INR 4603.0W60 International Relations Theory

Fall 2019 Syllabus

Course Information

Course Name	International Relations Theory
Course ID & Section	INR 4603.0W60
Credit Hours	3 credit hours
Semester/Year	Fall 2019
Class meeting time & location	Not applicable—class is online

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Joseph Paul Vasquez, III
Office	102 Howard Philips Hall
Office Hours	Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 AM-1:00 PM; Wednesday 9:30 AM-11:30 AM and by appointment
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Course Description

Theoretical trends prevalent in the study of international relations will be covered, including realism, liberalism, Marxism, feminism, and post-modernism. In a curricular sense, this course can be used to satisfy the Advanced Core Requirements for the International and Global Studies Major or Area C requirements for the Political Science Major.
Prerequisite: INR 2002 or POS 2041 or consent of the instructor, but INR 2002 is strongly encouraged to be taken first even if you have completed POS 2041.

Course Objectives

- Objective One: help students understand the origins and central tenets of the major theoretical perspectives in the study of international relations,
- Objective Two: help students understand the strengths and weaknesses of these theoretical perspectives,
- Objective Three: help students to improve their skills in the realm of critical thinking and written communication.

Required Text

- Paul Viotti and Mark Kauppi. 2011. *International Relations Theory*. 5th Edition. Boston: Pearson-Longman.

Course Requirements and Grade Table

A	**B**	**C**	**D**	
Assignments	**% of Final Grade**	**Assignment Scores***	**Component Score = column B x column C**	**Due Date**
Quizzes & Information Literacy Tutorial	30			See the schedule below and Oct. 20
Discussion posts	10			See the schedule below
Midterm Exam	20			Oct. 21 12:01 AM to Oct. 22 11:59 PM
Course Paper	20			Nov. 24 11:59 PM
Final Exam	20			Dec. 9 12:01 AM to Dec. 10 11:59 PM
Total	100%		**Add each of your component scores to get your anticipated final 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 and video assignments. 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, which can be found in Webcourses, 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 due by 11:59 on Friday, Aug. 30, 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 it.

Discussion Posts: During each module you are expected to make two (2) kinds of online posts: an initial response post and a follow-up post for each of the seven (7) course modules we will be covering. For each module, your discussion post and replies should be a few paragraphs, and certainly not fewer than 80 words, although you might easily need two or three times as many to fully answer the question and reply to other students. Initial posts are worth 10 points and follow-up posts are worth 5 points for 15 points per module and a total of 105 points. 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 and that 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 over the course of the semester will be aggregated in accord with the table posted below.

Type of Post	Number "graded" x point value	Total points
Initial responses	7 x 10=	70
Follow-up responses	7 x 5 =	35
Total Points	7 x 15	105

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.

Module #	discussion board opens at 12:01 AM on Monday	11:59 PM Thursday deadline for 1st posts	11:59 PM Sunday deadline for follow-up posts to be completed
1	Sept. 2	Sept. 5	Sept. 8
2	Sept. 9	Sept. 19	Sept. 22
3	Sept. 23	Oct. 3	Oct. 6
4	Oct. 7	Oct. 17	Oct. 20
5	Oct. 21	Oct. 31	Nov. 3
6	Nov. 4	Nov. 21	Nov. 24
7	Nov. 25	Nov. 28	Dec. 1

Midterm Exam and Final Exam: These will be multiple choice exams with each question having only one correct answer for each question. The Midterm Exam will cover Modules 1 through 4. The Final Exam will be cumulative, but it will be 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.

Course paper: You will write a research paper that uses an international relations theory to explain a particular aspect of international relations of a country of your own choosing. The things you explain should pertain to things such as states or their leaders acting to: engage in colonialism or human rights abuses, wage war or bolster their military defenses, form alliances, make peace,

or enter into other cooperative efforts such as trade agreements. Your account should consider historical factors, assesses the political nature of the event, and explain the theory that best explains the phenomenon and why that is so based on the historical information. Papers should be between 1,400 and 1,600 words (not including your title page and bibliography/works cited page) using the Chicago citation style and 1 inch margins, double-spacing with 11 point font. Please note the word count of your text, not including, the title page or works cited/bibliography, on the title page itself. While you are welcome to include references to your textbook, you must use at least three other sources such as books or academic journal articles from the UCF Library's online databases. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the discussion of cheating and plagiarism in this syllabus before starting on this assignment, which includes a web link to familiarize you with you how to properly cite evidence using Chicago style.

