INR 2002.06W3
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY AND PRACTICE
SCHOOL OF POLITICS, SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
FALL 2020

INSTRUCTOR AND COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor	Jennifer L. Hudson
E-mail	Jennifer.Hudson@ucf.edu *Please use Webcourses messaging*
Office Hours	Online by appointment via ZOOM
Credit Hours	3 credit hours
Class Modality	W (Web only)
Semester Dates	8/24/2020 – 12/12/2020

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

COURSE OVERVIEW
In this course we will examine factors that influence the behavior of states and other international actors. In sum, we will review the major theoretical perspectives in international relations and how they are practiced in reality. We begin with an introduction to international relations theory. We then delve into the major theoretical perspectives in international relations. Next, we cover varying approaches to examining state behavior, or levels of analysis, and learn how they shape what we can understand and learn about state behavior. Lastly, we will discuss major issues in the international realm. We will examine issues related to power politics among states and the alternative perspectives learned at the beginning of the course, in addition to how levels of analysis shape how we examine these issues. We begin with issues related to war and peace. We will also examine issues related to international political economy, international organizations and international law, human rights, and issues related to human security, including migration, global health, and the environment.
Prerequisites: ENC 1102 or C.I. (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.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
After this course, students should be able to read and think critically about major international issues in international relations. They should know how to link important international issues with core international relations theories. They should listen and be able to think critically about international issues and discuss them in online discussions and apply these theories to analyze major international issues. By the end of the course, students should improve their academic skills: critically read, think and communicate analytically.

COURSE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: *Essentials of International Relations* by Karen Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft. (8th edition).

OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS:
In addition to the textbook readings:

- Students will often be provided article links and videos in Webcourses within each Module.
- Students are expected to keep up to date with current international events via your preferred mainstream news outlet. Online discussions, quizzes, exams, and the final paper will require you to not only demonstrate knowledge of the course material, but also to think critically about what you have learned and *apply* what you have learned in the course to current events. This requires reading your textbook and other assigned readings, watching assigned videos, and staying up to date on the news on a weekly basis. Some options are listed here: NPR World News https://www.npr.org/sections/world/ (free) and A variety of podcasts are also available: NPR podcasts (free); CNN World News https://www.cnn.com/world (free); Council on Foreign Relations' (CFR) The World Next Week Podcast. This weekly 30-45 minute podcast is posted once every week (available for free in Google Play or iTunes Podcast app). It previews international developments in the week ahead.; Weekly email updates on important issues in the international arena Foreign Affairs This Week. Sign up for the email updates!; *New York Times* (NYT) World News section https://www.nytimes.com/section/world (requires a digital student subscription for $4/month: get digital subscription here).

IMPORTANT NOTE: As of Fall 2014, 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 idue by 11:59 PM on Friday, August 28 or as soon as possible for those who add the course late. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of any financial aid (this is a UCF policy and beyond my control). To do this task, log onto Webcourses@UCF through myUCF Self Service https://my.ucf.edu/. Log in with your NID and NID password, then access the course by selecting it in the "Courses" on the left side of the dashboard. From the course homepage, click on the Assignments tab to left, then click on Syllabus quiz, complete the quiz and submit.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 (8/24/2020-8/30/2020): COURSE INTRODUCTION

- Course Overview and Instructor Introduction
- Complete ***Introductory assignments***: This is worth up to 4 points extra credit on your first exam.
    - Take **Syllabus Quiz (Academic activity assignment):** *available in Webcourses* until Friday, August 28, 2020 (closes at 11:59 PM)
    - Complete **UCF Plagiarism Module** & **Plagiarism Quiz:** *available in Webcourses* until Sunday, August 30, 2020 (closes at 11:59 PM).

    - Submit **Course Interest Assignment**: *available in Webcourses* until Sunday, August 30, 2020 (closes at 11:59 PM).
    - Complete **Course Introductions and Why Study IR?:** *available in Webcourses* until Sunday, August 30, 2020 (closes at 11:59 PM).
- Review: World News Section of your preferred news source (Continue every week)
- *Note:* **Drop/Swap deadline is Friday 08/28/2020 @ 11:59 PM**

WEEK 2 (8/31/2020-9/6/2020): WHAT IS THEORY?
- Read: Ch. 1 in *Essential of International Relations* (EIR)
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Complete **Discussion 1**: *initial post due* **Thursday (9/3/2020) @ 11:59 PM**; *follow-up posts* due **Sunday (9/6/2020) @ 11:59 PM**

