

Introduction to International Relations (ULI101)

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AIMS

This course is a broad introduction to international relations (IR). It seeks to acquaint students with major theories and concepts including the workings of the state system, the causes of international conflict and violence, and international economic relations in preparation for upper level courses in the IR. This course is also designed to provide case-study analysis, both as a tool for applying the fruits of theory to the study of real-world events, and also as a tool for evaluating competing theoretical approaches.

1. To introduce students to IR as a social science discipline
2. To consider the impact of major historical events on the evolution of academic IR, including the impact of globalization
3. To delineate the historical development of interstate relations and the place of the nation state in that development
4. To use IR's theoretical approaches to help students to examine the behavior of international actors and the nature of international systems
5. To distinguish between the three levels of analysis of the international system: individual, domestic, and global
6. To define and discuss some of the main concepts within IR, including balance of power, war, peace, terrorism, political economy, and international law
7. To discuss the nature and development of international organizations
8. To provide tools to help students think critically and argue effectively

P.S. Be aware of the fact that this course is not a survey of current world events but rather a thematic exploration of major topics in international relations theory.

Important Dates

First Day of Class

Thursday, 22 September

Mid-term Exam

The first week of November

The Final Exam

After 26 December – 8 January

Make-Up Exam

16-20 January

OBJECTIVES

1. By the end of this course you should be able to know something of the history of international relations in order to understand the context of contemporary events.
2. You should also be able to identify and explain the major theoretical approaches to international relations and to outline their strengths and weaknesses.
3. You should also be able to apply different theoretical tools in order to make sense of the contemporary world issues.
4. You should develop your critical thinking skills, so that you are able to recognize the theoretical and ideological assumptions behind texts you read.
5. By the end of this course, you should develop and support your own arguments about international politics theoretically.

TEACHING ASSISTANT(S)

Cüneyt Doğrusözlü

(İsletme Fakültesi, 3rd Floor, No: 313)

COURSE OVERVIEW

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: The historical context: The evolution of international society

Week 3: The theories: Realism

Week 4: Theories: Liberalism and Marxist Theories

Week 5: Theories: Critical

Week 6: Foreign Policy

Week 7: International Conflict, Military Force and Terrorism

Week 8: Exam Week

Week 9: International Organizations, Law and Human Rights

Week 10: International Trade and Global Finance

Week 11: International Integration and Environment

Week 12: North-South Gap and International Development

Week 13: Theory and Cases

Week 14: Theory and Cases

TEACHING ORGANIZATION

The course will be taught on the basis of fourteen four-hour lectures (the first week is supposed to be composed of a one-hour welcome). Lectures are central to the learning experience at undergraduate level and therefore attendance is compulsory.

Should you be unable to attend a seminar because of the circumstances beyond your control, you should contact teaching assistants as soon as possible to explain your absence.

Each class consists of an introduction and general overview by the convener of the course and 30 minutes are reserved for a class discussion designed to explore in more detail the subject at hand. The last 40 minutes are also reserved for student presentations.

Students are required to read the required readings from the reading lists. Needless to say, the more you read and think about the seminar beforehand, the better the seminar experience is going to be for you and for other students.

ASSESSMENT

There are five forms of assessment for this course (they may be revised according to the University's official policy):

1. Weekly exams: 60%
 2. Essay/homework: 15%
 3. Quiz 1 (presentation): 15%
 4. Quiz 2 (presentation): 10%
- Sub-total 60%
5. Final exam: 40%

85-100	AA	4.00	Excellent
80-84	BA	3.50	Good
75-79	BB	3.00	Good
70-74	CB	2.50	Average
65-69	CC	2.00	Average
60-64	DC	1.50	Poor
50-59	DD	1.00	Poor
0-50	FF	0	Failure

WEEKLY EXAMS

Each week is an exam week. Weekly exams are for general 'Visa exam'. Students should be prepared for an exam which will be about the topic of previous week. The first week is free from exams.

ESSAYS/HOMEWORK

You must write one at least 1,500 word essay (averagely 4-5 pages). Although you are required to construct your own essay question, you must consult with the course convener and teaching assistants to have your essay question approved. The essay is an invitation to write an essay about an aspect of the course. It also should engage with some of the material introduced on the course module.

All papers should be printed, 1,5 spaced, 12 font, with proper margins, page numbers and securely stapled. Papers that go beyond the stated page limit for the assignment, or papers that do not conform to the directions above, may be penalized.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will be dealt with accordingly.

Written essays are to be handed to your teaching assistant on the due date. The last day of delivery is the Friday of 11th week. Late submissions will be penalized as follows: There is a 20% penalty for essays received within one week after the last day of delivery.

ESSAY AND QUIZ

Each week every student will be called upon to make a presentation of 10 minutes. There will also be time for discussion through which students and the convener of the course will ask questions about your presentation. Course assistant will provide you source a week before your presentation. Needless to say, all presentations must be interesting for as well as clear to the audience.

OFFICE HOURS

You are welcome to consult me during my office hours about any questions. Office hours may be updated on the sign next to my office's door.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS

A midterm exam means weekly exams in this module. Final exam counts for 40%. Final exam is given during the period scheduled by the University. They are not given early. Please check the schedule published by the SAU and makes your all plans accordingly.

