

GLBS3101 THEORIES AND PRACTICES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

No. of Credits: 3

Time: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 16:30 – 19:15 (GMT +8)

Location: Online (Zoom)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of International Relations (IR) theory, the concepts and approaches often adopted in studying the discipline. It aims to familiarize students with different theoretical frameworks and key issues encountered by the globalizing society. This course covers a wide array of topics including, but not limited to, i) the mainstream IR theories, provided with some case studies; ii) analysis of some key theoretical literatures and their respective historiographical perspectives, including the Clash of Civilizations and its critics; iii) in-depth studies of some selected thematic issues; iv) International Relations theory and Globalization.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By taking this course, students will be able to:

- have a firm grasp of major IR theories and key concepts used in studying IR;
- apply IR theories and key concepts to understand and explain international relations and international issues:
- be thoroughly familiar with many key international issues and use acquired knowledge to suggest possible solutions to those issues; and
- enhance their skills to construct and substantiate their arguments in written essays and oral presentations.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

This course uses various chapters from the following books, all of which are on reserve at the Chung Chi Library. For your convenience, soft copies of the relevant chapters of the books will be made available on the e-learning Blackboard for this course.

- Joseph Grieco, G. John Ikenberry, and Michael Mastanduno, *Introduction to International Relations: Enduring Questions and Contemporary Perspectives* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015).
- Karen A. Mingst and Ivan M. Arreguin-Toft, Essentials of International Relations (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2017).
- Keith L. Shimko, *International Relations: Perspectives, Controversies, and Readings* (Boston: Wadsworth, 2013).
- Eric B. Shiraev and Vladislas M. Zubok, *International Relations* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015).

- Steven L. Spiegel et al., World Politics in a New Era (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015).
- John Baylis, James J. Wirtz, and Colin S. Gray (eds.), *Strategy in the Contemporary World: An Introduction to Strategic Studies (Fourth Edition)* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013).
- Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki, and Steve Smith (eds.), *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity 2nd Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010).
- Oliver Daddow, *International Relations Theory: The Essentials 2nd Edition* (London: SAGE, 2013).

GRADE DESCRIPTORS

A: Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.

A-: Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.

B+/B/B-: Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, or high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall

substantial performance.

C+/C/C-: Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few

weaknesses.

D+/D: Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes

F: Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, or failure to meet specified

assessment requirements.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Grade	Written Essay (30%+30%)	Presentation (30%)
A (Excellent) A- (Very Good)	Well-structured essay with clear introduction and conclusion. Issues clearly identified. Clear framework for organizing discussion. Appropriate material selected. Evidence of wide reading from many sources. Clear evidence of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Grammatically correct. Full and accurate references in text and list.	Well-structured presentation with clear introduction and conclusion. Issues clearly identified. Clear framework for organizing discussion. Appropriate material selected. Evidence of wide reading from many sources. Clear evidence of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Excellent or very persuasive response to questions or comments.
B+ (Good) B B-	Well-structured essay with clear introduction and conclusion. Some issues identified. Framework for organizing discussion but not well-developed. Some appropriate material. Evidence of reading from some sources. Some signs of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Some grammatical errors but not substantially affecting understanding. References in text and list generally well presented.	Well-structured presentation with clear introduction and conclusion. Some issues identified. Framework for organizing discussion but not well-developed. Some appropriate material. Evidence of reading from some sources. Some signs of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Generally good or somewhat persuasive response to questions or comments.
C+ (Fair) C C-	Poorly-structured essay with weak introduction and conclusion. A few issues identified. Attempt at limited framework for organizing discussion. Appropriate material limited. Logical presentation not very successful. Few signs of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Some grammatical errors affecting clarity and understanding. Limited references in text with some not completed or missing from the list.	Poorly-structured presentation with weak introduction and conclusion. A few issues identified. Attempt at limited framework for organizing discussion. Appropriate material limited. Logical presentation not very successful. Few signs of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Limited persuasiveness of response to questions or comments.