WEEK 3 (9/7/2020-9/13/2020): HISTORICAL TRENDS IN IR
- Read: Ch. 2 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Take **Quiz 1**: *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday - Sunday (9/10/2020 – 9/13/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 4 (9/14/2020-9/20/2020): IR THEORIES – PART I
- Read: Ch. 3 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Complete **Discussion 2:** *initial post due* **Thursday (9/17/2020) @ 11:59 PM**; *follow-up posts* due **Sunday (9/20/2020) @ 11:59 PM**

WEEK 5 (9/21/2020-9/27/2020): IR THEORIES – PART II
- Read Ch. 3 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Take **Quiz 2:** *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday – Sunday (9/24/2020 – 9/27/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 6 (9/28/2020-10/4/2020): LEVELS OF ANALYSIS
- Read Ch. 4 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Complete **Discussion 3:** *initial post due* **Thursday (10/01/2020) @ 11:59 PM**; *follow-up posts* due **Sunday (10/04/2020) @ 11:59 PM**

WEEK 7 (10/05/2020-10/11/2020): THE STATE AND TOOLS OF STATECRAFT
- Read Ch. 5 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- **PAPER PROPOSAL:** due in Webcourses by **Sunday 10/11/2020 @11:59PM**
- Take **Quiz 3:** *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday – Sunday (10/8/2020 – 10/11/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 8 (10/12/2020-10/18/2020): **EXAM 1**

- Review material from Weeks 1-7
- **Take Exam 1:** *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday – Sunday (10/15/2020 – 10/18/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 9 (10/19/2020-10/25/2020): INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

- Read. Ch. 7 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Complete **Discussion 4:** *initial post due* **Thursday (10/22/2020) @ 11:59 PM**; *follow-up posts* due **Sunday (10/25/2020) @ 11:59 PM**
- *Note:* WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE is Friday 10/30/2019 @ 11:59 PM.

WEEK 10 (10/26/2020-11/01/2020): IGOS AND NGOS

- Read Ch. 9 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Take **Quiz 4:** *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday-Sunday (10/29/2020– 11/01/2012) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 11 (11/02/2020-11/08/2020)**:** WAR & PEACE

- Read Ch. 6 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Complete **Discussion 5:** *initial post due* **Thursday (11/05/2020) @ 11:59 PM**; *follow-up posts* due **Sunday (11/08/2020) @ 11:59 PM**

WEEK 12 (11/09/2020-11/15/2020): INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

- Read Ch. 8 in *EIR*
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Take **Quiz 5:** *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday-Sunday (11/12/2020– 11/15/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 13 (11/16/2020-11/22/2020): HUMAN SECURITY: MIGRATION, GLOBAL HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Read Ch. 11 in EIR
- *See Webcourses for additional readings/videos*
- Complete **Discussion 6:** *initial post due* **Thursday (11/19/2020) @ 11:59 PM**; *follow-up posts* due **Sunday (11/22/2020) @ 11:59 PM**

WEEK 14 (11/23/2020-11/29/2020): HUMAN RIGHTS

- Read Ch. 10 in EIR
- *No assignments due*. Happy Thanksgiving!

WEEK 15 (11/30/2020-12/06/2020): **EXAM 2**

- **EXAM 2:** *available in Webcourses* from **Thursday – Sunday (12/03/2020-12/06/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM***

WEEK 16 (12/7/2020-12/12/2020): Final Exam Week

- **FINAL PAPER:** due **Tuesday, 12/08/2020 by 11:59 PM** in Webcourses
- OPTIONAL QUIZ: *available in Webcourses* from Monday - Thursday (12/07/2020 – 12/10/2020) *closes at 11:59 PM*

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING PROCEDURES

GRADING FORMULA

Discussions	25%
Quizzes	25%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Paper Proposal	5%
Final Paper	15%

1. **DISCUSSIONS (25%)**:

You must complete ***5 out of 6 discussion postings*** from Discussions 1-6. It is your choice which 5 out of 6 to complete. Being engaged with the material is an important component of this class and will help you succeed. We will discuss current events and how they relate to the topic at hand, whether theoretical perspectives, levels of analysis, or major international issues and perspectives on these issues. Additionally, it is important to have discussions to help fully grasp the material and so key points are not overlooked. Discussion posting guidelines and expectations will be provided in Webcourses. You are required to complete one initial post (due Thursdays 11:59 PM) and two follow-up (reply) posts to two of your classmates' posts (due Sundays @ 11:59 PM). There are two due dates for each week in order to facilitate a vibrant and engaging discussion and to avoid last minute posts. The due dates are specified above in the syllabus and in Webcourses. Expectations and guidelines are in Webcourses. ***In total***, ***the 5 graded discussions count for 25% of the overall course grade***.

