INR 4603.0W60 International Relations Theory

Fall 2020 Syllabus

Course Information

Course Name	International Relations Theory
Course ID & Section	INR 4603.0W60
Credit Hours	3 credit hours
Semester/Year	Fall 2020
Class meeting time & location/mode	Not applicable — class is online in Webcourses

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Joseph Paul Vasquez, III School of Politics, Security & International Affairs
Office	102 Howard Philips Hall
Office Hours	Monday, Wednesday and Friday 2:00-4:00 PM & by appointment by Zoom (https://ucf.zoom.us/j/91786071485?pwd=SUlET2J3dFEzUTZHMDRwWEdtTHZCQT09&from=msft) or phone
Phone	407-823-2659
E-mail	paul.vasquez@ucf.edu

Important Advice: I want you to do the best work you can. I will try hard to clearly explain assignments and do what I can within the limits of fairness–without compromising on standards—to help you do your best. You should do the readings and take notes when you read and watch lectures. Doing so will set you up to succeed on quizzes and exams. **Read this syllabus and assignments carefully to put yourself in position to succeed.**

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. 2020. *International Relations Theory*. 6th Edition. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Course Mode via Webcourses

This course will require asynchronous, largely self-driven participation via Webcourses@UCF within each module, though it will be impossible for students to work ahead on modules that have not yet opened. To do so, you will need access to a computer and adequate Internet bandwith. You can contact Webcourses@UCF Support at <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/> if you have any technical problems. Once you access the course from Dashboard in Webcourses, please check out the course Home page and the Announcements from the navigation column to the left of the center of your screen.

Required Statement Regarding COVID-19

To protect our community, if you ever come to campus, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms. (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf). Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

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 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.

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.

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	50			11:59 PM on Saturday, August 29; Sunday, Sep. 6th & last Sunday of each module
Short Papers	10			Last Sunday of each module, 11:59 PM
Midterm Exam	20			Oct. 19-Oct 20, 12:01 AM–11:59 PM
Final Exam	20			Dec. 7- Dec. 8, 12:01 AM–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: Multiple choice quizzes may cover any materials covered in modules. Those quizzes will open at 12:01 AM on the last Friday of each module and close at 11:59 PM on the last Sunday of each module (except for the last module when it opens on Wednesday and closes on our last class day, a Friday). this course that have been assigned on or before the day in our class-by-class schedule below. The lowest quiz grade for each student will be dropped when calculating final course grades. Also, by midnight on Sunday, Sep. 6th, 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. That tutorial should help to improve short 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. This assignment can be found from the Assignments tab for our class in Webcourses/Canvas

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 Saturday, August 29, 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.

Short papers:

For each of the 10 modules, you will write a short paper of between 250-500 words of text (not including your name or citations) that you will submit answering

particular questions posed to you in each module. Papers should use the Chicago citation style and 1-inch margins, double-spacing with 11-point font. References to concepts covered in lecture, assigned texts, or other sources must be appropriately cited. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the discussion of cheating and plagiarism in this syllabus before starting on this assignment.

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%

Work to not only get the substance of your writing right, but to avoid mechanical flaws in writing (grammar, punctuation, unclearly worded sentences, etc.). Poor performance in this regard could lower your paper grade by as much as 20 points. Also, be sure to support your arguments by appropriately citing scholarly sources.

Midterm Exam and Final Exam: These will be online multiple-choice exams with each question having only one correct answer for each question. The Midterm Exam will cover Modules 1 through 5. The Final Exam will be cumulative, but it will be more heavily weighted to cover material following the midterm exam.

Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy: Quizzes are due by dates outlined in the syllabus and may not be made-up unless they are missed for 1) a verifiable medical or funeral excuse, 2) a reason that is sufficiently verifiable, compelling significant, and unexpected, or 3) an officially UCF excused absence (http://policies.ucf.edu/documents/401.1MakeupAssignmentsForAuthorizedUniversityEventsOrCocurricularActivities.pdfLinks to an external site.), such as an excused religious holiday or a military deployment . (http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALOct17.pdfLinks to an external site.). However, I do drop each student's lowest quiz grade at the end of the semester. Also, you must notify me in advance if you intend to miss class for a religious observance and want latitude for completing assignments. 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. If you don't fall into one of these categories, please keep in mind that my policy of dropping the lowest quiz grade is designed to account for unforeseen problems that might arise and keep you from attending class once.

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 20 points "off the top." Late short papers will be only accepted a verifiable medical, funeral, excuse or one that is sufficiently verifiable, compelling, significant and unexpected.

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.** It's much better to have a low assignment grade or even a low score on your transcript than an indicator of cheating. None of us can be smart about everything, but we can all choose to be people who are honest and humble with integrity. Good employers want those kinds of people, even if their grades are a little lower because of it.

Students are prohibited from cheating by including, but not limited to: 1) attempting to use unauthorized materials for academic assignments; 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. 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." In the event you need to come to campus, you can learn about how to respond to active-shooter situations through this video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIKYajEx4pk&feature=youtu.be.

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. 24 - Aug. 29 (or ASAP for late enrollees)	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM (or ASAP for late enrollees)
Module 1: Modern IR Theory **Chapter 1. Thinking About IR Theory (approx. 20 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Aug. 24- Sep. 6 **Information Literacy Tutorial**	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 2: The Ancients **Chapter 10. The Ancients: Greek, Chinese & Indian Thought (approx. 65 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Sep. 7- Sep. 13	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 3: The Greeks & Romans **Chapter 11. Greco-Roman Thought and the Middle Ages (approx. 40 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Sep. 14- Sep. 27	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 4: The Modern State System **Chapter 12. The Rise of the State & Modern Political Thought (approx. 60 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Sep. 28- Oct. 4	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Module 5: Realism **Chapter 2. Realism: The State & Balance of Power (approx. 42 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Oct. 5- Oct. 18	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
	Midterm Exam	Oct. 19– Oct. 20	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 6: Liberalism **Chapter 3. Liberalism: Interdependence & Global Governance (approx. 33 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Oct. 19– Oct. 25	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 7: Economic Structuralism **Chapter 4. Economic Structuralism: Global Capitalism & Postcolonialism (approx. 30 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Oct. 26- Nov. 1	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 8: The English School **Chapter 5. The English School: International Society & Grotian Rationalism (approx. 20 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Nov. 2- Nov. 8	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
Module 9: Interpretive Understandings **Chapter 6. Constructivist Understandings** **Joseph Paul Vasquez, III. "Patriot Games, War Games, and Political Football: A Constructivist Analysis of Militarization in an American Sport." *Journal of Global Security Studies* 5, no. 2 (2020): 299-318. https://academic.oup.com/jogss/article-abstract/5/2/299/5812735 (This article can be accessed for free through the UCF Library. You will not have to pay extra to purchase this article!)** **Chapter 7. Positivism, Critical Theory, and Postmodern Understandings** **Chapter 8. Feminist Understandings in IR Theory (approx. 80 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Nov. 9- Nov. 29	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Module 10: Normative Considerations **Chapter 9. Normative IR Theory: Ethics & Morality (approx. 30 pages)**	Short paper Quiz	Nov. 30- Dec. 4	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM
	Final Exam	Dec. 7- Dec. 8	12:01 AM & 11:59 PM

Other important Dates:

Date	Event
Friday, Aug. 28, 11:59 P.M.	Drop/Add deadline
Friday, Oct. 30, 11:59 P.M.	Withdrawal deadline

General procedures for each module

Activities/Assignments:

1. **Text:** Read and take notes over the assigned reading in each module.
2. **Online Materials:** Watch and take notes over the assigned videos.
3. **Short paper:** Submit your short paper reflecting on the assignment prompt given in each module before the module closes.
4. **Quiz:** Go to the Assignments Tool and complete the quiz for each module between the last Friday of the module and the Sunday when it closes.