D+ (Pass) D	Very poorly-structured essay with very weak introduction and conclusion. Few issues identified. No framework for organizing discussion. Little appropriate material. Logical presentation unsuccessful. No sign of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Grammatical errors substantially affecting clarity and understanding. Limited and incomplete references in text and list.	Very poorly-structured presentation with very weak introduction and conclusion. Few issues identified. No framework for organizing discussion. Little appropriate material. Logical presentation unsuccessful. No sign of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Response to questions or comments not persuasive.
F (Fail)	Very poorly-structured essay with no introduction and conclusion. Inappropriate or few issues identified. No framework for organizing discussion. Almost no relevant material. No logical presentation. No sign of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Grammatical errors completely distorting understanding. Inappropriate references in text and list.	Very poorly-structured presentation with no introduction and conclusion. Inappropriate or few issues identified. No framework for organizing discussion. Almost no relevant material. No logical presentation. No sign of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking. Response to questions or comments almost non-existent.

Mark	Participation (10%)	
10 – 8	Student speaks up regularly and enthusiastically. Ideas/opinions are consistently	
(Excellent)	factually accurate, logical, and clear.	
7 – 5	Student speaks up sometimes. Ideas/opinions are generally factually accurate, logical,	
(Good)	and clear. Lapses are rare and minor in nature.	
4 – 2	Student participates only when asked by instructor. Ideas/opinions are generally	
(Fair)	factually accurate, logical, and clear, but with a number of minor lapses.	
1 – 0	No or almost no participation. Ideas/opinions are not expressed logically and are	
(Below	characterized by significant factual inaccuracies and lack of clarity.	
Standard)		

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING WEIGHTS

1. Mid-Term Paper (30%)

- Essay question to be distributed on July 7 (Class 6) and due on July 14 (Class 9)
- Upload your finalized paper to VeriGuide. Your submission to the system will be interpreted as your having agreed to all the terms of VeriGuide and provided your signature to the VeriGuide declaration form.
- Graded papers with comments will be returned to you in due course.

2. Final Paper (30%)

- Essay question to be distributed on July 21 (Class 12) and due on July 29
- Upload your finalized paper to VeriGuide. Your submission to the system will be interpreted as your having agreed to all the terms of VeriGuide and provided your signature to the VeriGuide declaration form.

3. Group Presentation (30%)

• Presentations will be conducted right after the lecture in Classes 7-12 (July 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21). Students will form groups for this assignment. Each group is required to choose one controversial international issue and conduct extensive research on it. Each group will then present the main findings in each class, and the students in the audience are expected to critique those findings in the discussion following the presentation. You are encouraged to use PowerPoint and should email the instructor presentation slides by the day before your presentation. Some suggested topics and

- further instructions will be provided in due course.
- Separate sessions may be organized for those students who cannot attend classes in real-time due to the time difference (or those students may be asked to record their presentations).
- Grades and comments will be provided in due course.

4. Participation (10%)

- You are encouraged to actively contribute to class discussion.
- Special consideration will be given to those students who cannot attend classes in real-time due to the time difference.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics</u>	Readings/Assignment
	1 Tue, June 28	Introduction to IR	 "Understanding International Relations" (Chapter 1) in Grieco, Ikenberry, and Mastanduno, Introduction to International Relations, pp. 2-30. "From the End of the Cold War to A New Global Era?" (Chapter 4) in Baylis, Smith, and Owens (eds.), The Globalization of World Politics, pp. 65-79. Discussion
			Are you interested in any particular international issue or inter-state relationship?
1	2 Wed, June 29	IR Theory (1) – Realism	 Lebow, "Classical Realism" (Chapter 3) and Mearsheimer, "Structural Realism" (Chapter 4) in Dunne, Kurki, and Smith (eds.), International Relations Theories, pp. 58-94. "2.2 Realism" and "2.3 Neorealism and Neoliberalism" in Daddow, International Relations Theory, pp. 108-132.
			Analysis of International News
			An international news report will be provided in due course.
	3 Thu, June 30	IR Theory (2) – Liberalism	 Russett, "Liberalism" (Chapter 5) and Sterling-Folker, "Neoliberalism" (Chapter 6) in Dunne, Kurki, and Smith (eds.), <i>International Relations Theories</i>, pp. 95-134. "2.1 Liberalism" and "2.3 Neorealism and Neoliberalism" in Daddow, <i>International Relations Theory</i>, pp. 85-107 and 133-140.
			 Analysis of International News An international news report will be provided in due course.
2	4 Tue, July 5	IR Theory (3) – Constructivism	 Fierke, "Constructivism" (Chapter 9) in Dunne, Kurki, and Smith (eds.), International Relations Theories, pp. 177-194. "2.5 Social Constructivism" in Daddow, International Relations Theory, pp. 158-175. Analysis of International News
			 An international news report will be provided in due course.

