

COURSE OUTLINE

Revision by: Jihad Othman, March 2008

DEPARTMENT:	Academic Programs
CURRICULUM:	Global Studies, & Individuals and Society
COURSE TITLE:	International Relations
COURSE NUMBER:	POLS& 203Z
TYPE OF COURSE:	Academic Transfer
COURSE LENGTH:	1 quarter
CREDIT HOURS:	5
LECTURE HOURS:	55
CLASS SIZE:	35
PREREQUISITES:	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course begins with an introduction to the importance of world politics to the student and to the methods, theories, and purposes of political science. Then, the evolution of and current instability in the world political system, and the three levels of analysis that need to be studied simultaneously – the system, state, and individual levels. The course covers also topics on the individuals, the actors in the international system and the affects that events taking place in one country have on other countries, the tenets and goals of idealism as a present and future force in world politics, and examine the nature and development of international organizations as an alternative form of organizing and conducting international relations. Moreover, the role of economics and military power in international relations shall be also covered.

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ADDRESSED:

1. Communication - Read and listen actively to learn and communicate. Speak and write effectively for personal, academic and career purposes.
2. Human Relations - Use social interactive skills to work in groups effectively. Recognize the diversity of cultural influences and values.
3. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving - Think critically in evaluating information, solving problems and making decisions.
4. Technology - Select and use appropriate technological tools for personal, academic and career tasks.
5. Personal Responsibility - Be motivated and able to continue learning and adapt to change. Value one's own skills, abilities, ideas and art. Take pride in one's work. Be aware of civic and environmental issues.
6. Information Literacy - Access and evaluate information from a variety of sources and contexts, including technology. Use information to achieve personal, academic, and career goals, as well as to participate in a democratic society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To familiarize the student with the world community.
2. To examine some of the major international organizations and their impact on the international system.
3. To examine carefully the role of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security.
4. To analyze the East-West relations from 1915 to the present.
5. To study the role of the Third World Countries in the international political system.

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TOPICAL OUTLINE:

- I. APPROACHES TO WORLD POLITICS:
 1. Thinking and caring about World Politics.
 2. The evolution of World Politics.
 3. System level analysis.
 4. State level analysis.
 5. Individual – level analysis.

- II. TWO ROADS: DIVERGENT POLITICAL ORIENTATIONS
 1. Nationalism: The traditional Orientation.
 2. Transnationalism: The alternative Orientation.

- III. TWO ROADS DIVERGENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES:
 1. National States: The traditional structure.
 2. International Organization: The alternative structure.

- IV. TWO ROADS: DIVERGENT APPROACHES TO CONDUCT.
 1. National Power and Diplomacy: The traditional approach.
 2. International Law and Morality: The alternative approach.

- V. PURSUING PEACE:
 1. National Security: The traditional road.
 2. International Security: The alternative road.

- VI. PURSUING PROSPERITY:
 1. The International Economy: A global road map.
 2. National Economic Competition: The traditional road.
 3. International Economic Cooperation: The alternative road.

- VII. PURSUING PRESERVATION:
 1. Preserving and enhancing Human Rights and dignity.
 2. Preserving and enhancing the global commons.

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SLO #	Included in Course Objective Number	SSCC Student Learning Outcomes
SLO 1.1	1	Communication - Read and listen actively
SLO 1.2	1	Communication - Speak and write effectively
SLO 2.1		Computation - Use mathematical operations
SLO 2.2		Computation - Apply quantitative skills
SLO 2.3		Computation - Identify, interpret, and utilize higher level mathematical and cognitive skills
SLO 3.1		Human Relations - Use social interactive skills to work in groups effectively
SLO 3.2	2, 3	Human Relations - Recognize the diversity of cultural influences and values
SLO 4.1		Critical Thinking and Problem Solving -
SLO 5.1		Technology - Select and use appropriate technological tools
SLO 6.1		Personal Responsibility - Be motivated and able to continue learning and adapt to change
SLO 6.2		Personal Responsibility - Value one's own skills, abilities, ideas and art
SLO 6.3		Personal Responsibility - Take pride in one's work
SLO 6.4	4	Personal Responsibility - Manage personal health and safety
SLO 6.5	3	Personal Responsibility - Be aware of civic and environmental issues
SLO 7.1	5	Information Literacy - Access and evaluate information
SLO 7.2		Information Literacy - Use information to achieve personal, academic, and career goals, as well as to participate in a democratic society

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