

## INS 3004 International Studies Perspectives

Sections 14E4, 14E0, 0492 and 0028  
TR period 7 (lecture), R periods 5, 8, 9 (2)

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### Teaching Assistants:

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This is the entry course for UF's major in International Studies. It will introduce you to the contemporary international system, the major regions of the world, to the academic disciplines that make up the field of International Studies, and to several major issues in world politics today.

The first component of the course will give you a background on why our world looks the way it does. Following that introduction to the origins of the contemporary world, we will explore some major issues facing the international community today, approaches to exploring them, and solutions that require both domestic and external action. In many ways these issues reflect the reality that ours is a highly interdependent world: problems require multi-national solutions, and problems far away are often directly relevant to us here in Florida and the United States more broadly.

This will be a demanding course, as it has to introduce you to a wide array of thinking about international studies and to prepare you both to select and to do well in future coursework in this major. Attendance in all lectures and discussion sections *is mandatory* and will be central to your success in the course, as will coming to all class meetings having already read carefully, taken notes on, and prepared your own questions from readings.

### Assignments

There will be three take-home quizzes, a short take-home final exam, and two short papers in the course. Grade distribution is as follows:

Quizzes:	15% each (45% total)
Take-home final exam:	25%
Short papers:	10% each (20% total)
Participation:	10%

Dates are as follows.

- September 25: quiz 1 distributed, due by noon to Canvas September 26
- October 28: quiz 2 distributed, due by noon to Canvas October 29.
- November 13: paper one due in class.

- November 20: quiz 3 distributed, due by noon to Canvas November 21.
- December 9: paper two due in class.
- December 9: Take home final distributed. Due December 15 by noon to Canvas.

Participation grades will rest on discussions of the readings and engagement in class activities, including both in-class and on-line discussions. Students may earn up to half of their participation credit via thoughtful submissions to the thread *as long as they also attend that week's discussion session*. Adequate in-class participation will indicate that a student did the readings and was actively engaged in discussion. If students have questions about how participation is being evaluated, or if students feel uncomfortable speaking in front of others, they should see the teaching assistant or the professor as early in the semester as possible.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following numerical scales:

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalent	GPA equivalent
A	93-	4.0
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.67
E	<60	0.00
E1	stopped attending	0.00
I	Incomplete <sup>1</sup>	0.00

### **Policies and Expectations**

Classes in the humanities and social sciences—and International Studies draws on both types of disciplines—are most rewarding when students interact with the course material, each other, and the professor and teaching assistants on a sustained and regular basis. While lectures and readings provide the raw material for the class, much learning will take place in both formal and informal discussions. Effective class participation is therefore essential. Students can expect an atmosphere in which opinions are expressed, and received, in a thoughtful and respectful manner. It also is important to note that many students will hold very strong opinions about the issues we will be discussing during the term. Reasonable disagreement and lively debate are encouraged as long as all students remain respectful of one another. I would also encourage all students to be willing to challenge their own preconceptions and to have other students challenge them as well.

At the same time, students are expected to attend all lectures and discussion sessions and to

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<sup>1</sup> In my classes incompletes are extremely rare, like white tigers.

be respectful of themselves, other students, the teaching assistant, and the professor at all times. In addition to arriving in a timely manner, this includes, but is not limited to, refraining from text messaging, playing cell phone or computer games, checking email, surfing the web, reading newspapers or other non-course related material, and other distracting behavior. The professor or the teaching assistants will ask students who do not observe these general guidelines to leave class, and students who persist in such behavior will receive grade penalties.

Students are expected turn in hard copies of papers, but I am well aware that various problems can arise when printing papers, etc. If students encounter such problems, they should email a copy of the paper to both me and their teaching assistant by the appropriate due date and time, then bring a hard copy to the next class. If we do not have at least an electronic version of the paper at the proper due date, the paper will be considered late.

