INR 2022: International Relations Theory and Practice

Summer 2024

Course Information

Course	International Relations - Theory and Practice
Course ID	INR2002.AW60
Credit Hours	3
Semester	Summer 2024
Location	Online and asynchronous in Webcourses

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Michael Yekple, PhD
Email	michael.yekple@ucf.edu
Office Hours	Tuesday and Thursday 10.00 am – 12 pm. Office hours are via Zoom; please email them to schedule.

Prerequisite: ENC 1102

Course Objectives

- Increase knowledge of international relations theories and practices.
- Help students understand trends and developments in the practice of International Relations
- Help students understand the influence of international relations in their own lives
- Help students improve their critical thinking skills and written communication

Course Description

This course will examine the fundamental principles and factors affecting interstate relations and their application to contemporary global development. The class deals with two primary dimensions of international politics.

- The first covers essential theories and concepts of international relations. This will be covered in
- (short) class lessons and
- the required textbook, International Relations by Shiraev and Zubok 3rd. This book should be available at the UCF bookstore (as well as elsewhere on the Internet and in town).

Required Material

- Shiraev, Eric, and Vladislav M. Zubok. International relations. Oxford University Press, 2019. Third Edition

Course Requirements

To be successful in this course, students will:

- Watch the asynchronous videos.
- Complete the assigned readings each week
- Complete the weekly quizzes.
- Complete the weekly discussion post
- Complete the final paper.

Requirement	**Due date**	**Grade**
Weekly Quizzes	Semester	30%

Weekly discussion posts	Semester	40%
Final paper	Last week of class	30%

Course Mode via Webcourses

This course will require asynchronous, largely self-driven participation via Webcourses@UCF within each module. Each module will open on Mondays at 1 am.

You will need access to a computer and adequate Internet bandwidth.

You can contact Webcourses@UCFSupport at **https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/ (https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/webcourses/)** if you have any technical problems. Once you access the course from Dashboard in
For Webcourses, please check out the course home page and the Announcements
from the navigation column to the left of the center of your screen.

Assignments and General Expectations

Academic-activity Quiz

All faculty members are required by UCF to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. To document that you began this course, you should complete a graded syllabus quiz due by 11:59 pm on Friday, May 17, 2024, or as soon as possible for those who add the course late. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the assignment and a potential delay in disbursing any financial aid. 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 and access the course from the Dashboard. From the course homepage, click on the Assignments tab to the left, click on the Syllabus Quiz under the Quizzes banner, complete the quiz, and submit it.

Readings and Videos

Students must complete all readings and watch the videos weekly before the relevant assignment due date. Understanding the concepts explained in the book is essential. Students are also encouraged to

think critically and understand how the class material applies in the real world. Students are warmly encouraged to contact the instructor with any doubts concerning the material.

Weekly quizzes: 30% of the final grade

Students must complete weekly quizzes on the book chapters and short video lectures. There will be one for each week.

You will have 10 questions and 20 minutes to complete each quiz. The weekly quizzes will open on Mondays at 1:01 am, when the module opens, and are due on Sunday at 11.59 pm, when the module closes. All quizzes will count towards the students' final grade.

Weekly Discussion Board

There will be a weekly discussion post-assignment based on the assigned readings. Students must produce one original post and at least two reply posts to other students' original posts. Original posts are due Friday at 11:59 p.m. ET, and reply posts are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. ET each week. Discussion post assignments constitute 40 percent of the final grade.

Final Paper

There will be a final paper that will constitute 30% of the final grade. The final paper will be due on the last day of classes, June 21. Details on the final paper will be provided in due course.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/No Extra Credit:

Quizzes and assignments 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, significant, and unexpected, or 3) an officially UCF excused absence (**https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.pdf (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.pdf)**), such as an excused religious holiday (**https://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf (https://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf)**) or a military deployment. Students who are deployed active-duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should

contact the instructor as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

There will be **NO** make-up assignments except in exceptional circumstances, verifiable through official documentation. Late papers for the final paper will be penalized 10% for each full calendar day they are late, up to as much as 30%, unless they meet an exception criterion.

Possible changes

If any changes to the syllabus or contents might be necessary during the course you will receive an announcement.

Course Schedule and Deadlines

Module	Week	Topic	Material	Assignments	Deadlines	Notes
Module 1	13–19 May	1. Course Introduction; 2. Introduction to IR & Evolution of IR	Watch the course Introduction video. Chapter 1: Introducing IR Chapter 2: Evolution of IR	Academic Quiz Week 1 Quiz Week 1 Discussion posts	Sunday, May 19; 11:59 pm	
Module 2	20–26 May	Major Theories of IR 1. Realism 2. Liberalism	Chapter 3: Realism and Liberalism	Week 2 Quiz Week 2 Discussion Posts	Sunday, May 26, 11:59 pm	You can read Chapter 4 - Alternative Views, but **not required.**

Module 3	27 May - June 2	International Conflicts & Terrorism	Chapter 5 Chapter 8 [**pages 258-273**]	Week 3 Quiz Week 3 Discussion Posts	Sunday, June 2, 11:59 pm	
Module 4	3 - 9 June	Global Governance & International Organizations	Chapter 6	Week 4 Quiz Week 4 Discussion Posts	Sunday, June 9, 11:59 pm	
Module 5	10–16 June	International Political Economy	Chapter 7	Week 5 Quiz Week 5 Discussion Posts	Sunday, June 16, 11:59 pm	Begin Writing Final
Module 6	17–22 June	The Environment & Global Problems	Chapter 9	Final paper		The final paper is Due on June 21. No quizzes or discussion post assignments in the final week of class.

Grading Scale

A	93 or better
A-	90-92.99
B+	87-89.99
B	83-86.99
B-	80-82.99
C+	77-79.99
C	73 - 76.99
C-	70-72.99
D	60-69.99
F	59.99 and below

Communicating with the Instructor Online

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 her UCF email address Michael.yekple@ucf (using the email feature within Webcourses rather than replying to postings under the Announcements tab, as he can respond to emails much more quickly. To talk with the instructor, please schedule an appointment during her office hours (Tuesday and Thursday 10.00 am – 12 pm). Check the class announcements in Webcourses several times each week for any changes or updates.

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.

Miscellaneous Course Policies

Academic Integrity Expectations

Students are prohibited from cheating by including, but not limited to 1) attempting to use, possess, or disseminate 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).

For more details on academic integrity matters, you are encouraged to consult UCF's Rules of Conduct (**https://scai.sdes.ucf.edu/student-rules-of-conduct/ (https://scai.sdes.ucf.edu/student-rules-of-conduct/)**) and UCF's student handbook, The Golden Rule (**https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/ (https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/)**).

All UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree. o 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: (**https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade/** (https://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, students 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.

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 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) **https://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/** (https://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.

Academic Support Services

Student Academic Resource Center (SARC)

Trevor Colburn Hall, Room 117/ (407) 823-5130)/ sarc@ucf.edu. If you have trouble with classes and desire to further improve your academic performance, you might benefit from contacting this office for assistance with improving your study skills.

UCF Counseling Center

(Building #27/ (407) 823-2811): Students experiencing formidable mental health 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 (**https://caps.sdes.ucf.edu/ (https://caps.sdes.ucf.edu/)**). Please keep in mind that CAPS services are free for UCF students.

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 help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The purpose of the UWC 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 date 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 using the TutorTrac scheduler on our website; walk-in consultations are also available. The main location is in Colbourn 109, with satellite locations in the Main Library and Rosen Library & Online. They can be reached at 407-823-2197 or **https://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/ (https://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/)**