quiz Chapter 3 Read Chapter 4	10/03/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
October 4 - October 10	Module 4: Origins and End of the Cold War	Review Chapter 4 Discussion Review Chapter 4 Discussion	10/10/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
October 11 – October 17	Module 5: Realist Perspectives on Today's World: Dominance, Balance of Power, and State Institutions	Review Chapter 5 Discussion Quiz Chapter 5 **Writing Assignment Proposal Due**	10/17/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
October 18 – October 24	Midterm Exam Preparation	Review Chapters 1 - 5 Discussion	10/24/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
October 25 – October 31	**MIDTERM**		
October 27	**Midterm Exam**	**Midterm Exam** on Chapters 1,2,3,4, and 5 will be held on October 27	10/27/15 Tuesday
October 29	Midterm Review	Review Midterm Exam Read Chapter 6	10/31/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
November 1- November 7	Module 6: Liberal Perspectives on Today's World: Collective Security, International Negotiations, Institutions, and Law	Review Chapter 6 Discussion Quiz Chapter 6 Read Chapter 7	11/07/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
November 2	Withdrawal Deadline	Last day to Withdraw from Course	11/02/15 Monday 11:59 PM

November 8 - November 14	Module 7: Identity Perspectives on Today's World: Democracy, Religion, Ethnicity, and Human Rights	Review Chapter 7 Discussion Quiz Chapter 7 Read Chapter 8 **Writing Assignment Due**	11/14/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
November 15- November 21 November 15- November 21 continued	Module 8: Realist and Liberal Perspectives on Globalization: Trade, Investment and Finance	Review Chapter 8 Discussion Quiz Chapter 8 Read Chapter 9 **Thursday – NO CLASS,** Classes dismissed at 3:00 PM for the UCF Football Game	11/21/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
November 22 - November 28	Module 9: Identity Perspectives on Globalization: Development and Environment **Thanksgiving**	Review Chapter 9 Discussion Quiz Chapter 9 Read Chapter 10 **No Classes Thursday or Friday**	11/28/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
November 29 - December 5	Module 10: Critical Theory Perspectives on Globalization: Inequality, Imperialism and Injustice Course Review	Review Chapter 10 Discussion Quiz Chapter 10 Course Review	12/05/15 Saturday 11:00 PM
December 7 - December 11	Final Exam Week		
December 8	**Study Day**	NO CLASSES at UCF	12/08/15 Tuesday
December 10	**Final Exam**	**Final Exam covering all course material** will be December 10, 1:00 – 3:50 PM	12/10/15 Thursday
December 23	**Grades Available on myUCF**	Course grades available online at myUCF at 09:00 am	12/23/15

Notes: The opening time for all online assignments are Sunday, at 08:00 AM on the opening date unless otherwise indicated.
Due Deadlines for online submissions are 11:00 PM Saturday on the deadline date unless otherwise indicated.

Check the "Class Announcements" for the course online and your student email account every day for any changes or updates from Mrs. Kaiser.

Please feel free to contact the instructor if you have any questions or concerns during the semester.