INR2002.0W59 IR Theory & Practice

Fall 2018 Syllabus

Instructor Contact

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Course Information

Course Name	International Relations Theory & Practice
Course ID & Section	INR 2002.0W59
Credit Hours	3 credit hours
Semester/Year	Fall 2018
Time & Location	Not applicable, online

Course Description

There are a lot of countries out there. In fact the world is full of them! In this course we will examine factors that influence the behavior of states and other international actors. We will begin by reviewing some important events in world history and explore the issue of globalization today. Second, we will delve into issues related to war, peace and international security. Our study of these topics will focus on issues related to power politics among states and some alternative perspectives. Specifically, we will consider phenomenon such as foreign policy, military force and terrorism. In the final half of the course, we will examine issues related to international political economy, international organizations and human rights, the gap between rich and poor countries and global environmental challenges. In a curricular sense, this course can be used to satisfy Basic Core Requirements for IGS Majors or the Area B requirement for students majoring in Political Science.
Prerequisite: ENC 1102 or consent of the instructor.

Note: This course provides a good foundation for students planning to take INR 4603 to help satisfy the Advanced Core Requirements for the IGS Major or the Area C requirement for student majoring in Political Science.

Course Objectives

- Objective One: help students understand trends and developments in the practice of international relations as well as major theoretical perspectives and insights offered by political scientists
- Objective Two: help students understand the influence of international relations on their own lives
- Objective Three: help students to improve their skills in the realm of critical thinking and written communication

Required Materials

- REVEL for International Relations by John C. Pevehouse and Joshua Goldstein, Brief Edition, 7e is the digital text you'll be using to access assignments throughout the semester. To access your materials, follow the link address (unique to this course) below.
    - Go to: https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/tppfxj
    - Sign in or create a Pearson Account.
    - Click View access options to redeem your access code or buy instant access. (Temporary access option for financial aid available.)
- This material which includes: practice quizzes (optional to complete that do not count toward you grade) as well as videos, and simulations that will need to complete. Since I am not requiring you to use the hardcopy text, I have not asked the book to purchase hardcopies. Of course, if you prefer to work with hardcopies of the text, you can order a hardcopy on your own and use the E-text until the hardcopy arrives.

Course Requirements and Grade Table

A	B	C	D	E
Assignments	**% of Final Grade**	**Assignment Scores***	**Component Score = column B x column C**	**Open/Due Date**
Quizzes & Information Literacy Tutorial	20			See the schedule below
Discussion posts	10			See the schedule below
Midterm Exam	25			Oct. 8, 12:01 AM & Oct. 10, 11:59 PM
Paper	20			Nov. 4, 11:59 PM
Final Exam	25			Dec. 3, 12:01 AM to Dec. 5, 11:59 PM
Total	100%	**Add Column D to estimate grade →**		

***** Add grades for each type of assignment and divide by the number of grades for this task, except for discussion post grades which should be added.

Very Important Note: Because Canvas' gradebook is incapable of doing the kind of sophisticated weighting scheme I am using, you **should not** rely on gradebook in Canvas for what it reports as your final course grade. Instead you should take the grades for particular assignments and plug them into the grade table on the previous page and do the calculations accordingly. If assignments are not yet completed and you are trying to estimate your current course grade during the semester, divide your total for column D by the percentage of the final grade that has been completed. For example, if you have done everything except the final exam, divide your total for column D by 70 since you have only completed the assignments equal to 70% of your course grade.

Quizzes and Information Literacy Tutorial Assessment: These will usually include one online multiple choice quiz with one correct answer for each question. These quizzes will usually cover substantive information from each module covering any assigned courses materials, including course readings, video assignments, simulations from REVEL, etc. Before Module 4 concludes you will also be expected to complete the UCF Online Information Literacy tutorial "Avoiding Plagiarism Using Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition" and the assessment included in it, which will be counted as a separate quiz. This tutorial can be found in Webcourses. This tutorial should help to improve course paper grades above what they would be otherwise and help avoid instances of

plagiarism. If you take the assessment associated with it twice, you will receive the average of your two scores.

Important Note: All faculty members are required by UCF to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, you should complete a graded syllabus quiz that is ideally due by 11:59 on Friday, August 24th or as soon as possible for those who add the course late. Failure to complete the assignment will result in a zero for the assignment and could cause a delay in the disbursement of any financial aid (this is a new UCF policy and beyond my control). To do this task, go to the myUCF portal (https://my.ucf.edu) and select the Webcourses@UCF button on the left side of the screen. Log in with your NID and NID password, then access the course by selecting it in the "Courses" dropdown menu at the top of the page. From the course homepage, click on the Assignments tab to left, then click on Syllabus quiz, complete the quiz and submit.

