INR 2002-003 International Relations Theory and Practice
Spring 2018

Instructor: Didara Nurmanova, didara@knights.ucf.edu
Class Meets: Monday 6:00-8:50 pm in CB1 319
Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 1.30 pm -2.45 pm and by appointment in HPH 313
Credit: 3 Hours

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce undergraduate students to some major theoretical perspectives in international relations and practices of global politics. Students will acquire some basic knowledge about a wide array of international phenomena, including war, international norms, arms races, and others. The course consists of two main parts. The first part introduces students to core concepts and major theoretical perspectives in international relations. The second part provides applications of the IR perspectives on historical events and today's world.

The goals of this course are to help students understand the major theoretical perspectives in international relations and to provide students with analytical tools for understanding policy outcomes in international arena. No prior background in international relations is required.

Course Organization and Requirements

This course is conducted through a combination of lectures, in-class discussions, and individual assignments. The class will consist of two parts: in-class lecture and in-class discussion of the assigned readings/assignments. Every class will start with the discussion of the assigned readings, central issues and their policy implications. Students are expected to complete **all** of the required readings before each class and come to class fully prepared to participate in the discussions. Attendance will be taken; unexcused absence will affect the class participation grade.

Students are expected to write two policy memos during the course of the semester. The detailed instructions and topics for policy memos are available in webcourses. Policy memos must be submitted through webcourses. No email or hard copies will be accepted.

Midterm and final exams will be in-class and consist of essay questions.

Grades will be based on the following assignments:

Policy memos 30%
Midterm exam 25%
Final exam 30%
Attendance 5%
Class participation 10%

Grading Scale

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

Course Materials

Required Text

Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation: An Introduction to Theory and History (10th Edition) by Joseph Nye & Welch and David Welch.

Other Materials

Students may be assigned additional articles and/or multimedia materials available through UCF library and the Internet. Some of the articles are listed in the course schedule. However, I may

also assign additional articles for your reading. I will provide details about additional materials and provide you with links or a clear indication where you can find the material, in a timely manner.

Course Policies

Federal Financial Aid Requirement

Beginning in the Fall 2014 semester, UCF must comply with a federal financial aid regulation that states that in order to receive federal aid, students must be actively academically engaged (according to a federal definition) in each course in which they are enrolled. As of Fall 2014, all faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. Without verification of this engagement, students will not receive their financial aid. In order to document that you began this course, you will be required to complete a short quiz in Canvas during the first week of classes. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of students' financial aid, or will mean that students will not receive their aid. In order to fulfill this requirement, you should complete a syllabus quiz that is due by 11:59 on Friday, August 25.

Academic Honesty

Students must demonstrate a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records.

If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, take the UCF library tutorial.

Students who cheat, plagiarize, falsify records or practice any other form of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic FZ grade for the class.

You will also be expected to complete the UCF Online Information Literacy tutorial "Avoiding Plagiarism Using Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition" (link will be provided by your instructor) and the assessment included in it by October 16th, 2017.

Class Attendance and Participation

Attendance is required. Lectures cover material that you will not be able to find in the book. I will not provide notes for students missing class. Attendance does not count as participation in class. Participating in class means answering questions and taking part in class discussions.

Make-up Policy

Exams are scheduled well in advance so that you can plan around these dates. No one may make up a test but for two exceptions.

First, for personal emergencies (medical problems), students should obtain a note from their physician. Second, for students with extra-curricular activities (athletic contests or other University-sponsored activities) that conflict with deadlines, arrangements for an alternate test date must be made at least a week in advance of the scheduled test or deadline. Students must provide verification of the activity in order to be eligible for an alternate test date.

Late submissions of policy memos will be penalized 10% for each full calendar day they are late, up to as much as 30%. Submissions late for more than three days will not be accepted.

Student Accessibility Statement

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 with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has contacted Student Accessibility Services, and the professor, in order to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Accessibility Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Religious Holidays

The University of Central Florida welcomes diversity of religious beliefs and practices, recognizing the contributions differing experiences and viewpoints can bring to the community. There may be times when an academic or work requirement conflicts with religious observances and practices. If that happens, students may request reasonable accommodation of their religious practices. In all cases, you must put your request in writing and present it to the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

E-mail Protocols

You can contact the instructor both via the webcourses email and UCF email. Grades will not be discussed over email.

Cancellation of Class

In the event that the class needs to be cancelled, an e-mail will be sent to all students via webcourses mail prior to class time.

Disclaimer

Please note that the instructor reserves the right to make changes to any part of this syllabus throughout the semester.

Course Schedule

January 8: Course Introduction. Global Geography.

January 15: No class. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

January 22: State, sovereignty and beginning of international system
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 2: pp. 40-65

January 29: Structure of International System: Anarchy. Realism and Neorealism.

- Nye & Welch, Chapter 1: pp. 3-17

- Nye & Welch, Chapter 2: pp. 66-67

- Waltz, K. N. (1979). *Theory of international politics*. Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley Pub. Co., c1979. Selection.

February 5: Balance of Power
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 3: pp. 81-111.

February 12: Liberalism, Idealism and Collective Security

- Nye & Welch, Chapter 2: pp. 67-72
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 4: pp. 116-125

February 19: The Identity Perspectives. Constructivism and Feminism
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 2: pp. 72-75

February 26: Marxism and Critical Theory
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 2: p. 72

March 5: *Midterm Exam*

March 12 - March 17: Spring Break.

March 19: Conflict and Cooperation: IR perspectives on World War II
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 4: pp. 116-140

March 26: Conflict and Cooperation: IR perspectives on Cold War. ***First Policy Memo Due***
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 5: pp. 146-164

April 2: Conflict and Cooperation: IR perspectives on Cold War
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 5: pp. 164-189

April 9: IR Perspectives on Today's World: Globalization
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 8: pp. 298-323

April 16: IR Perspectives on Today's World: The Information Revolution and Transnational Actors. ***Second Policy Memo Due***
- Nye & Welch, Chapter 9: pp. 328-356.

April 23: Norms and Laws in International Relations; and review for final exam
- "Rules for Drone Wars: Six Questions for Philip Alston," *Harpers*, June 9, 2010 at https://harpers.org/blog/2010/06/rules-for-drone-wars-six-questions-for-philip-alston/

Final exam: Monday 4/30/2018, 7.00 pm-9:50 pm in our regular classroom.