

INR 2001: Introduction to International Relations
Summer B 2023 Online

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Office Hours on Zoom: Thursdays 11am–1pm (EST) and by appointment
Zoom Meeting ID: 352 215 8456 (Passcode will be shared on Canvas)

Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces students to the major concepts, theories, actors, and political issues in international politics. This course consists of two parts. The first part focuses on theoretical approaches used to understand global politics, including theories of realism, liberalism, constructivism, Marxism, postcolonialism, poststructuralism, and feminism. We will apply these theoretical frameworks to specific political issues in the second part of the semester. In the second part, we will discuss how the current international system has evolved by focusing on political developments in the areas of security, global political economy, international law, and international organizations. We will also discuss contemporary issues, including environmental governance, migration, development, human rights, and nationalism. At the end of the semester, students are expected to be able to:

- Understand major concepts in International Relations
- Describe and evaluate major theories of International Relations
- Demonstrate the history of the current international system
- Identify key actors and their roles in global politics
- Critically analyze major issues in global politics today and reflect on how they are discussed in the United States as well as worldwide

Textbook

We will read selected chapters from *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations* (GWP) edited by John Baylis, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens. Please note that there are different editions. We will read the most recent edition published in 2023.

- Baylis, John, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens, eds. 2023. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. 9th ed. Oxford University Press.

In addition to *GWP*, other readings will be posted on the Canvas course website.

Course Requirements

This course is 100% online. All lectures, assignments, and exams are conducted via Canvas. Although this course is asynchronous and largely self-paced, students must complete assignments and exams based on the weekly readings and lectures. To help students keep up with the course schedule, the Canvas webpage is organized by weekly modules where students can access the lectures and assignments. Also, in order to address any limitations of online learning, students are encouraged to visit the instructor during virtual office hours, on Thursdays 11am–1pm, or schedule an appointment if there is a time conflict.

Grades will be based on two global news reports, a film review, and two exams.

- **Two News reports** are due on Fridays of the second and fourth weeks—July 14 and 28 by 11:59pm. Students should follow major world news to do this assignment appropriately. For the news reports, students are required to submit a 4-page PowerPoint or Google slides (in pdf format) on what they think of the most important news happening in the two weeks. The reports should compare perspectives of at least two major news outlets—The New York Times, Al Jazeera, Russia Today, and People’s Daily—plus others of their choice if they would like to. Detailed instructions will be posted on Canvas. No late submissions will be accepted for this assignment.
- **A Film review** is based on the documentaries/movies assigned on Wednesdays—The True Cost (2015), It’s a Girl! (2012), Quo Vadis, Aida? (2020), Born in Syria (2016), and Poverty, Inc. (2014). These films can be viewed for free on online streaming services or through Kanopy by using UF GatorLink VPN. Among the five films, students can choose one to write a review regarding its relevance in global politics. Detailed instructions will be posted on Canvas. No late submissions will be accepted for this assignment.
- **Exam 1** is on July 21 and will be available on Canvas between 6:00am and 11:59pm (EST). Students will have two hours to complete the exam once they start. The exam is *not* open-book and will be proctored by Honorlock. It will consist of 40 questions of multiple choice, true/false, and short-answer questions based on readings and lectures covered in the first part of the course. The midterm is worth 25 percent of the final grade.
- **Exam 2** will be available on August 11 between 6:00am and 11:59pm (EST). The format will be the same as Exam 1, and the questions will be based on the second part of the course. The exam is worth 30 percent of the final grade.

Assignments	Percentages of Grade	Important Dates
News Reports (2)	$15\% \times 2 = 30\%$	July 14 and July 28 by 11:59pm
Film Review	15%	August 4 by 11:59pm
Exam 1	25%	July 21 between 6:00am and 11:59pm
Exam 2	30%	August 11 between 6:00am and 11:59pm
Total	100%	

Grading Scale

Score	Grade	Score	Grade
94–100	A	77–79	C+
90–93	A-	74–76	C
87–89	B+	70–73	C-
84–86	B	67–69	D+
80–83	B-	64–66	D
		60–63	D-

Make-Up Policy

Requirements for make-up exams and assignments in this course are consistent with [university policies](#), which include health reasons (with documentation), religious holidays, official university activities, court-imposed legal obligations, or important conferences.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by the Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Click [here](#) to read the Conduct Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available [here](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Introduction (Module A)

Module A1 (July 3) Course objectives and expectations

Module A2 (July 5) The discipline of International Relations (IR)

- Baylis, John, Patricia Owens and Steve Smith. “Chapter 1. Introduction,” In *GWP*.
- Mcgrew, Anthony. “Chapter 2. Globalization and Global Politics,” in *GWP*.