Discussion Posts: During each module you are expected to make two (2) kinds of online posts to students in groups that you will automatically be assigned to at the end of the first week of the semester: an initial response post and a follow-up post for each of the eight (8) course modules we will be covering. For each module, your discussion post and replies should be a few paragraphs, and certainly not fewer than 70 words, although you might easily need two or three times as many to fully answer the question and reply to others. Thus, you will receive a total of 8 grades for discussion posts across the course of the semester. Initial posts are worth nine (9) points and follow-up posts are worth four (4) points for a total of 13 points per module. If you do not complete an initial post before the initial post deadline, you will not be able to post a reply post for credit either. These will be graded following the rubric criteria, which everyone should read carefully, which can be found in the Syllabus section under the Modules tab on our courses' website on Webcourses@UCF. The total points you can accumulate for discussion posts will be aggregated in accord with the table posted below.

Type of Post	**Number "graded" x point value**	**Total points**
Initial responses	8 x 9=	72
Follow-up responses	8 x 4 =	32
Total Points	8 x 13=	104

Timing: Traffic jams are frustrating whether they are on I-4 or online. Since students are expected to make initial posts and follow-up (or reply) posts to an initial post made by another student for each module, it is important that everyone not wait until the last minute to make their initial post. Thus, students must complete their initial posts before the last Thursday before each module closes. Keep in mind that even though new modules do not open until Mondays, you may want to read ahead to facilitate posting early during each module period.

Discussion Posting Schedule			
Module #	**discussion board opens at 12:01 AM on Monday (except for Module 1 when its Saturday)**	**11:59 PM Thursday deadline for 1st posts**	**11:59 PM Sunday deadline for follow-up posts (except for Module 8 when its Saturday**
1	Aug. 20	Aug. 30	Sept. 2
2	Sept. 3	Sept. 6	Sept. 9
3	Sept. 10	Sept. 20	Sept. 23
4	Sept. 24	Oct. 4	Oct. 7
5	Oct. 8	Oct. 18	Oct. 21
6	Oct 22	Nov. 1	Nov. 4
7	Nov. 5	Nov. 15	Nov. 18
8	Nov. 19	Nov. 29	Dec. 1

Midterm Exam and Final Exam: Multiple choice exams will be administered after Module 4 and Module 8. The final exam will be cumulative to the extent that it will cover some material from the midterm exam, but it will be much more heavily weighted to cover material following the midterm exam. Students tend to do less well on their short paper than other assignments such as the exams so you should not only invest serious time and effort in crafting your papers, but also do the very best you can on other assignments such as the exams if you want high marks at the end of the semester.

Short paper: For this assignment you will write a short reflection paper (with between 1,400 and 1,600 words (not including your title page) on one of the assigned course simulations for Modules 1 through 5. For these papers, you should: 1) briefly describe the simulation, 2) apply concepts covered in the particular chapter for which the simulation was assigned to different elements within the simulation, 3) discuss what knowledge or greater understanding you gained from doing the simulation, and 4) critique the simulation by explaining in what regard it was unrealistic or how it could have been made more enlightening (not merely more entertaining). Papers should use 11-point font, double-spacing and 1 inch margins.

This assignment will be graded in accord with the following distribution of credit.

Mechanics of writing	20%
Simulation description	10%
Application of concepts	20%
Knowledge or understanding gained	10%
Critique	10%
Proper citation and documentation	20%
Organization of paper	10%
	100%

Please note that mechanical elements of writing including, but not limited to proper spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc. are all important components of formal writing such as a college paper. Typically most students lose points on papers for me because of mechanical flaws in their writing, so take steps to minimize those kinds of flaws in your work. Poor performance in this regard could lower your paper grade by as much as 20 points, so take steps to avoid this eventuality. Sound writing skills will help you not only when applying for jobs or further educational opportunities, but once you secure those opportunities. Also, please consult the section below on academic dishonesty for details on how to avoid plagiarism. Since all papers will be about the simulations, it is not necessary that you cite them in your paper. For our purposes, we will treat them as common knowledge in a research paper. However, if you quote directly from the online simulation text, quote directly from another source or borrow ideas from other sources, or refer to facts that are not common knowledge or included in the simulations, they must be cited using Chicago Style.

Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy: Quizzes are due by dates outlined in the syllabus and may not be made-up unless they are for an officially UCF excused absence, an excused religious holiday or a military deployment. Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes, intercollegiate debaters, etc) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied. For more information, see the UCF policy (http://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.1MakeupAssignmentsForAuthorizedUniversityEventsOrCocurricularActivities.pdf). Also, you must notify me in advance if you intend to miss class for a religious observance and want latitude for completing assignments. For more information, see the UCF policy (http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALOct17.pdf). Finally, if you will be a deployed person who is either on active military duty and/or serving with the National Guard/Reserve personnel and will need an accommodation, you should contact me as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements. Everyone should keep in mind that once a module opens, quizzes and initial posts can be completed before those assignment deadlines, so try to work within the regular flexibility of this online course rather than needing to seek accommodations that only deal with the deadlines. Similarly, waiting until the last hours before an assignment is due to submit it risks having it not excused without having a verifiable, compelling, significant and unexpected excuse.

Make-up exams may be given without penalty in instances mentioned above or when students have a verifiable medical, funeral, excuse or one that is sufficiently verifiable, compelling, significant and unexpected. When no such excuse exists students will be allowed to take exams late, but they will be penalized by 10 points “off the top” and by 10 points for every 3 hours that pass

from the time an exam began, up to a maximum of 30 points. Late papers will be penalized 10% for each full calendar day they are late, up to as much as 30%. I do not offer extra credit, so direct your energies accordingly.

Evaluation and Grading

The grading scale for this course is listed below. For more details on the evaluation criteria, see the specific tasks listed under Course Requirements.

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

Communicating with the Instructor Online: This document was created to empower you to answer many questions on your own as responsible and maturing learners. If you have questions that are not answered by this document, do not hesitate to contact the instructor by email. However, if you email questions that are easily answered within this document, do not be surprised if you get a reply encouraging you to "Keep calm and read your syllabus." ☺ Communicate online with the instructor using either his UCF email address (Paul.Vasquez@ucf.edu) or using the email feature within Webcourses rather than replying to postings under the Announcements tab, as he can respond to emails much more quickly. Check the class announcements in Webcourses several times each week for any changes or updates.

Academic Integrity Expectations

Do not cheat. Students are prohibited from cheating by including, but not limited to: 1) attempting to use unauthorized materials for academic assignments, n of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating; 2) presenting material obtained through the effort of someone other than the student for the student's assignment credit, 3) selling course materials such as class notes or assigned work to other students; 4) falsifying or misrepresenting one's academic work; and 5) plagiarism (including using another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own or submitting work for more than one class without instructor approval). After taking the UCF Online Information Literacy tutorial "Avoiding Plagiarism Using Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition," you should clearly understand my expectations of you with regards to correctly citing material. Thus, you should do this prior to starting to write your course paper. For more details on academic integrity matters, you are encouraged to consult UCF's Rules of Conduct (http://osc.sdes.ucf.edu/process/roc) and UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule* (http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/docs/goldenrule.pdf).

All UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so we must seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. If I determine that there has been an instance of unambiguous academic dishonesty in the course, I will inform you of my concern, report the violation to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, and assign you a 0 grade for the associated assignment. At the end of the semester, a letter grade of Z, indicating academic dishonesty, will precede the letter grade earned. For more information about the Z grades and the process for appealing such a finding, please consult the following website: (http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade).

Campus Safety

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to face-to-face courses, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. Therefore, to stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on the Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert", fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."

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 online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Academic Support Services

Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) (Trevor Colbourn Hall, Room 117/ (407) 823-5130): If you have trouble succeeding in this class and comprehending the material, you might benefit from contacting this office for assistance with improving your study skills.

UCF Counseling Center (Building #27/ (407) 823-2811): Students experiencing challenges, including, but by no means limited to stress, anxiety, or depression, that are hindering their ability to be the best they can be should contact this office for help. There is absolutely no shame in getting help so that you can attempt to live up to your true potential.

