International Relations Theory & Practice

INR 2002, Section 0003

Political Science Department

University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Rebecca Schiel	Term:	Fall 2016
Office:	HPH 313	Class Meeting Days:	M, W, F
Phone:	407-823-0113	Class Meeting Hours:	10:30 – 11:20
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Office Hours:	11:30-1 M & W	Credits:	3

1. Welcome!

Welcome to International Relations Theory and Practice. My aim in this course is to introduce you to the fundamental principles and actors that drive the process of international relations. I hope that I can inspire in you an interest in political science and international relations. Please come to office hours or email me with any questions or concerns.

2. University Course Catalog Description

Analysis of the fundamental principles and factors affecting interstate relations and their application to contemporary global developments.

3. Course Overview

This course will focus on three main areas:

- The first part of the course will explore the fundamental concepts in international relations including the state, sovereignty, and power.
- The second part of the course will focus on the main international relations theories including Structural, Normative, and Social theories.
- The third part of the course will focus on issues facing the international community today and will include terrorism, conflict, inequity, and environmental security.

4. Course Objectives

The objectives of this course include:

- Enhancing your understanding of international relations theory, practice, and events.
- Improving your critical thinking and analytical writing skills.
- Helping you to become an educated global citizen capable of intelligently consuming news and events from around the globe.

5. Course Prerequisites

This is an introductory course; no prerequisites are required.

6. Required Texts and Materials

1. Goldstein, Joshua and Jon Pevehouse. 2014. *International Relations* 10th Edition. Pearson.
2. Diez, Thomas, Ingvild Bode, and Aleksandra Fernandes Da Costa. *Key concepts in international relations*. Sage, 2011.

7. Readings on Webcourses

Occasionally I will assign short readings and news articles that are not in the course textbooks. These readings will be listed in the course schedule and located on webcourses under the *files* tab. The readings listed in the schedule that are available on Webcourses are denoted with an asterisk and the letter W (*W).

8. Basis for Final Grade

Assessment		Percent of Final Grade
Midterm	10/7/16	25%
Final	12/12/16	25%
Outline	10/21/16	10%
Short Essay	11/4/16	20%
Attendance		5%
In-class quizzes TBA		15%
		100%

Grading Scale (%)	
90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
0 - 59	F

9. Course Policies: Grades

Late Work Policy:
Make-ups for in-class quizzes, midterms, and final exams will be granted in extreme situations including unforeseen and documented circumstances, such as illness. Please provide documentation of such an event within a week of the due date and note that these requests are subject to the approval of the instructor. Please meet with me directly in the case that you need a makeup. Homework or essays turned in late will be assessed a penalty: 10 points if it is one day late, and 10 points for each day thereafter. Essays will not be accepted if overdue by more than seven days.

Grades of "Incomplete":
The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the "I" will automatically be recorded as an "F" on your transcript.

10. Course Policies: Technology and Media

Email:
Email in this course will be utilized for the purpose of instructor-student communication. You must use webcourses to for any emails sent to me. Grades will not be sent through email.

Webcourses:
Webcourses should be checked *at least* 3 times weekly. I will post readings that are not in your course textbooks there. I will also send emails with any changes to the syllabus or schedule on webcourses. Finally, grades will be posted on webcourses.

Laptop Usage:
Please use your laptops and other devices (cell phones, tablets, etc.) for activities related to the class only. If I find that you are using your laptop for another purpose that is disturbing students, you will be asked to leave.

Classroom Devices:
Please consult with me individually should you wish to record the lectures in any way.

11. Course Policies: Student Expectations

Disability Access:

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 who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Attendance Policy:
Your attendance grade makes up 5% of your total grade. You are expected to show up to class for every meeting. However, everyone gets sick, has car trouble, or has unexpected responsibilities at work. You are therefore allowed up to 2 absences. More than two unexcused absences will result in a deduction from your attendance grade of 2 points per unexcused absence.