2. **QUIZZES (25%):**

Each of the 5 quizzes is worth 5% of the overall course grade. The quizzes are comprised of multiple choice, true/false, multiple answers, and may include short answer style questions. All the quizzes will be posted in the Webcourses. ***The quizzes will be available from Thursday until Sunday (from 12:01 AM Thursday to 11:59 PM on Sunday).*** This flexible time-frame will give you enough time to take the quiz if you have any other engagement with some other course. However, you will have just one chance to finish the quiz after you start. If you have any trouble in accessing the quiz or if there are problems with the internet, kindly contact. ***In total, the 5 quizzes count for 25% of your final grade.***

3. **EXAMS (30%):**

There will be two exams. They are a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer format questions. While Exam 2 will not be cumulative, note that much of the material

in is overlapping and chapters build upon earlier ones. Questions will cover material from the online modules and EIR textbook readings. ***The exams will be available from Thursday until Sunday (from 12:01 AM Thursday to 11:59 PM on Sunday).*** This flexible time-frame will give you enough time to take the exam if you have any other engagement with some other course. However, you will have just one chance to finish the exam after you start. If you have any trouble in accessing the exam or if there are problems with the internet, kindly contact me. ***Each exam counts for 15% of your final grade. In total, the exams count for 30% of your final grade.***

4. PAPER PROPOSAL (5%):

The student will produce an outline of the proposed research topic. The student will identify the topic selection (a current major international event) and the theoretical perspective that will be used to examine this event. The student will identify the main facets of the theory that will be used to examine this current issue in international relations. The student will identify how this theory can be applied to the selected issue. The student will also identify reasons an alternate theory is insufficient to explain this event. The student will provide a list of 10 sources that will be used for the final paper (academic journals, books, and news articles from major international newspaper publications). You must use a variety of source types and should search through UCF Library online, EBSCOhost (an online search engine through the UCF library), or Google Scholar (this can be linked to your UCF library account for easy access). Sources such as Wikipedia, youtube videos, study.com or other short-cut sites are not considered acceptable sources. ***This counts for 5% of your final grade.*** *This assignment is critical for receiving feedback that will help you to improve your grade on the final paper.*

5. **FINAL PAPER (15%):**

The final paper will assess the student's ability to apply a major theoretical perspective in IR to a current issue in international relations. Each student will select a current issue in international relations. Each student will select one theory discussed in this course and write a paper applying this theory to the selected major international event. The aim is to explain how the theory provides an optimal explanation of the event and its outcome, as compared to the other theories in class. In doing so, the student is expected to demonstrate why an alternate theory is not sufficient to explain the selected event. The paper must be a minimum of 2000 words, not including the citations. I will post the paper guidelines and a grading rubric in Webcourses. Papers will automatically be submitted through turnitin.com, which checks for originality. ***This counts for 15% of your final grade.***

6. EXTRA CREDIT/OTHER:

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTORY ASSIGNMENTS: The introductory assignments in Week 1 constitute an opportunity to earn up to 4 points extra credit to be applied to your FIRST EXAM.

OPTIONAL QUIZ**:** An optional quiz will be available to students the final week of class. This quiz provides the opportunity for students to replace their lowest quiz score even if due to missing a quiz for non-excused reasons. This quiz will cover material from any part of the course

and will be structured similarly to the previous quizzes and will be open for 4 days. If a student scores lower on the optional quiz than on one of the main 5 quizzes, the optional quiz will not count.

OPTIONAL DISCUSSION: You have the opportunity to complete all 6 discussion. Since only 5 are required, this provides you the opportunity to either choose which 5 of 6 you would like to complete or the opportunity to earn up to 5 points extra credit on your final course grade.

OTHER: Should other extra credit opportunities arise they will be announced separately via Webcourses. Please see above the optional quiz and optional discussion information for additional details on opportunities to improve your grade.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

The grading scale for this course is here.

Letter Grade	Percentage
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

*Grades are rounded off for the final grade (i.e., a total grade percentage of 89.5% will be rounded to 90%, in this case a letter grade of A-).

MISSED/LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

- ***Discussions:*** Discussions have two due dates. Late **initial posts** will incur a *10% penalty per day*. **Reply posts** *may not be submitted after the discussion closes*. For a missed discussion and late submission request without penalty, I will require a note: this includes cases of illness, extra ordinary circumstances, serving active military duty, or if you are representing UCF in authorized university related events, for which you will be excused. All other cases will be reviewed at my discretion.

