



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POL/IR 303

SEM 2 2021/2022

3 CREDITS

PROFESSOR ANTHONY TRIOLO

anthony.triolo@iau.edu

International Relations: Security and Development in a Globalized World

Class meets Tuesday 12:30-13:55 and Thursday 12:30-13:55, 27 Place de l'Université.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of international relations in today's world encompasses much more than relations between governments and nation-states. This course will look at all modern actors in international affairs. Central to our approach is taking advantage of living abroad for a semester. This includes exploring the viewpoints of new friends, closely following local and international news, attending local conferences and exploring Franco-American relations. Students will read assigned texts, write short papers and give presentations.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union marked the end of the Cold War and the beginning of a new era in international relations. Modern diplomacy is conducted in a world of rapidly evolving global challenges: the spread of weapons of mass destruction; new and more malignant forms of terrorism; regional and sectarian conflicts; failed and failing states; global economic dislocation; and transnational health, energy and environmental concerns. Rarely can these issues be addressed unilaterally. Technological advances in communication during this same era have had a profound effect on the central role of the state in international relations. As a result diplomacy has moved beyond state-to-state relations to include non-state actors, including private sector entities, international organizations and NGOs, indigenous movements, criminal cartels, militant groups, social media networks, and local/international media. These phenomena are collectively known as globalization, and this course will introduce the study of international relations in the context of these developments. It will focus on two main areas of study: international security and international political economy. The course will pay special attention to global issues such as Violent Conflict, International Law, Climate Change, Nuclear Proliferation, Trade, and Development. Specifically the course will:



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- Introduce the major theoretical schools of IR thought;
- Examine the historical roots of U.S. foreign policy;
- Discuss the central role of war and peace in the study of international relations;
- Examine how the rise of non-state actors is changing the nation-state system that has dominated the international system for almost 500 years;
- Look at global challenges such as trade, the environment, human migration;
- Explore the ethical issues confronting citizens in a global world, particularly citizens of a powerful nation-state such as the United States.

III. LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will demonstrate via oral and written means an understanding of international relations at the individual, domestic, interstate and global levels of analysis;
- Students will develop analytical skills by testing current international policy issues against the diverse theoretical principles used by international relations scholars;
- Students will develop rhetorical competence via oral presentations skills.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to identify an international issue and present a variety of ways for global actors to address the issue. They will be able to advocate persuasively for a course of action in the face of an international policy dilemma;

IV. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

Class meetings will be oriented around lecture/discussions and later in the term will include student-presented material. Every class will begin with a review of current events that illustrate principles of international relations. You may be expected to attend guest speaker conferences to supplement class work. We will also make use of simulations. I will make available IR-related films and you will be required to view at least one of these films and write a one-page reflection piece.

CLASS PRESENTATIONS: Class presentations will be no more than 30 minutes. Respecting the time limit will make for a successful presentation. Group presentations are possible (no more than 3 to a group). Presentations will be scheduled at the end of the course.

Presentations can be on any subject raised in the course or any subject related to international relations. Class readings are one source of presentation ideas. For



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example, the environmental and economic issues raised by Tom Friedman in his book *The World is Hot, Flat and Crowded* would also be appropriate for presentations. Please discuss with me before finalizing your subject.

A good presentation will always be improved by the use of audio-visual material. Powerpoint or Prezi are well suited for this. Keep in mind that audio-visual material should supplement rather than repeat your presentation's main points. Images are better than words. Remember the presentation is for your audience, not for you. Your notes should be on cards, in your head, or in your computer. And some clichés are true, including *practice makes perfect*.

FIELDTRIP: There is a mandatory field trip to Brussels to visit international organizations, tentatively scheduled for April 3-5. You will write a two-page reflection piece following this trip.

WRITTEN WORK: All written work must be submitted electronically to anthony.triolo@iau.edu. Format should be double-spaced, Times New Roman 12pt. If used, I prefer footnotes to endnotes. Just about any question you have on how to write clearly and persuasively is addressed in Strunk & White, *Elements of Style*. Anyone interested in writing well should own a copy.

V. PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS

- Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, "International Relations", New York, Pearson Press, 8th ed., 2008.
- Joseph S. Nye, Jr., "The Future of Power", New York, Public Affairs, 2011.
- Vandana Shiva, "Water Wars: Privatization, Pollution and Profit", Berkeley, CA, North Atlantic Books, 2016.

The Goldstein textbook will provide the theoretical foundation and basic factual information for the study of international relations while the Nye book discusses the concept of power in international relations. *The World is Hot, Flat and Crowded* makes the case for social and economic reforms, led by the U.S., in the face of economic globalization and environmental degradation.

Supplemental readings such as newspapers and weekly magazines are required to complement this course. A selection of suggested media outlets follows: BBC, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, The Washington Post, The New York Times, The Economist,



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The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, The Intercept, The Daily Beast, Le Monde (in French), RFI (radio, in French).

VI. EVALUATION AND GRADING

Participation (20%) You are expected to contribute to class discussions and informal presentations.

Policy Op-Ed (20%) You will write one editorial (3-4 pages) advocating for a policy that responds to an international issue.

Mid-term exam (20%): take home, short essay.

Final exam (20%): In class, covers material after the mid-term.

Film and Field Trip reflection Piece, (2 pages) (20%)

VII. ATTENDANCE

One of the primary requirements this semester is that you attend class. This is not a lecture class, and its success depends very much on your coming to class on time, prepared for the lesson, and ready to participate in discussion and activities.

Attendance will be part of your final grade. Unexcused absences have a negative impact on your final grade. Each unexcused absence above two will lower the final grade by a half-letter grade. IAU College excused absences: absences linked to IAU excursions; sickness (a medical certificate is required); emergencies.

VIII. CALENDAR (subject to change)

January 27	Course Overview
February 1	History Moment: From Global War to Globalization <i>Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 1</i>
February 3	(Map Quiz) Introduction to International Relations: Globalization and International Security <i>Readings: Nye: Ch. 1</i>
February 8	Theoretical Perspectives: Realism <i>Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 2; Nye, Ch. 2</i>



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- February 10 **History Moment:** European International Relations: 1870-1918
Readings: Nye, Ch. 3
- February 15 **Theoretical Perspectives:** Liberalism
Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 3
- February 17 **Current Moment:** A Look at the Doomsday Clock: Two Global Crises
- February 22 **Theoretical Perspectives:** The role of soft power
Readings: Nye, Ch. 4
- February 24 **Foreign Policy:** Constructing effective foreign policies
Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 4, Nye, Ch. 7
- March 1 **International Conflict and Security:** Causes/Tools of War
Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 5, 6;
- March 3 **International Conflict and Security:** War in the 21st Century: Asymmetric Warfare, Terrorism and Killer Robots
Readings: Nye, Ch. 5, 6
- March 8 **International Conflict and Security:** IGOs, Human Rights and Humanitarian & International Law
Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 7
- March 10 **Mid-term exam**
- March 15 **Climate Change: A Double Threat**
Shiva, Intro
- March 17 **Introduction to International Political Economy:** Bretton Woods and beyond
Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 8, Shiva, Ch. 1
- March 22 **International Trade:** GATT-WTO-BRICS
Readings: Shiva, Ch. 2, 3



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March 24	Global Finance and Business: MNCs and power diffusion <i>Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 9; Shiva, Ch. 4</i>
March 29	International Integration: The EU and liberal institutionalism <i>Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 10</i>
March 31	Screening of Documentary
April 5	Environment: Environmental Problems in IR <i>Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 11; Shiva, Ch. 5</i>
April 7	Environment: Confronting Environmental Problems <i>Readings: Shiva, Ch. 6</i>
April 19	Trip to Brussels
April 26	Development: Sustainable Development Goals <i>Readings: Goldstein, Ch. 13; Shiva, Ch. 7</i>
April 28	Case Study in Development
May 3	Case Study in Development
May 5	Review