

Introduction to International Relation

Seyed Hamidreza Serri

INR 2001

Spring - 2008

Email: sh.serri@gmail.com

Office: GL 150

Class Hours: Mon/Wed 7:50PM 9:05 PM

Office Hours: Wed 2:00 – 3:00

Class Room: PC 431

Course Description

Introduction to international relations is the first step to know the world and its problems. More than before the average people across the globe want to know about worldwide issues, like the war in Iraq, the economic recession in South America, bird flu in China, or even some cartoons in a newspaper in Denmark. Today a family's neighborhood is not few blocks away; it is the world. People need to know about the "others" who live in the neighborhood, the problems of it, and the possible ways of solving them. The purpose of this course is first to provide students with introductory knowledge about these issues but more importantly to help them to come up with more detailed questions.

This course starts with history of the modern international system. Then, it continues with studying of the evolution of world economy, international security, international law and the relevant theories.

Required Texts

Spiegel, Steven, et al. *World Politics in a New Era*. 3rd ed. (Belmont: Wadsworth, 2004) ISBN: 0155059181

Grading Policy

Student Homepage: Building the student homepage in the WebCT is 6% of the total grade. Here are some guidelines, post:

- a decent picture of yourself;
- where you are from;
- where you work;
- what academic background you have;
- why you have taken this course and what you expect from it;
- what hobbies you have.

If you need some directions about building your homepage, [click here](#). The deadline for building the homepage is January 16, 2008.

Three Exams; 84% of the final grade: There will be three exams in this course; each of them is 28% percent worth of the total grade. The exams will be in multiple choice format. The questions will be from the assigned topics of the textbook, but at the same time the instructor’s lectures are very important. The exams will be mainly about the topics and issues that the instructor emphasizes in the class.

Class Participation; 10% or more of the final grade: Class participation means: active engagement in the class discussions including answering the questions and asking good questions.

Grading Scales:

A	>= 93,	C	72-75,
A-	90-92,	C-	68-71,
B+	86-89,	D+	65-67,
B	83-85,	D	62-64,
B-	80-82,	D-	60-61,
C+	76-79,	F	< 60

Class Expectations

* All the students are required to actively check the WebCT email. WebCT email will be the main means of communication between the instructor and the students. Class topics, requirements and grading policy (including the number and date of the exams) are subject to modification and change. Any such changes will be announced in the class **AND/OR** via email.

* Students should read the course materials **AHEAD** of the class.

* Students should follow the lectures very closely.

* Students’ absences should not exceed more than three sessions. More than three absences will affect students’ grade negatively.

* Students must be in the class **on time**. The instructor might not allow a student to join the class if a student interrupts the class.

* Unless it is pre-arranged with the instructor, students are expected to stay in the class until the end of the class period.

* **Students are required to turn off their cellular phones. During the class, laptops and other electronic devices should solely be used for the class purposes.**

* Video and/or audio recording of the class is not allowed.

* Cheating and Plagiarism Policy: Cheating and plagiarism are not acceptable. If caught cheating, the student will immediately receive a zero for the assignment and possibly be subject to further action. Students should be aware of the university policies on plagiarism as published in the student handbook. The Student Code of Standards states: “Plagiarism: The deliberate use and appropriation of another’s work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student, who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including Internet sources, is guilty of plagiarism. Any student helping another to plagiarize may be found guilty of academic misconduct.”

<http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/1acmisconductproc.htm>

It is at the discretion of the instructor to determine the severity of academic misconduct and whether formal disciplinary measures need to be taken, which may lead to punishment from the university, up to and including dismissal

Course Schedule

Monday, January 07	Introduction
Wednesday, January 09	Chapter 1: pp 3-30
Monday, January 14	Chapter 4: pp 146-175
Wednesday, January 16	Chapter 4: pp 175-201
Monday, January 21	Martin Luther king(NO CLASS)
Wednesday, January 23	Chapter 5: pp 203-230
Monday, January 28	Chapter 5: pp 230-257
Wednesday, January 30	Chapter 6: pp 259-281
Monday, February 04	Chapter 6: pp 281-308
Wednesday, February 06	Chapter 6: pp 308-335
Monday, February 11	<u>First exam</u>
Wednesday, February 13	Chapter 2: pp 33-62
Monday, February 18	Chapter 2: pp 62-95
Wednesday, February 20	Chapter 3: pp 97-122
Monday, February 25	Chapter 3: pp 122-143
Wednesday, February 27	Chapter 7: pp337-357
Monday, March 03	Chapter 7: pp 357-375
Wednesday, March 05	Chapter 8: pp 379-399
Monday, March 10	Chapter 10: pp 481-505
Wednesday, March 12	Chapter 10: pp 505-527
Monday, March 17	Spring Break (NO CLASS)
Wednesday, March 19	Spring Break(NO CLASS)
Monday, March 24	<u>Second Exam</u>
Wednesday, March 26	ISA Conference (NO CLASS)
Monday, March 31	Chapter 9: pp 401-440
Wednesday, April 02	Chapter 9: pp 440-479
Monday, April 07	Chapter 11: pp 529:558
Wednesday, April 09	Chapter 11: pp 558-589
Monday, April 14	Chapter 12: pp 591-646
Wednesday, April 16	Chapter 13: pp 647-670
	<u>Third Exam</u>