

**POLS 25 Course Outline as of Fall 2023****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: POLS 25                      Title: INTRO TO INTL RELATIONS  
 Full Title: Introduction to International Relations  
 Last Reviewed: 9/12/2022

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

Students will be introduced to politics, theory, and institutions of international relations, with an emphasis on contemporary global issues.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Students will be introduced to politics, theory, and institutions of international relations, with an emphasis on contemporary global issues. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:	
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 1981	
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:	
	D	Social Science	Fall 2012	
	D8	Political Science, Govt, Legal Instutns		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1991	Summer 2012
	D2	Economics		
	D5	Geography		
	D6	History		
	D8	Political Science, Govt, Legal Instutns		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1981	Summer 1991
	D2	Economics		
	D5	Geography		
	D6	History		
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:	
	4	Social and Behavioral Science	Fall 1981	
	4H	Political Science:Govt and Legal Instutn		

**CSU Transfer:** Transferable      Effective:      Fall 1981      Inactive:

**UC Transfer:** Transferable      Effective:      Fall 1981      Inactive:

### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: POLS 140      Introduction to International Relations  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):      POLS25

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze and evaluate the central theoretical approaches to the study of international relations.
2. Describe the historical development of the international system.
3. Identify the key institutions and actors (state and non-state) in world politics, and evaluate how their interactions shape policy on issues such as international security, international trade, and the environment.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define key terms, events, and concepts used in international relations.
2. Identify the main actors studied by international relations scholars.
3. Question their own values with respect to other countries and their foreign policy objectives.
4. Identify and evaluate the explanatory, descriptive, and predictive power of different international relations theories.

5. Understand the universal and enduring nature of conflict in the international system.
6. Describe the historical evolution of the international system.
7. Formulate ideas about how to address current world order problems such as nuclear proliferation, international warfare, global economic inequality, and climate change.

### **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Introduction to the Study of International Relations
  - A. Historical development of the nation-state system
  - B. Levels of analysis
  - C. Definitions and terms (e.g. actors, key institutions)
- II. Theories of International Relations
  - A. Realism
  - B. Liberalism
  - C. Constructivism
- III. The State and the International System
  - A. Conceptions of power
  - B. Collective security
  - C. Security strategies
- IV. International Conflict and War
  - A. Causes of war
  - B. Military force
  - C. Regional conflicts
  - D. Terrorism
- V. International Law and Organization
  - A. International law
  - B. United Nations and regional organizations
- VI. International Political Economy
  - A. Trade and money
  - B. Economic development
- VII. Environment and Population
  - A. Climate change and resource scarcity
  - B. Population and immigration
- VIII. Selected Issues
  - A. Arab-Israeli Conflict
  - B. Politics of food and water
  - C. Health and disease

### **Assignment:**

1. Read and study in the text (30-60 pages) and additional readings weekly.
2. Essay examinations including a final (2-4).
3. Analytical writing (2000-3000 words). These may be in the form of:
  - A. Research papers
  - B. Reaction papers
  - C. Discussion posts
4. Optional assignments may include
  - A. Written summaries of current events
  - B. Quizzes
  - C. Presentations
  - D. Simulations
  - E. Group work

## Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Analytical writing

Writing  
25 - 45%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Essay examinations, Final, Optional quizzes

Exams  
40 - 60%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Optional assignments

Other Category  
0 - 20%

## Representative Textbooks and Materials:

World Politics: Trend and Transformation. 17th Edition. Blanton, Shannon and Kegley, Charles. Cengage Learning. 2020

World Politics in a New Era. 6th Edition. Spiegel, Steven L., Matthews, Elizabeth G., Taw, Jennifer M., and Williams, Kristen P. Oxford University Press. 2013 (Classic)

Essentials of International Relations. 8th Edition. Mingst, Karen A., McKibben, Heather E., and Arreguin-Taft, Ivan M. W. W. Norton & Company. 2018 (Classic)

International Relations, 12th Edition. Pevehouse, Jon C., and Goldstein, Joshua S. Pearson. 2019