Syllabus
Seminar in International Politics, INR 6007, OW60

Spring 2021

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Mark Schafer
Office	305D Howard Phillips Hall
Office Hours	Tuesdays 1:00 to 3:00 pm Fridays 9:00 to 11:00 am (Meetings by Zoom or phone only; please email to schedule)
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Course Information

Course Name	Seminar in International Politics
Course ID & Section	INR 6007 – OW60
Credit Hours	3
Semester/Year	Spring 2021
Location	Online only

Course Description

UCF Catalog Description: Introduces the student to the advances in international relations theory and research through a broad sampling of approaches and methods.

Course Overview:

This course is designed to cover the major theories and approaches in the field of international relations (IR). Though this is an online course, the structure intends to replicate one of the most important aspects of any graduate seminar: class discussion of the topics at hand. This means that you must be very active with discussion posts and replies each week, and this will reflect heavily in your grade for the course.

The basis of our discussions will be two books: *International Relations Theories* edited by Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki, and Steve Smith (Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK, fourth edition, 2016), and *Foreign Policy Analysis* by Valerie M. Hudson and Benjamin S. Day (Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, MD, third edition, 2020). The former is a reader with contributions by a number of major scholars in the field of IR. However, that book does not cover the important subfield of foreign policy analysis, hence the second book, which is an excellent treatment of the subfield. A typical week in the course will require you to watch a short introductory video, read two to three chapters from one of these books, and engage actively throughout the week with your posts and replies in the online discussion topic for the week.

In addition to your participation in class discussion, there are two other components of your final grade: a final research paper and a paper that presents the proposal and preliminary work for your final research paper. Note that there are no exams in this class and there are no weekly reaction papers on the readings. Instead, your participation in class discussions will represent your knowledge of and critical thinking about the readings each week. I cannot emphasize enough how important your preparation for and participation in those discussion is. This is not the place to post hasty, overly-general, or simple comments; it is not the place to be sloppy or to turn in poorly-written work. Instead, think through and carefully prepare your thoughts and comments. They will be judged accordingly.

Prerequisite: Admission to a graduate degree-seeking program.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

- Increased knowledge of international relations theories and approaches.
- Improved academic skills in the following areas: reading, writing, communicating, and particularly thinking critically.
- Enhanced research skills resulting in a conference-quality research paper.

Required Readings

1. *International Relations Theories* edited by Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki, and Steve Smith (Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK, fourth edition, 2016)

2. *Foreign Policy Analysis* by Valerie M. Hudson and Benjamin S. Day (Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, MD, third edition, 2020)

Course Requirements

Assignment	Due	% of final grade
Paper proposal/preliminary work	5-Mar	20
Final paper	9-Apr	45
Discussion	semester	35

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups

All assignments must be completed on time. ***Exceptions will be allowed only under extreme, documented circumstances***. Under such circumstances, you are required to notify me prior to the date or as soon as possible if prior notice is impossible.

Evaluation and Grading

Final Percent for Course	Grade
90% - 100%	A
80% - 89.99%	B
70% - 79.99%	C
60% - 69.99%	D
Below 60%	F

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at <http://osc.sdes.ucf.edu/process/roc>. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.

5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.
8. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating
Students should also 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 respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a "Z" designation on one's transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Let's avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.

Disability Statement

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.

Third-party Notes

Third parties may be selling class notes and other materials from this class without my authorization. Please be aware that such class materials may contain errors, which could affect your performance or grade. Use these materials at your own risk.

Deployed Active Military Duty

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

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.

Campus Safety Statement for an Online-only Course

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, 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. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <https://my.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.”
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.

Make-Up Assignments for Authorized University Events or Co-curricular Activities

Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes) 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 at <https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.pdf>

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

Statement Regarding COVID-19

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf). Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive (please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

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 Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement – Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

Course Calendar

(Note: This class is divided into 13 different modules – approximately one per week. Content and assignments for each module will become available as we reach that point in the semester.)

Module 1: Course introduction and overview

Module 2: Realism

Module 3: Liberalism

Module 4: The English School, and Constructivism

Module 5: Marxism and Postcolonialism

Module 6: Critical Theory and Poststructuralism

Module 7: Feminism, and Normative IR

<u>*Paper Proposal/preliminary work due: March 5*</u>

Module 8: Green Theory, and Globalization

Module 9: Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA): Introduction, Individuals, Small Groups

Module 10: FPA: State- and System Levels

Module 11: Theoretical Integration, and the Future of FPA

Module 12: ***Final paper due: April 9*** -- no other readings or assignments

Module 13: Concluding Discussions.