

A: Division: Academic

Date: May 17, 1995

B: Department: Arts & Humanities

New Course:
Revision of Course Information Form: X

Dated: August 23, 1971

C: POLI 103
D: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
E: 3
Subject & Course No.
Descriptive Title
Semester Credit
F: Calendar Description:

This course is a critical examination of the nature of the international system of states. It covers the basic concepts and approaches in the study of international politics. The course will analyze the factors affecting the behaviour of states and the instruments of foreign policy. The role of international organizations and international law will also be reviewed. Students will be prepared for further study of international politics and to understand events in the evolving international system.

Summary of Revisions:
 (Enter date & section)
 Eg. Section C,E,F

 1995.05.17:
 Section C, D, F, J, K, M,
 N, O, P

G: Type of Instruction: Hours per Week/per Semester

Lecture	2	Hrs.
Laboratory		Hrs.
Seminar	2	Hrs.
Clinical Experience		Hrs.
Field Experience		Hrs.
Practicum		Hrs.
Shop		Hrs.
Studio		Hrs.
Student Directed Learning		Hrs.
Other		Hrs.
TOTAL	4	HOURS

H: Course Prerequisites:

None

I: Course Corequisites:

None

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:

POLI 203

K: Maximum Class Size:

35

L: College Credit Transfer X

College Credit Non-transfer
M: Transfer Credit:
Requested:
Granted: X

Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned Credit as Appropriate:

 U.B.C. With POLI 203 = Poli 260 (3)
 & Poli (3)

S.F.U. POLI 103 = Pol 241 (3)

U. Vic. POLI 103 = Poli 240 (1.5)


COURSE DESIGNER(S)
DIRECTOR/CHAIRPERSON

DIVISIONAL DEAN
REGISTRAR

N: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students (Use Bibliographic Form):

Textbooks and readings to be selected from the following:

Holsti, K.J. International Politics: A Framework for Analysis. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1995.

Purkitt, Helen E. World Politics 95/96. Guildford: The Dushkin Publishing Group, Inc. 1995.

Olson, William C. The Theory and Practice of International Relations. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, Inc. 1994.

Rourke, John T. International Politics on the World Stage. 5th ed. Guildford: The Dushkin Publishing Group, Inc. 1995.

Complete Form with Entries Under the Following Headings:

O: Course Objectives; P: Course Content; Q: Method of Instruction;

R: Course Evaluation

O. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1) Students will become familiar with the characteristics of the contemporary international system, approaches to the study of international politics, and basic concepts including sovereignty, levels of analysis and power.
- 2) Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationships of political units within the international system, the processes through which foreign policy goals are defined; as well as, the role of international organizations and international law.
- 3) Students will be able to apply their understanding of basic concepts, the relationships between political units, and foreign policy to the analysis of contemporary issues in international politics.
- 4) Students will be prepared for further study of international politics.

P. COURSE CONTENT

Unit One: An Introduction to International Politics and the Contemporary International System

- 1.1 The study of international politics--concepts of politics; international politics and domestic politics; international politics, foreign policy, and international relations; levels of analysis; description, explanation and prescription, realism, idealism, pluralism, dependency.
- 1.2 Evolution and development of the modern state system--international systems: units, structure, interaction, rules, types; the state system: origins, sovereignty, territory, population, government.

- 1.3 Characteristics of the contemporary international system--nation-states; nationalism; non-state actors: transnational organizations and intergovernmental organizations; system structure; forms of interaction; system rules.

Unit Two: Foreign Policy Purposes and Techniques

- 2.1 Nature and objectives of foreign policy--concept of national interest; ethics; linkages to domestic policy.
- 2.2 Foreign policy goals and strategies--security relations, economic relations, and other foreign policy goals.
- 2.3 Foreign policy actions--power, influence and capabilities.

Unit Three: Instruments of Policy

- 3.1 Diplomacy--purpose; functions; negotiations: bilateral, multilateral, mediation.
- 3.2 Propaganda--definitions; targets; techniques; effectiveness.
- 3.3 Economic rewards and coercion--economic sanctions: boycotts and embargoes; international trade: tariffs, quotas, cartels; foreign aid: bilateral and multilateral; military sales and transfers.
- 3.4 Nonconventional military activity--intervention; political action; demonstrations of force; subversion; low-intensity conflict; military assistance; military intervention; terrorism: concepts, state, non-state.
- 3.5 Weapons of war--international war; nonconventional weapons: nuclear, chemical, biological; deterrence strategies; arms control and disarmament.

Unit Four: Explaining Foreign Policies

- 4.1 Influences on policy--external factors, domestic factors, the individual; international law; ethics; international regimes.
- 4.2 International organizations--the United Nations; the European Union; other regional associations: ASEAN, OAU, OAS.

Q. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Presentation of the course will involve the use of formal lectures, structured group work by students, and in-class discussion of assigned material. Additional readings may be assigned for each unit of the course, and placed on reserve in the library. Where appropriate, audio-visual materials will be used.

R. COURSE EVALUATION

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Evaluations of a student's performance will be based on a combination of written examinations, a formal research paper, and participation. All evaluation elements assigned must be completed by the student.

Midterm Examination	25%
Research Essay	30%
Participation*	20%
Final Examination	<u>25%</u>
	100%

*Participation grades for students will be based on a combination of criteria, which will include at least two of the following:

- Short in-class tests;
- Attendance, participation;
- Short research papers;
- Book review;
- In-class presentation;
- Formal debate;
- Research problems presentation;
- Instructor evaluation of individual student progress and research skills;
- Oral examination;
- Additional assignments.