

Introduction to International Relations (SOSC1000G)

Instructor: Sunhee Park

Office: Room 2356

Class Hours: 15:00-16:20 (Tuesday, Thursday)

Class Room: 2504

Office Hours: 16:20-17:20 (Tuesday, Thursday)

Course Description

This class is designed to introduce representative theories of international relations to students and help them develop an analytical perspective on major issues in international security and international political economy. To this end, the class is divided into three sections.

In the first section, we will review the process of formation and change of the international order, centering on Western Europe, and focusing on important historical events. The second section will introduce representative theories that explain international relations, namely, Realism, Liberalism, Marxism, and Constructivism. The third section will examine international security, international political economy, and international organizations, which are the core topics of international relations research. Also, it will address contemporary developments in international relations such as terrorism, international environmental politics, and a rising China.

Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, student should be able to:

1. Explain the main concepts in international relations
2. Explain the key theories in international relations
3. Analyze international events using diverse theories from international relations; think analytically about international events

Learning Activities

Lectures, group presentation

Grading

1. Mid-term and final examination (60%): The mid-term exam will comprise 20% of the final grade. This will cover the materials up to main theories. The final exam will comprise 40% of the grade and cover all the course materials. Both exams will be a mixture of multiple choice, short answers, and short essays.
2. In-class pop quiz (10%): Some classes will start with a short in-class quiz (multiple choice or OX type) to check your understanding of the material covered during that week. The lowest of these pop-quiz scores will be dropped.
3. Presentation: 30% of the grade will be determined by contribution to one individual presentation (10%) and one group presentation (20%). The presentation should provide analytical answers to a set of questions assigned by the instructor.
4. Class attendance: An extra 5 percentage points will be given for perfect attendance after the Add/Drop period. Students who miss class due to a valid medical excuse should present documentation to the instructor.

Main Textbook

Baylis, John, Steve Smith, and Patricia Owens. Eds (BSO). 2021. *The Globalization of World Politics*. Third International Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Non-textbook materials necessary for class will be uploaded to Canvas.

Notice

- 1) Lecture notes: Lecture notes will be posted to Canvas on the morning of class.
- 2) Cheating and Plagiarism: If cheating or plagiarism are detected for any assessments, the student will be given a score of zero on that assessment.
- 3) Late assignment submission: If an assignment is submitted after the deadline, 3 percentage points will be deducted for every 12 hour delay in assignment submission. (e.g., 0–12 hours: 3 points deducted/ 12–24 hours: 6 points deducted/24 – 36 hours: 9 points deducted, etc.).
- 4) Additional exams: In principle, there are no additional exams.

- 5) Syllabus: This syllabus lays out the future lesson schedule and lesson policy. The schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. If there are any changes, students will be notified in class and through Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week1. Introduction to course and What is globalization?

- Reading: BSO Introduction and Ch.1

Weeks2-4

History of International Relations 1: The establishment of the modern international order and the Cold War

- Reading: BSO Chs. 2-3

History of International Relations 2: International Order after the Cold War

- Reading: BSO Chs. 4-5

Week5. Theories of International Relations 1: (Neo)Realism, (Neo)Liberalism

- Reading: BSO Chs. 6-7

Week6. Theories of International Relations 2: Marxism, Constructivism

- Reading: BSO Chs. 8-9

Week7. State Death***

Mid-term Exam

Week8. Game Theory***

Individual Presentation

Week9. International Security

- Reading: BSO Chs. 12, 14

Week10. International Political Economy

- Reading: BSO Chs. 13, 22

Week11. International Organizations

- Reading: BSO Chs. 16-17

Possible Addition: Third-party Intervention**

Reading: BSO (Non International Edition) Ch. 32

Weeks12-13. New Challenges

Terrorism

Rising China***

Environment

- BSO Chs. 27, 23

Week13. Group Presentation

Final Exam