	5 Wed, July 6 6 Thu, July 7	Foreign Policy Analysis Security	 "The Analysis of Foreign Policy" (Chapter 4) in Grieco, Ikenberry, and Mastanduno, Introduction to International Relations, pp. 104-136. "The Individual" (Chapter 6) in Mingst and Arreguin-Toft, Essentials of International Relations, pp. 180-207. "International Security" (Chapter 4) in Shiraev and Zubok, International Relations, pp. 119-147. "Strategic Theory" (Chapter 3) in Baylis, Wirtz, and Gray (eds.), Strategy in the Contemporary World, pp. 60-75.
	7 Tue, July 12	Weapons of Mass Destruction	 Mid-Term Paper Question Distributed "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (Chapter 7) in Grieco, Ikenberry, and Mastanduno, Introduction to International Relations, pp. 206-244. "The Second Nuclear Age: Nuclear Weapons in the Twenty-First Century" (Chapter 10) in Baylis, Wirtz, and Gray (eds.), Strategy in the Contemporary World, pp. 195-212. Presentation
3	8 Wed, July 13	International Terrorism	 "International Terrorism" (Chapter 7) in Shiraev and Zubok, <i>International Relations</i>, pp. 219-255. "Terrorism and Globalization" (Chapter 23) in Baylis, Smith, and Owens (eds.), <i>The Globalization of World Politics</i>, pp. 357-371. Presentation
	9 Thu, July 14	International Law	 "International Law" (Chapter 5) in Shiraev and Zubok, <i>International Relations</i>, pp. 149-180. "International Law" (Chapter 18) in Baylis, Smith, and Owens (eds.), <i>The Globalization of World Politics</i>, pp. 274-288. Mid-Term Paper Due Presentation
4	10 <i>Tue, July</i> 19	International Political Economy	 "Power, Politics, and the World Economy" (Chapter 9) in Grieco, Ikenberry, and Mastanduno, Introduction to International Relations, pp. 286-317. "International Political Economy" (Chapter 6) in Shiraev and Zubok, International Relations, pp. 182-217. Presentation
	11 <i>Wed, July 20</i>	Development	 "World Politics: Development" (Chapter 10) in Spiegel et al., World Politics in a New Era, pp. 341-383. "The IMF, Global Inequality, and Development" (Chapter 7) in Shimko, International Relations, pp. 163-187.

			Presentation
	12 <i>Thu, July 21</i>	Global Commons	 "The Environment and International Relations" (Chapter 12) in Grieco, Ikenberry, and Mastanduno, Introduction to International Relations, pp. 388-415. "Resource Issues" (Chapter 12) in Spiegel et al., World Politics in a New Era, pp. 411-439. Final Paper Question Distributed Presentation
	13 <i>Tue, July 26</i>	Human Rights in IR	 "Human Rights" (Chapter 10) in Mingst and Arreguin-Toft, Essentials of International Relations, pp. 360-395. "Humanitarian Intervention in World Politics" (Chapter 31) in Baylis, Smith, and Owens (eds.), The Globalization of World Politics, pp. 479-493.
5	14 <i>Wed, July 27</i>	Conclusion	 "Conclusion: Forecasting the World of 2025" in Shiraev and Zubok, <i>International Relations</i>, pp. 327-332. "Facing the Future: Six Visions of an Emerging International Order" (Chapter 13) in Grieco, Ikenberry, and Mastanduno, <i>Introduction to International Relations</i>, pp. 416-453.
July 29, Friday Final Paper Due			

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

- In the case of group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible and liable to disciplinary actions should there be any plagiarized contents in the group project, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration and whether he/she has contributed directly or indirectly to the plagiarized contents.
- For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. A user manual of VeriGuide can be found at: https://academic.veriguide.org/academic/documents/VeriGuide Academic Student User Manual CUH K.pdf.

Assignments without the properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submission. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.