Professionalism Policy:
Mobile phones, iPods, *etc*. should be silenced during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc*., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

Academic Conduct Policy:
Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/) for further details. As in all University courses, The Golden Rule Rules of Conduct will be applied. Violations of these rules will result in a record of the infraction being placed in your file and receiving a zero on the work in question AT A MINIMUM. At the instructor's discretion, you may also receive a failing grade for the course. Confirmation of such incidents can also result in expulsion from the University. You must work on your own assignments, all work must be original for the course (you cannot use papers/essays produced for another class), and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

University Writing Center:
The University Writing Center (UWC) is a free resource for UCF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you on anything you're writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, visit the UWC website at http://www.uwc.ucf.edu, stop by MOD 608, or call 407.823.2197.

12. Important Dates to Remember

Drop/Swap Deadline:	Thu, Aug 25th 2016
Short Essay Outline Due:	Fri, Oct 21st, 2016
Grade Forgiveness Deadline:	Mon, Oct 31st 2016
Withdrawal Deadline:	Mon, Oct 31st 2016
Midterm Exam:	Fri, Oct 7th 2016
Short Essay Due:	Fri, Nov 4th, 2016
Classes End, Last Day to Remove Incomplete:	Sat, Dec 3rd 2016
Final Examination:	Mon, Dec 12th 2016 (10 AM)

13. Religious Observances

Students are expected to notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class to observe a holy day of their religious faith. For a current schedule of major religious holidays, see the Faculty Center's main web page under "Calendars," and for additional information, contact the Office of Diversity Initiatives at 407-823-6479.

Holidays

Labor Day	Mon, Sept 5th 2016
Veterans Day	Fri, Nov 11th 2016
Thanksgiving Holiday	Fri, Nov 25th 2016

14. Assignments:

A. Short Essay (20%) & Outline (15%):

Due Dates:
OUTLINE: 10/21/16
SHORT ESSAY: 11/2/16
- Working alone, you will submit an outline for short essay. The outline should be no more than 1 page in length and could be shorter.
- The outline will describe the topic of the paper, the central argument, and the main points.
- You will turn in the outline on 10/21/16 and I will return the outline to you with comments on 10/24/16. These comments should be incorporated into your final essay for maximum credit.
- The essay will explain how one of the major theories of International Relations that we have discussed can explain an international event in the last 24 months.
- The essay should be no more than 3 pages (double spaced, 12 point font, times new roman, 1 inch margins).

Example:
TOPIC: My essay will describe how the fall of ISIS in Fallujah (June 2016) can be explained by Liberalism.
MAIN ARGUMENT: Liberalism asserts that international cooperation is possible when states determine that to achieve a goal, cooperation will be more beneficial than competition. In this case, the international community, including the U.S., Russia, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and the EU all cooperated to remove ISIS from the city of Fallujah.
MAIN POINTS:
- Competition would not have solved the problem
- International integration was necessary for cooperation
- Cooperating states benefitted from the security arrangement

B. Quizzes: 15%

This course will offer you the tools to be an engaged global citizen. To remain engaged, you need to keep up with the news. I suggest checking with websites including BBC, Al Jazeera, and the domestic news outlet of your choice (this might include CNN or Fox). I will give quizzes in some class periods focused on current events. Quiz questions will focus on major events in international news and are not designed to trick you.

C. Midterm Exam: 25%

The midterm exam will consist of both multiple choice and short essay questions based on the assigned readings and in-class lectures. There will be an in-class review for the exam on the class meeting prior to the scheduled exam.

D. Final Exam: 25 %

The final exam will consist of both multiple choice and short essay questions based on the assigned readings and in-class lectures. There will be an in-class review for the exam on the class meeting prior to the scheduled exam.

E. First Week Academic Activity:

As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began the course, please complete the week 1 academic activity by 5 PM on 8/26/16, or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so will result in the delay of the disbursement of your financial aid. To complete the assignment, go to webcourses quizzes and complete the 1-question quiz.