- ***Quizzes/Exams:*** Quizzes and Exams are open 4 days and as such cannot be taken late. In cases of illness, extra ordinary circumstances, serving active military duty, or if you are representing UCF in authorized university related events, you will be excused for missing the quiz or exam and an opportunity will be provided to take the missed quiz or exam, provided

acceptable documentation is given to the teacher. If missing a quiz or exam due to illness, an alternate date can be arranged, provided a doctor's note is given. If possible, you should notify me at least 1 week in advance in the case of excused circumstances, or in the case of unexpected emergencies/illness within 48 hours after the quiz or exam closes (or by end of day, 11:59 PM, Tuesday) about the reason for missing the assignment.

- ***Late paper proposals*** and ***late papers:*** You will incur a 10% penalty per day late and late papers and proposals will not be accepted beyond 3 days late. Exceptions will require a note: this includes cases of illness, extra ordinary circumstances, serving active military duty, or if you are representing UCF in authorized university related events, for which you will be excused. All other cases will be reviewed at my discretion.

EMAIL PROTOCOLS

Please use ***Webcourses messaging*** to contact me. You can expect a response generally within 24 hours.. Note that if you email me last minute before an assignment is due, I may not be able to help in time, so please give me sufficient time to respond. To facilitate conducting business via web courses, please be sure to write your messages professionally and include all relevant information. Please assume that your instructor only checks and answers to e-mails during regular business hours, which is Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 6 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

All students are responsible to follow my **announcements** on Webcourses that will keep them updated about the course. All email notifications should be turned on.

CORE POLICIES

Academic Integrity Statement

You should be aware that the university has zero tolerance policy for plagiarism or unseemly conduct such as cheating or helping someone to cheat or being complicit in cheating. Students should familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule* http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/docs/goldenrule.pdf.

UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. **Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty**, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade.

Accessibility Access

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations 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). For students connected with SAS, a Course Accessibility

Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and 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. Further conversation with SAS, faculty and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience. *Note:* the syllabus can be made available in alternate formats upon request.

Accommodations for Active Duty Military Students

For students who may have to perform active military duty, kindly contact me earlier so that we can work out flexible submission deadlines, which may suit your work schedule for quizzes, final exam, and final paper. Also, let me know if you might miss classes or quizzes for active duty deployment.

Religious Observances

Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information, see the UCF policy at https://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf.

Diversity and Inclusion

I adhere to and fully support the University of Central Florida's position on diversity and inclusion. The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible and/or contact Student Accessibility Services.

Title IX - No Discrimination Policy

Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination based on the sex (gender) of Employees and students of educational institutions that receive federal financial assistance. Title IX's prohibition of sex discrimination includes prohibition of sexual harassment and sexual violence. UCF does not tolerate sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual violence of any kind. This prohibition is further explained in the University's Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment and Related Interpersonal Violence. Any student, faculty, or staff member with questions or concerns about the applicable University policies or who believes that he or she has been the victim of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual violence is encouraged to contact the. University's Title IX Coordinator and visit the Let's Be Clear website.

Course Support
You may contact me via Webcourses to arrange a ZOOM appointment to discuss any issues or concerns. Please be sure to access them giving sufficient time for issues to arise. Additionally, there are resources available on campus to help you succeed. You can reach out to the **Student Academic Resource Center (SARC)** to improve your studying skills. Their phone number is 407-823-5130 and they have a virtual front desk from 9 AM – 5 PM available via Zoom (see here for more information: https://academicsuccess.ucf.edu/sarc/).

University Writing Center
Contact info: 407-823-2197 http://uwc.cah.ucf.edu. The University Writing Center (UWC) offers writing support to students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Tutors 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 or edit papers, but to teach writing strategies that can be applied to any writing situation. Please contact the UWC regarding *online writing consultations*.

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. Due to the need for social distancing, CAPS is not offering in person counseling currently. CAPS is now offering phone or online video-conferencing appointments. Please call CAPS at 407-823-2811 to schedule an appointment. Pleases see here for more information: https://caps.sdes.ucf.edu.

Viruses
A virus can spell disaster. It is important to use a reputable anti-virus program (good ones include McAfee or Norton). Also, back up your files: Hard drives do crash and it is really inconvenient when they do. However, this is not a valid excuse for failing to get your work in on time.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19

Please stay up to date on current situation regarding COVID-19 provided by checking university announcements via your Knights email account and https://www.ucf.edu/coronavirus/.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification
Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place. Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class assignments for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class assignments.

In Case of Faculty Illness

If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Note: *This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion if necessary*. Changes to the syllabus, if any, will be announced in Webcourses and the updated syllabus will be posted on Webcourses.