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

Mechanics of writing	20%
Political and historical discussion	20%
Theoretical discussion, application and assessment	30%
Proper documentation and citation	20%
Organization of paper	10%
	100%

Typically most students lose points on papers for me because of mechanical flaws in their writing (grammar, punctuation, unclearly worded sentences, etc.). Poor performance in this regard could lower your paper grade by as much as 20 points. Also, students have a tendency to lose points for failing to use evidence to support their arguments by appropriately citing scholarly sources, so you should consult the section below on academic dishonesty for details on how to avoid plagiarism. For example, I deduct one point for missing words or marks of punctuation, two points for sentence fragments or run-on sentences and five points for each failure to appropriately cite sources. Thus, you should take steps to minimize those kinds of flaws in your writing, including becoming familiar with Chicago style using the literacy tutorial referenced in the Academic Honesty section below. Hopefully, these standards will help you to develop sound writing skills that will help you not only when applying for jobs or further educational opportunities, but once you secure those opportunities.

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.

Grading Scale: Assignment grades will be recorded in Webcourses.

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. 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 from Dr. Vasquez.

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, you 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.

Course 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, Room 109, 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.

Course Schedule

Topic	Assignments	Open & close dates	Open & close times
Syllabus	Syllabus Quiz	Aug. 26 - Aug. 30 (or ASAP for late enrollees)	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM (or ASAP for late enrollees)
Module 1: Theoretical Overview **Chapter 1. Thinking About IR Theory**	Discussion Quiz	Aug. 26 – Sept. 8	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 2: Realism **Chapter 2. Realism**	Discussion Quiz	Sept. 9 – Sept. 22	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Module 3: Liberalism Chapter 3. Liberalism	Discussion Quiz	Sept. 23 – Oct. 6	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 4: Economic Structuralism Chapter 4. Economic Structuralism	Discussion Quiz **Information Literacy Tutorial**	Oct. 7 – Oct. 20	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
	Midterm Exam	Oct. 21 – Oct. 22	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 5: The English School Chapter 5. The English School	Discussion Quiz	Oct. 21 – Nov. 3	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 6: Interpretive Understandings PART II. INTERPRETIVE UNDERSTANDINGS Chapter 6. Constructivist Understandings Chapter 7. Positivism, Critical Theory, and Postmodern Understandings Chapter 8. Feminist Understandings in IR Theory	Discussion Quiz **Course Paper due**	Nov. 4— Nov. 24	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 7: Normative Theory Chapter 9. Normative IR Theory	Discussion Quiz	Nov. 25— Dec. 1	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
	Final Exam	Dec. 9— Dec. 10	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Other important Dates:

Date	Event
Thursday, Aug. 29, 11:59 P.M.	Drop deadline
Friday, Aug. 30, 11:59 P.M.	Add deadline
Friday, Nov. 1, 11:59 P.M.	Withdrawal deadline

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

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 post your input for the module, go to the Discussions Tool and post your answers to the questions assigned for the module that corresponds with the time frame denoted above in the schedule (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 drop/ swap/ add deadline, which means that it will be impossible to post discussion posts for the first module until 12:01 A.M on Monday, September 2.
    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 PM on the final Thursday during 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**). You will be able to start on this assignment once one of your group members has posted an initial post for Module 1 (that **has not** already been replied to by another member of your group), and it must be completed by 11:59 PM on the Sunday that ends each module. Reply posts for Module 1 must be completed by 11:59 PM on Sunday, September 8.

4. **Quiz:** Go to the Assignments Tool 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 and usually 20 minutes to complete this quiz.