

International Relations (PO3600)

Y 1996-97 TR1:30-2:50

Instructor: Peter Blaikie

The Course:

This course introduces students to major concepts and theories of international relations. The course takes a theoretical approach as well as a practical perspective and is intended to apply theories to current events in the international system.

Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will have the capability to apply various theories of how the international system works to current international crises and events. Students will be able to converse, with some confidence, with friends and family about international politics.

Texts:

Rourke(R) **International Politics on the World Stage(5th ed.)**

Kegley and Wittkopf(KW) **The Global Agenda(4th ed.)**

Williams, Goldstein, Shafritz **Classical Readings of International Relations**

Grading:

15% First term paper
10 % Participation
20% Christmas Exam
15% Second term paper
10% Participation
30% Final Exam

Readings:

Readings in addition to those that follow will be assigned from time to time.

1. International Relations and the Current International System

R-1-2; KW13; CR-49-53

2. Power, Nationalism and the International System

R-7,9; KW-1; CR-26-28

3. Balance of Power and Alliances

KW-6,11,14; CR-29-31

4. Traditional-Scientific Debate

TBA

5. Levels of Analysis(system, state, individuals)

R3-5; CR-18-19

6. Idealism, Realism and National Interests

R-6,8; KW-12; CR- 1-12

7. Decision-making, Diplomacy and Crisis

R11; CR- 20-22,32, 40-43

8. Conflict and International Insecurity

R-13-14; KW-2-7;

9. Integration

R-569-588; KW-27-29; CR- 34-37

10. International Economy

R-15-18; KW-23-25,27-28,30; CR-54

11. International Law and Organization

R-10-12; KW-10,18-21; CR- 23-24,33

12. The Future

KW-22;CR- 55-58