International Relations Theory & Practice

INR 2002, Section 0003

Political Science Department
University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Rebecca Schiel	Term:	Spring 2017
Office:	HPH 313	Class Meeting Days:	T, TH
Phone:	407-823-0113	Class Meeting Hours:	3:00 – 4:15 PM
E-Mail:	Rebecca.schiel@knights.ucf.edu	Class Location:	ENG I 0227
Office Hours:	1:00 PM- 2:45 PM T, TH	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. 2017. *International Relations* 11th 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	2/16/17	20%
Final	4/27/17	25%
Outline	2/28/17	10%
Short Essay	3/21/17	20%
Presentation		10%
Attendance		5%
Participation		10%
		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.

Pop Quizzes:

A large part of your success in this course is coming to class prepared. This is a lecture and discussion based course so you are expected to prepare for class by completing all assigned readings. If the instructor feels that students are not prepared for class, a pop quiz, worth up to 15% of your grade, will be issued on the day's readings.

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 or discussed 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 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, Jan 12th 2017
Short Essay Outline Due:	Tues, Feb 28th 2017
Grade Forgiveness Deadline:	Wed, March 22nd 2017
Withdrawal Deadline:	Wed, March 22nd 2017
Midterm Exam:	Thu, Feb 16th 2017
Short Essay Due:	Tues, March 21st 2017
Classes End, Last Day to Remove Incomplete:	Mon, April 24th 2017
Final Examination:	Thu, April 27th 2017 (1- 3:50 PM)

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.

14. Assignments:

A. Short Essay (20%) & Outline (10%):

Due Dates:
OUTLINE: Tues, Feb 28th 2017 (in class)
SHORT ESSAY: Tues, March 21st 2017 (in class)
- Working alone, you will submit an outline for short essay. The outline should be no more than 1 page in length.
- The outline will describe the topic of the paper, the central argument, and the main points.
- You will turn in the outline and I will return the outline to you with comments. 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 10 years.
- The essay should be at least 2,000 words (double spaced, 12 point font, times new roman, 1 inch margins) and should not exceed 3,000 words.
- You are required to utilize *at least* 5 sources for the paper. These sources can include academic journal articles, books, news articles, or scholarly websites. You may use no more than 2 news articles to meet this guideline.

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. Presentation: 10%

Each student will present his or her short essay to the class. The presentation is worth 10% of your grade. Further details on the presentation will be discussed in class.

C. Participation: 10%

This course will offer you the tools to be an engaged global citizen. To remain engaged, you need to prepare for class. Students should complete the assigned readings for each class period and come to class prepared to discuss them. The course includes both lecture and discussion and therefore participation in discussions is key. The instructor will keep a record of student participation in discussion, resulting in your participation grade. As a rule, be prepared to participate at least once in each course meeting.

D. Midterm Exam: 20%

The midterm exam will consist of current events, 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. I suggest checking with websites including BBC, Al Jazeera, and the domestic news outlet of your choice (this might include CNN or Fox).

E. Final Exam: 25 %

The final exam will consist of current events, 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. I suggest checking with websites including BBC, Al Jazeera, and the domestic news outlet of your choice (this might include CNN or Fox).

F. 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 1/13/17, 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:

G&P: Goldstein and Pevehouse
D: Diez et al.
Readings followed by *W can be found in webcourses

Date	Readings	Description	Due
1/10	No Readings	Syllabus Review	
1/12	Review Map *W 22-50 (Bueno de Mesquita) *W	Geography discussion & History Refresher	****First Week Academic Activity due by 1/13/17**
1/17	51-61 & 67-81 (Bueno de Mesquita) *W	Theory Discussion	
1/19	1-17 (G & P) 126- 128 (D)	Core Principles	
1/24	57-62 & 78-83 (D) International System *W	Actors and the International System	
1/26	1-9 & 215-224 (D) 40-54 (G & P)	Sovereignty, Borders, Power & Anarchy	
1/31	173- 186 (D) 38-39 & 54-66 (G & P)	Power & Anarchy; Realism & Neorealism	
2/2	71-81 (G & P) 16-21 & 129-134 (D)	Liberalism & Democratic Peace	
2/7	81-92(G & P) 100- 103, 135-144, & 209- 215 (D)	Social Theories; Ideas & Norms	
2/9	92-101 (G & P) 51-57 (D)	Gender & Feminism	
2/14	106-122 (G & P)	Domestic Preferences & Midterm Review	

2/16	No Readings	****MIDTERM EXAM Bring a brown scantron, green/blue book, and a pencil**	****MIDTERM EXAM**
2/21	128-158 (G & P) 150- 154 (D)	Conflict & Identity	
2/23	173-177 (G & P) Terrorism *W	Terrorism	
2/28	198-233 (G & P)	International Law & Human Rights	****Essay outline due**
3/2	198-204 & 89- 108 (D) 230- Rwanda Readings*W	Humanitarian Intervention & Rwanda Case Study	
3/7	272-297 (G & P)	International Political Economy	
3/9	349-357 (G & P) 145-149 (D) Migration W*	Population & Migration	
3/14	362-389 (G & P) North South *W	North-South Gap	
3/16	302-315(G & P) 73- 83 (D)	International Integration & Globalization	
3/21	No Readings	Presentations	****Short essay due**
3/23	No Readings	Presentations	
3/28	No Readings	Presentations	
3/30	414-423 (G & P) Foreign Aid *W	Foreign Aid	
4/4	Resource Curse Readings*W	Resource Curse	
4/6	393-412 (G & P) 27- 32 (D)	International Development	
4/11	330-348 (G & P)	Environmental Security	
4/13	Bates *W	Rise of Non-state actors	
4/18	TBD	TBD class choice	
4/20	No readings	Exam Review	
4/27	Bring a brown scantron, green/blue book, and a pencil	Final Exam 1-3:50 PM	****FINAL EXAM**

*****Note: The Schedule is subject to revision**