15. Schedule

Note that Readings followed by *W can be found in webcourses

Date	Readings	Description	Due
8/22	First day of class; no readings	Review the syllabus and discuss course expectations	
8/24	Review Map *W	Geography discussion	
8/26	Review UCF Library's *Services* and *About* pages ***MEET IN Library room 235C	Source discussion	****First week academic activity due in Webcourses**
8/29	Read 22-50 (Bueno de Mesquita) *W	History Refresher	
8/31	Read 215-224 (Dietz et al.)	Sovereignty & Borders	
9/2	Read 2-38 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 126- 128 (Diez et al.)	Core Principles	
9/5	**Labor Day – NO CLASS**		
9/7	Read 78-83 (Diez et al.)	Actors and the International System	
9/9	Read 51-61 (Bueno de Mesquita) *W	Theory Discussion	
9/12	Read 67-81 (Bueno de Mesquita) *W	Theory Continued	
9/14	Read 1-9 (Diez et al.) Read 42-48 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Power & Anarchy	
9/16	Read 49- 79 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	International System, Alliances, & Strategy	
9/19	Read 173- 186 (Diez et al.)	Realism & Neorealism	
9/21	Read 84- 95 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Liberalism	
9/23	Read 16-21 & 129-134(Diez et al)	Democratic Peace	
9/26	Read 96- 110 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 209- 215 (Diez et al.)	Social Theories	
9/28	Read 100- 103 & 135-144 (Diez et al)	Ideas & Norms	
9/30	Read 110- 125 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 51-57 (Diez et al)	Gender and Feminism	
10/3	Read 127-136 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 57-62 (Diez et al.)	Foreign Policy Making	
10/5	Midterm Review		
10/7	****MIDTERM EXAM** **Bring a brown scantron**		

10/10	136-151 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Domestic Preferences	
10/12	News Articles labeled 10/10 *W Review Short Essay guidelines	Current Events (**Quiz 2) Essay Guidelines & Topics	
10/14	Read 152- 188(Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 150- 154 (Diez et al.)	Conflict & Identity	
10/17	Read 192- 204 and 209-226 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Military Force & Weapons	
10/19	Read 204- 209 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read	Terrorism	
10/21	****NO CLASS **ESSAY OUTLINE DUE in WEBCOURSES**	No class, instructor attending conference	****ESSAY OUTLINE DUE in WEBCOURSES**
10/24	Read 232-254 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	International Organizations & Outline Discussion	**Receive feedback on outline**
10/26	Read 254- 276 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	International Law & Human Rights; Outlines Handed back	
10/28	Rwanda Readings *W	Case Study: Rwanda	
10/31	Read 198-204 & 89- 108 (Diez et al.)	Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention	
11/2	Read 282- 314 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Political Economy	
11/4	****SHORT ESSAY DUE;** no readings	Turn in essay and discussion	****SHORT ESSAY DUE**
11/7	Read 354-369 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 73- 83 (Diez et al.)	International Integration & Globalization	
11/9	Read 409-413 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 145-149 (Dietz et al.)	Population & Migration	
11/11	**Veterans Day – NO CLASS**		
11/14	Read 424-454 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	**(Quiz 3) North-South Gap	
11/16	Sudan Readings *W	North-South Gap Case Study	
11/18	Read 386- 409 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Environmental Security	
11/21	Read 460- 483 (Goldstein & Pevehouse) Read 27- 32 (Diez et al.)	International Development	
11/23	Afghanistan Readings *W	Afghanistan Case Study	
11/25	**Thanksgiving Break – NO CLASS**		
11/28	Read 484- 297 (Goldstein & Pevehouse)	Foreign Aid	
11/30	Read Bates *W	Rise of Non-state actors	
12/2	Final Exam Review		
12/12	****FINAL EXAM 10:00 AM- 12:50 PM Bring brown scantron**		

***Note: The Schedule is subject to revision