MAKEUP EXAMS

If you are unable to take your midterm or final exam, you must submit a hard copy of a one page explanation justifying your request. This document should indicate how the circumstances surrounding your request were both unavoidable and unforeseeable. For final exam, it should be conveyed to secretary for IR department.

In case of a missed midterm, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the head teaching assistant as soon as possible (at the latest within a week of the original exam date) to arrange for a makeup exam.

OBJECTIONS TO GRADE

If you have any concern regarding your grades (either a paper grade or a midterm grade) you should first discuss the matter with your teaching assistant. This discussion covers only mistyped grade or miscalculations. If this does not resolve the problem you can submit a grade appeal to course convener directly. Once an appeal is submitted, course convener will reexamine your paper by reading again. Needless to say, the appeal process can, of course, result in one of three outcomes: no change to the original grade, a higher grade, or a lower grade.

As for any concern regarding final exam or final grade, you are supposed to apply to secretary for IR department with an official petition.

GENERAL MATERIALS

The majority of essential sources for this course are books and journal articles. You will be ensured that articles are all available on the University's online database and books should be available from the Sakarya University Library. As an IR student, you are supposed to have consent about the wide range of readings on international relations.

The following book is required

1. Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, **International Relations**, Pearson, *Please be careful about reading the 10th edition of the book.*
2. Şaban Kardaş ve Ali Balcı, **Uluslararası İlişkilere Giriş: Tarih, Teori, Kavram ve Konular**, İstanbul: Küre Yayınları, 2015, 4th edition (Those who are not eligible to read English texts in high proficiency should read this book as a starter)

These books are optional:

1. John Baylis, Steve Smith, Patricia Owens, *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations* 5th Edition, Oxford University Press, 2011
2. Robert J. Art and Robert Jervis, *International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues*, Pearson, 2012

- David A. Lake, David A. Lake, Kenneth A. Schultz, *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*, W. Norton & Company, 2009

P.S. The optional readings are useful for providing background, especially for the weeks of the course on theory and concepts. For this course, it is highly important to know about the usefulness of contending theories.

HOW TO BUY BOOKS

This section is not prepared to direct you to the following companies, you, of course, are free to use your own way to buy books you need.

The book is available at the following online book stores: <http://www.pandora.com.tr>, <http://www.babil.com/m/yabanci-kitap>, <http://www.homerbooks.com>, If you do not like online shopping, you have real bookstores. Of them, Robinson Crusoe, Pandora Kitabevi, Homer Kitabevi, D&R-Suadiye and Atatürk Aripport, Ada Kültür- Kadıköy, Remzi Kitabevi-Suadiye, Kanyon Remzi Kitabevi, Dünya Aktüel Kitabevi and EFY in Istanbul, Dost Kitabevi and Meteksan Kitabevi in Ankara and finally Pan Kitabevi in İzmir. Please check all of them and find the cheapest book. Of course you are free to buy your books from abroad. Best choices are <http://www.amazon.com/> and www.bookdepository.com. Please be careful when you order from international online bookstores, you can have shipping problems.

SUGGESTED MOVIES

Lord of the Flies, *Independence Day*, *Wag the Dog*, *Fatal Attraction*, *The Truman Show*, *Memento*, *East is East*, *Wall-E*, *The Hunger Games*, *Waltz with Bashir*, *Thirteen Days*, *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*, *Battle of Algiers*, *Darwin's Nightmare* *No Man's Land*, *The Cove*, *Shaking Hands with the Devil*

Please read the following book in order to increase your comprehension of IR theories through movies: Cynthia Weber, *International Relations Theory: A Critical Introduction*, Routledge, 2013

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the one hour-long lecture is to introduce ourselves and the general themes and content of the module as well as to allocate readings and explain the organization of the tutorials. Also it can be discussed any initial questions you may have about the course.

Warning: Week 1 contains important information and it is taken as given that you are aware of this information.

Second part of week 1 covers general information about IR; Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 1

WEEK 2: THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT: THE EVOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 1

WEEK 3: THEORIES: REALISM

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 2

WEEK 4: THEORIES: LIBERALISM AND MARXIST THEORIES

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 3

WEEK 5: THEORIES: CRITICAL

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 3

WEEK 6: FOREIGN POLICY

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 4

WEEK 7: INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT, MILITARY FORCE AND TERRORISM

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 5 and 6

WEEK 8: EXAM WEEK

No readings

WEEK 9: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 7

WEEK 10: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND GLOBAL FINANCE

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 8 and 9

WEEK 11: INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 10 and 11

WEEK 12: NORTH-SOUTH GAP AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 12 and 13

WEEK 13: THEORY AND CASES

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 2-3

Murat Bayar, and Andreas Kotelis, "Democratic Peace or Hegemonic Stability, The Imia/Kardak Case", *Turkish Studies* 15.2 (2014): 242-257.

WEEK 14: THEORY AND CASES

Joshua S. Goldstein and Jon C. Pevehouse, *International Relations*, 10th Edition, Pearson, 2013, Chapter 2-3

Ali Balcı and Tuncay Kardaş, "The Changing Dynamics of Turkey's Relations with Israel: An Analysis of 'Securitization'" *Insight Turkey* 14.2 (2012): 99-120.