Cheating in any form undermines the integrity and mutual trust essential to a community of learning and places at a comparative disadvantage those students who respect and work by the rules of that community. It is understood that any work a student submits is indeed his/her own. Plagiarism—that is, lifting without giving credit from something someone else has written such as a published book, article, or even a student paper—is forbidden and is, in most cases, fairly easily detected. There are other, more obvious forms of academic dishonesty, such as turning in work completed by someone else, bringing inappropriate notes into an exam, and offering or receiving whispered, signaled, or other forms of assistance during an exam. Working with fellow students in exam study groups is not only acceptable but also encouraged, as long as one is refining ideas that are essentially his or her own. Included within this definition of academic integrity is the assumption that all documents and excuses provided as explanations for late or missed assignments have not been falsified. Please review the University's policies regarding [student conduct and conflict resolution](#), available through the [Dean of Students Office website](#). Any violations of the Student Honor Code will result in a failing grade for the course and referral to Student Judicial Affairs.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office, which will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the professor when requesting accommodation. For more information regarding University policies on this issue, please visit the [Disability Resource Center's website](#).

### Course Materials

There are two required texts for the course, both of which are available locally and online. In particular I have found *bigwords.com* to be useful—it provides a customized set of options for ordering any book, along with total prices including taxes and shipping. The texts are:

- Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion*
- Shawn Smallman and Kimberley Brown, *Introduction to International and Global Studies*

In addition there are a number of articles and book chapters assigned. These will be available at the course's Canvas site or through the library's online journal system.

### Schedule of readings and discussions:

#### August 26: Introduction: What is International Studies?

**August 28: NO LECTURE, ONLY SECTION MEETINGS.** All discussion sections will meet but I am in Washington, DC for the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association.

#### September 2: International Studies as a Career Field

- Smallman & Brown, 1-10 (Introduction) and 351-84 (chapters 12-13)

#### September 4 and 9: The Making of the Contemporary World System in Empires, States and Nations

- Smallman & Brown, chapter 2
- Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, selection

#### September 11 and 16: The World Since the Cold War

- Smallman & Brown, chapter 3 and
- Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?"
- Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations"

#### September 18 and 23: Economic Globalization and Transformation

- Smallman & Brown, chapter 4
- Jagdish Bhagwati, "Coping with Anti-Globalization"

#### September 25 and 30: Political Globalization, the UN, Human Rights and Democracy Promotion

#### September 25: quiz one distributed

- Smallman & Brown, chapter 5,
- Thomas Carothers, "The End of the Transition Paradigm," and
- US State Department, "Human Rights at 60." See also <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/UDHR/Pages/UDHRIndex.aspx> for details about the original Universal Declaration of Human Rights

#### October 2 and 7: Economics and Development.

- Smallman & Brown, chapter 7,
- Amartya Sen, "Development as Capability Expansion" and
- Daniel Lerner, "The Grocer and the Chief: A Parable"

#### October 9 and 14: Dealing with Global Poverty

- Collier, chapters 1-4

**October 16 and 21: Dealing with Global Poverty Continued.**

- Collier, chapters 5-7

**October 23 and 28: Dealing with Global Poverty Concluded.**

**October 28: quiz two distributed,**

- Collier, chapters 8-11 and pp. 193-97

**October 30 and November 4: Security, Identity and Conflict Today**

- Smallman & Brown, chapters 3 and (reread) 5
- Jerry Muller, "Us and Them: The Enduring Power of Ethnic Nationalism," and
- Macartan Humphreys et al, "Is Ethnic Conflict Inevitable?"

**November 6: Energy, Resources and the Global System Continued.**

- Smallman & Brown, chapter 10
- Michael Ross, "Blood Barrels"
- Benjamin Smith, "Oil Wealth, Order and Conflict"

**November 11: NO CLASS. Veteran's Day.**

**November 13 and 18: Energy, Resources and the Global System Continued**

**November 13: paper one due**

- Smallman & Brown chapter 11
- Garrett Hardin, "The Tragedy of The Commons"
- Kyoto Protocol summaries and analysis TBD

**November 20 and 25: Women's rights and place in the global economy**

**November 20: quiz three distributed**

- Valentine Moghadam, "Gender and Globalization"
- Mark Gray et al, "Women and Globalization"
- Sakiki Fukuda-Parr, "What Does Feminization of Poverty Mean?"

**December 2 and 4: The Disciplines that Make Up, and Approaches to, International Studies Introduced**

**December 9: course conclusion.**

**December 9: paper two due.**

**Take home final exam due December 15 by noon to Canvas. No exceptions**