Accessibility Statement: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) (http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/) (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

University Writing Center: The University Writing Center (UWC) offers writing support to UCF students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Trained peer consultants provide help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The UWC's purpose is not merely to fix papers or to make better writers, but to teach writers' strategies to navigate complex situations for writing, both in and outside the University. Consultations are available for individuals and small groups. To make the best use of the UWC, visit far enough before your due dates to allow yourself time to revise after your consultation, browse the writing resources on our website, and arrange a regular weekly appointment if you'd like long-term help. You may schedule a 45-minute appointment by phone or by using the TutorTrac scheduler on our website; walk-in consultations are also available. The main location is in Trevor Colbourn Hall, Room109, which can be reached at 407-823-2197 or http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/. In addition, the UWC seeks graduate and undergraduate tutors from all majors; contact the UWC to learn more about peer writing consulting and ENC 4275/5276: Theory & Practice of Tutoring Writing, our three-credit tutor-education course.

Schedule for International Relations (IR) Theory and Practice

Topic	Assignments	Open & close dates	Open & close times
Syllabus	**Syllabus Quiz**	Aug. 20 - Aug. 24 (or ASAP for late enrollees)	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM (or ASAP for late enrollees)
Module 1: Introduction to IR **Chapter 1. The Globalization of International Relations**	Discussion Quiz	Aug. 20 – Sept. 2	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 2: Realism **Chapter 2. Realist Theories**	Discussion Quiz	Sept. 3 - Sept. 9	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 3: Liberalism **Chapter 3. Liberal and Social Theories**	Discussion Quiz	Sept. 10 – Sept. 23	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Module 4: Violent Conflict Chapter 4. Conflict, War and Terrorism	Discussion Quiz **Information Literacy Tutorial**	Sept. 24 – Oct. 7	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
	Midterm Exam	Oct. 8 – Oct. 10	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 5: Trade and Finance Chapter 5. Trade and Finance	Discussion Quiz	Oct. 8 – Oct. 21	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 6: Global Governance Chapter 6. International Organizations, Law and Human Rights	Discussion Quiz **Course Paper due**	Oct. 22 – Nov. 4	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 7: North-South Relations Chapter 7. North-South Relations	Discussion Quiz	Nov. 5 – Nov. 18	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 8: The Global Environment Chapter 8. Environment and Technology	Discussion Quiz	Nov. 19 - Dec. 1	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
	Final Exam	Dec. 3 – Dec. 5	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Other important Dates:

Date	Event
Thursday, Aug. 23, 11:59 P.M.	Drop deadline
Friday, Aug. 24, 11:59 P.M.	Add deadline
Monday, Oct. 26, 11:59 P.M.	Withdrawal deadline

General procedures for each module (more details will be provided with each module as it is released)

Required Activities/Assignments:

1. **Text:** Read and take notes over the assigned reading.

2. **Online Materials:** Do the assigned online assignments, including watching the instructor videos.

3. **Discussion posting:**
    a. You will be given questions related to the required activities for each module that you will need to answer in the form of a discussion post to a particular discussion group to which you will be automatically be assigned at the beginning of the semester. To do this, go to the Discussions Tab in the course navigation menu and post your answers to the questions for the appropriate module as denoted on the schedule above (for more detailed guidance on this process, please see the **Discussion Postings Participation Protocol and Grading Rubric) .**
    b. Typically, you will be able to start on this assignment as of 12:01 AM on the first Monday in each module, and initial posts must be completed by 11:59 PM on the last Thursday of the module. Please note, however, that discussion groups will not be determined until after the drops/swap/add deadline, which means that it will be impossible to post discussion posts for the first module until 9:00 A.M on Saturday, August 25.
    c. Take note that everyone must post a follow-up response to at least one other student by the end time for the assignment in to receive credit for doing a reply, which is why everyone must make their initial post before 11:59 AM on the final Thursday of each module. To post your response, go to the Discussions Tab in the course navigation menu and post your response to one of the answers from a fellow classmate in your discussion group that has not already been the subject of a reply for the blog title that corresponds to the topic of each module (for more detailed guidance on this process, please see the **Discussion Postings Participation Protocol and Grading Rubric).** Usually you will be able to start on this assignment once one of your group members has posted an answer (that **has not** already been replied to by another member of your group) after 12:01 AM on the first Monday of a new module and it must be completed by 11:59 AM on the Sunday that ends each module. Remember, however, that discussion groups will not be determined until after the drops/swap/add deadline available, which means that it will be impossible to post discussion posts for Module 1 until 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, August 25. Initial posts for Module 1 must be completed by 11:59 PM on the last Thursday (August 30) of the module.

4. **Quiz:** Go to the Quizzes Tab and complete the quiz for each module between 12:01 AM on the first Monday of each module and 11:59 PM on the last Sunday of each module. This quiz is based on topics related to this module's content. You have one attempt to complete this quiz, which is usually open for 15 minutes.