

INR 3603 SECTION 08GG – UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA – SPRING 2015

THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Prof. Badredine Arfi  
Office: 221 Anderson Hall  
Phone: (352) 273 2357  
Place & Time: TUR 2319, T 5-6, R 6.  
Office Hours: Tuesday 9 – 11, Thursday 11-12, or by appointment  
Teaching Assistant: Lina Benabdallah, email: [linaben@ufl.edu](mailto:linaben@ufl.edu)

DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as a focused introduction to contemporary theories, debates, and major scholarly traditions in the study of international relations. The course is organized around reading and critiquing a number of major books that present different debates on both theory and method in IR. The course seeks to examine and assess the foundational assumptions, analytical methods and scope of each book. The discussion of the various theories will always be given an empirical depth through applying it to multiple historical and contemporary issues of world politics. Hopefully, the students would be able by the end of the semester to have a more or less comprehensive appreciation of the richness, diversity and variance of extant literature on international relations as well as an educated sense of the difficulties and challenges that still lay ahead in the study of such a complex subject-matter as international politics.

REQUIRED TEXTS (ALL ON RESERVE AT LIBRARY WEST)

1. Waltz, Kenneth. Man, the State and War. Columbia University Press.
2. Bull, Hedley. The Anarchical Society: A Study of Order in World Politics. Columbia University Press.
3. Finnemore, Martha. National Interests in International Society. Cornell University Press.
4. Doty, Roxanne. Imperial Encounters: The Politics of Representation in North-South Relations. University of Minnesota Press.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

GRADES WILL BE BASED ON:

1. Four take-home essay exams
  2. Class attendance and participation
- All written assignments are to be submitted to e-learning/sakai on the specified dates (see down blow in the detailed course outline). **All essays will be automatically checked for plagiarism and cheating.**

TAKE HOME ESSAY EXAMS:

- Students are required to write a **5-page** long (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt font, 1 inch margin on all sides) essay, in which they will be challenged to demonstrate an acceptable grasp of the key ideas, arguments and theories covered in the course.
- The deadlines for submitting the papers are specified down below in the detailed outline of the course. All deadlines will remain in effect even were we to fall behind the reading outline in the class discussions. Late submissions are not acceptable, except if justified with an officially valid documentation (e.g., a doctor's note or the like).

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:**

- Students are required to attend class sessions on a regular basis. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.
- Students are also required to complete all the readings in a timely fashion, as specified by the course outline.

**OVERALL GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

- Essay exams: 22% each → 4 X 22% = 88%
- Attendance + Participation = 12% – attendance will be taken at the beginning of every session.
- There might be a 5% extra credit assignment at the end of the semester should the instructor deem it important to do so.

Your final cumulative score will be translated into a letter grade according to the following schedule: 93 points or higher = A; 90–92.9 = A-; 87–89.9 = B+; 83–86.9 = B; 80–82.9 = B-; 77–79.9 = C+; 73–76.9 = C; 70–72.9 = C-; 67–69.9 = D+; 63–66.9 = D; 60–62.9 = D-; <60 = E. Information on UF's grading policies is posted at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

**CRITICAL DATES:**

Classes Begin	January 6
Official University Holidays - no classes	January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day February 27 - March 5: Spring Break
ISA 56 <sup>th</sup> Annual Convention – New Orleans	February 18 – 21
Reading Days - no classes	April 21-22
Final Exams	April 23, April 25-29

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- Deadline extensions or incomplete grades may be granted under very special circumstances as supported by valid official documentation (in accordance with the university regulations).
- Any student seeking such accommodation must request it prior to the deadline for the specific assignment.
- Retroactive extensions/incompletes will not be granted under any circumstances.
- The instructor reserves the right to change any part or aspect of this document should a need for doing so emerge at any point in time during the semester.
- Online course evaluation process: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.
- Per university rules there is a zero-percent tolerance on cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, conspiracy, fabrication (see university definitions down below).
- No take-home cooperation with anybody (including your classmates) is allowed.

