

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    | 13           | 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:

Introduction to politics, theory, and institutions of international relations with emphasis on contemporary global issues.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:

Description: Introduction to politics, theory, and institutions of international relations with 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>          |                                          | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
|                                      | D                    | Social and Behavioral Sciences           | Fall 1981         |                  |
| <b>CSU GE:</b>                       | <b>Transfer Area</b> |                                          | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
|                                      | 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> |                                          | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b> |
|                                      | 4                    | Social and Behavioral Science            | Fall 1981         |                  |
|                                      | 4H                   | Political Science:Govt and Legal Instutn |                   |                  |
| <b>CSU Transfer:</b>                 | Transferable         | <b>Effective:</b>                        | Fall 1981         | <b>Inactive:</b> |
| <b>UC Transfer:</b>                  | Transferable         | <b>Effective:</b>                        | Fall 1981         | <b>Inactive:</b> |
| <b>CID:</b>                          |                      |                                          |                   |                  |
| CID Descriptor:                      | POLS 140             | Introduction to International Relations  |                   |                  |
| SRJC Equivalent Course(s):           |                      | POLS25                                   |                   |                  |
| <b>Certificate/Major Applicable:</b> |                      |                                          |                   |                  |
| Major Applicable Course              |                      |                                          |                   |                  |

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize the connection between international relations as a field and their personal lives.
2. Define key terms, events, and concepts used in international relations.
3. Identify key players--state and non-state actors--in international relations.
4. Question their own values and popular myths with respect to other countries and their foreign policy objectives.
5. Identify and evaluate the explanatory, descriptive, and predictive power of different theories of international relations.
6. Understand the universal and enduring nature of conflict in the international system.
7. Describe the historical evolution of the international system.
8. Formulate their own 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. Evolution of the nation-state system
  - B. Levels of analysis
    - 1. Individual
    - 2. State analysis
    - 3. Interstate
    - 4. Global
- II. Theories of International Relations
  - A. Realism
  - B. Alternatives to power politics
    - 1. Liberal (Idealist)
    - 2. Feminism
    - 3. Postmodernism
    - 4. Peace studies
- III. Foreign Policy and the Decision-making Process
  - A. Decision-making models
  - B. Foreign policy process
  - C. Limits on the rational actor model
  - D. Group dynamics
  - E. Role of substate actors
- IV. Conflict and War
  - A. Causes of war
  - B. Types of war
  - C. Terrorism
- V. International Organization and Law
  - A. United Nations and regional organizations
  - B. International law
- 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

**Assignment:**

- 1. Read and study one to two chapters in the texts and anthologies weekly.
- 2. Regular attendance, participation, and notetaking in class is expected.
- 3. Two to four essay examinations including a final.
- 4. Eight to twelve pages of analytical writing.
- 5. Optional assignments may include written summaries of current events, oral presentations, simulations, or 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.

Written homework, Term papers

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.

Multiple choice, True/false, Essay Exams

Exams  
40 - 60%

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

Oral presentations, simulations, and group work

Other Category  
5 - 20%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Essential Readings in World Politics (4th). Mingst, Karen A. and Snyder, Jack. Norton: 2011  
International Relations, (Brief 5th). Goldstein, Joshua S. and Pevehouse, Jon C. Pearson/Longman: 2010 with the companion website  
Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics, (11th). Rourke, John T. Dushkin/McGraw Hill: 2003  
World Politics: Trend and Transformation (12th)). Kegley, Charles W. and Wittkopf, Eugene R. Wadsworth: 2008