Part I. Approaches to International Relations (Module B)

Module B1 (July 6) Realism

- Rosenboim, Or. “Chapter 9. Realism.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Kenneth Waltz](#), *Theory Talk*, 3 Jun. 2011.

Module B2 (July 7) Liberalism

- Dunne, Tim. “Chapter 7. Liberal Internationalism.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Michael Doyle](#), *Theory Talk*, 15 Apr. 2008.

Week 2

Module B3 (July 10) Constructivism

- Barnett, Michael. “Chapter 13. Social Constructivism.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Nicholas Onuf](#), *E-International Relations*, 9 May 2014.

Module B4 (July 11) Marxism

- Hobden, Stephen, and Richard Wyn Jones. “Chapter 8. Marxist theories of international relations.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Immanuel Wallerstein](#), *Theory Talk*, 4 Aug. 2008.

Wednesday’s Film (July 12)

- The True Cost (2015, 51 m)

Module B5 (July 13) Decolonization and post-colonialism

- Sabaratnam, Meera. “Chapter 11. Postcolonial and decolonial approaches.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Robbie Shilliam](#), *E-International Relations*, 14 Jun. 2018.

News Report 1 due (July 14)

Week 3

Module B6 (July 17) Poststructuralism

- Hansen, Lene. “Chapter 12. Poststructuralism.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Charlotte Epstein](#), *E-International Relations*, 29 Jan. 2017.

Module B7 (July 18) Feminism

- Kinsella, Helen. “Chapter 10. Feminism.” In *GWP*.
- Interview: [Cynthia Enloe](#), *E-International Relations*, 13 Mar. 2013.

Wednesday’s Film (July 19)

- It’s a Girl! (2012, 1h 4m)

Review (July 20) Review for Exam 1

Exam 1 (July 21)

Week 4

Part II. Understanding Global Politics (Module C)

Module C1 (July 24) Before the 20th century

- Lawson, George. “Chapter 3. The rise of modern international order.” In *GWP*.

Module C2 (July 25) In the 20th century

- Scott, Len. “Chapter 4. International history of the twentieth century.” In *GWP*.

Wednesday’s Film (July 26)

- Quo Vadis, Aida? (2020, 1h 41m)
- Bellamy, Alex, and Nicholas Wheeler. “Chapter 33. Humanitarian intervention in world politics.” In *GWP*.

Module C3 (July 27) Nationalism

- Breuilly, John. “Chapter 31. Nationalism, national self-determination and international relations.” In *GWP*.

News Report 2 due (July 28)

Week 5

Module C4 (July 31) International Law

- Reus-Smit, Christian. “Chapter 19. International law.” In *GWP*.

Module C5 (August 1) Human rights

- Kapur, Ratna. “Chapter 32. Human rights.” In *GWP*.

Wednesday’s Film (August 2)

- Born in Syria (2016, 1h 26m)
- López, Ariadna Estévez. “Chapter 26. Refugees and forced migration.” In *GWP*.

Module C6 (August 3) Security

- Baylis, John. “Chapter 15. International and global security.” In *GWP*.

Module C7 (August 4) International Organizations

- Park, Susan. “Chapter 20. International organizations in world politics.” In *GWP*.
- Curtis, Devon and Paul Taylor. “Chapter 21. The United Nations.” In *GWP*.

Film Review due (August 4)

Week 6

Module C8 (August 7) Environment

- Vogler, John. “Chapter 24. Environmental issues.” In *GWP*.

Module C9 (August 8) International political economy

- Phillips, Nicola. “Chapter 16. Global political economy.” In *GWP*.

Wednesday’s Film (August 9)

- Poverty, Inc. (2014, 1h 34m)
- Evans, Tony. “Chapter 27. Poverty, hunger, and development.” In *GWP*.

Conclusion (Module D)

Module D1 (August 10) New World Order

- Hurrell, Andrew. “Chapter 6. Rising powers and the emerging global order.” In *GWP*.

Exam 2 (August 11)