**UF POLICIES:**

- **University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:** Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.
- **University Policy on Academic Misconduct:** Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

**LEGAL DEFINITIONS**

- (a) **Cheating** — The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes, but is not limited to, copying graded homework assignments from another student; working together with another individual(s) on a take-home test or homework when not specifically permitted by the teacher; looking or attempting to look at another student's paper during an examination; looking or attempting to look at text or notes during an examination when not permitted. Tendering of information includes, but is not limited to, giving your work to another student to be used or copied; giving someone answers to exam questions either when the exam is being given or after having taken an exam; giving or selling a term paper or other written materials to another student; sharing information on a graded assignment.
- (b) **Plagiarism** — The attempt to and/or act of representing the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is published or unpublished, or simply the work of a fellow student. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on an exam, term paper, homework, or other written materials or oral presentations for an academic requirement; submitting a paper which was purchased from a term paper service as your own work; submitting anyone else's paper as your own work.
- (c) **Bribery** — The offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of any materials, items or services of value to gain academic advantage for yourself or another.
- (d) **Misrepresentation** — Any act or omission of information to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes using computer programs generated by another and handing it in as your own work unless expressly allowed by the teacher; lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic dishonesty.
- (e) **Conspiracy** — The planning or acting with one or more persons to commit any form of academic dishonesty to gain academic advantage for yourself or another.
- (f) **Fabrication** — The use of invented or fabricated information, or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive for academic or professional advantage.

**GETTING HELP:**

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

**Other resources are available at** <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

## WEEKLY READINGS AND TAKE-HOME ASSIGNMENTS

---

### Week 1 / January 6-8: Doing IR Theories

- Theorizing about world politics
- Introduction to Waltz' book

### Week 2/ January 13-15: Waltz: Man, the State and War I

- The First Image: International Conflict and Human Behavior
- Some Implications of the First Image: The Behavior Sciences and the Reduction of Interstate Violence

### Week 3/ January 20-22: Waltz: Man, the State and War II

- The Second Image: International Conflict and the Internal Structure of States
- Some Implications of the Second Image: International Socialism and the Coming of the First World War

**TAKE HOME EXAM I: TOPIC ASSIGNED ON: TUESDAY, JANUARY 27**

### Week 4/ January 27-29: Waltz: Man, the State and War III

- The Third Image: International Conflict and International Anarchy
- Some Implications of the Third Image: Examples from Economics, Politics, and History
- Conclusion

**TAKE HOME EXAM I DUE ON: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3**  
**Electronic copy submitted to e-learning/sakai before class**

### Week 5/ February 3-5: Bull: The Anarchical Society I

- The Concept of Order in World Politics.
- Does Order Exist in World Politics?

### Week 6/ February 10-12: Bull: The Anarchical Society II

- How Is Order Maintained in World Politics?
- Order versus Justice in World Politics

**TAKE HOME EXAM II: TOPIC ASSIGNED ON: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

<b>Week 7: ISA 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention – New Orleans</b>	<b>February 18 – 21</b>
--	-------------------------

### Week 8/ February 24-26: Bull: The Anarchical Society III

- The Balance of Power and International Order
- International Law and International Order.
- Diplomacy and International Order.
- War and International Order.
- The Great Powers and International Order.

**Week 9: February 27 - March 5: 2015 Spring Break**

**TAKE HOME EXAM II DUE ON: TUESDAY, MARCH 10**  
**Electronic copy submitted to e-learning/sakai before class**

### Week 10/ March 10-12: Finnemore: National Interests in International Society I

- Defining State Interests.

**Week 11/ March 17-19: Finnemore: National Interests in International Society II**

- Norms and State Structure: UNESCO and the Creation of State Science Bureaucracies.
- Norms and War: The International Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions.
- Norms and Development: The World Bank and Poverty.

**TAKE HOME EXAM III: TOPIC ASSIGNED ON: TUESDAY, MARCH 24**

**Week 12/ March 24-26: Finnemore: National Interests in International Society III**

- Politics in International Society.

**TAKE HOME EXAM III DUE ON: TUESDAY, MARCH 31**  
**Electronic copy submitted to e-learning/sakai before class**

**Week 13/ March 31 – April 2: Doty: Imperial encounters I**

- Introduction

**TAKE HOME EXAM IV: TOPIC ASSIGNED ON: THURSDAY, APRIL 9**

**Week 14/ April 7-9: Doty: Imperial encounters II**

- Foreign Aid, Democracy, and Human Rights
- Repetition and Variation: Academic Discourses on North-South Relations

**TAKE HOME EXAM IV DUE ON: THURSDAY APRIL 16**  
**Electronic copy submitted to e-learning/sakai before class**

**Week 15/ April 14-16: Comparing Waltz, Bull, Finnemore, and Doty****Summary of Take-home Dates:**

Take-home	Assigned on	Due on
I	Tuesday, Jan 27	Tuesday, Feb 3
II	Tuesday, Feb 24	Tuesday, March 10
III	Tuesday, March 24	Tuesday, March 31
IV	Thursday, April 9	Thursday, April 16