Introduction to Graduate Studies in International Relations

IAS 5790-222

This course is designed to provide students in the MA program in International Relations with a foundation for success in MAIR coursework by focusing on (1) critical concepts and foundational works in international relations theory; and (2) analytical writing skills in the context of contemporary global issues.

The course begins with essential theoretical building blocks in the field of international relations. There is a particular emphasis on levels of analysis and the relationship between domestic and international factors that help us explain and understand international phenomena such as treaties, international agreements, economic sanctions and war.

The course then focuses on effective analytical writing in the field of international relations. Students will read compelling analytical essays addressing contemporary global issues and will discuss both the substance and the structure of the arguments. With these essays as models, students will produce their own analytical writing through practice, peer review and rewriting.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: September 29-October 4, 215
Location: SHAPE, Belgium. See Site Director for classroom location.
Hours: Tuesday - Friday 6:00-9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 31, 2015

Site Director:

Shina Collins. Phone: 065-44-3654; DSN 423-3654; DSN Fax: 366-6230; E-mail: apshape@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Shad Satterthwaite, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
University Outreach
1700 Asp Ave
Norman, OK 73072
Telephone Number: (405) 325-1931
E-mail Address: shad@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an
Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.


2. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

Other readings available online:


Course Outline:

Tuesday:

- Introduction to the course
- Defining, understanding and explaining international relations
- Readings: Walt; and Buzan and Little

Wednesday:

- How to study international relations
- Analytical writing in international relations
- Readings: Walt; and Buzan and Little, continued; Gause; Glaser; and Ross

Thursday:

- International structure and levels of analysis
- Readings: Waltz

Friday:

- The intersection between domestic and international relations
- Readings: Putnam; Gourevitch; and Rosner
Saturday:

Group discussions, paper presentations, peer evaluations of papers, final exam preparation, and conclusion of course

Sunday:

Final Examination

Assignments, Due Dates, and Grading:

Class Participation:
Students must read the assigned material before coming to class and contribute as much as possible to the in-class discussions. Each student is likely to find considerable benefit in the exchange of ideas, doubts, and criticisms during discussions. Much of the value of a graduate class is in the sharing of the knowledge and perspective that each participant brings to the sessions.

Analytical Paper and Presentation:
Students will prepare an analytical paper about an international topic of their choice. The paper will model an outstanding form of analytical writing as discussed in class. It will be 7-9 pages (double-spaced) and will examine and evaluate a contemporary international issue from a particular theoretical perspective and level of analysis. The paper will be presented in class and will be open for discussion. Details will be discussed further in class.

Peer Evaluation:
Each student will evaluate a classmate’s paper and will present comments about the paper’s quality of argument and writing during the Saturday class session.

Final Exam:
A final exam will be administered during the final class session. The exam will cover all readings assigned for the class, as well as material discussed in class.

Final Analytical Paper due two weeks after the end of the onsite portion of the class, October 18, 2015.

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. The standard grade scale will apply: 90%-100% = A; 80%-89% = B; 70%-79% = C; 60%-69% = D; below 60% = F.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Evaluation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
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Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc... in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Shad Satterthwaite, Ph.D.

EDUCATION
- 1991 B.A. (HONS), Weber State University
- 1997 M.P.A, University of Oklahoma
- 1998 Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Oklahoma

CURRENT POSITIONS
Assistant Vice President for University Outreach, Continuing Education Academic Programs

MAJOR AREAS OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTEREST
- American Government and Politics
- Referenda Voting
- State Policy and Comparative State Policy

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

MAJOR PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Oklahoma Political Science Association
- National Guard Association of the United States

REPRESENTATIVE HONORS AND AWARDS RECEIVED
- Foundation for Defense of Democracies Academic Fellow, 2007-2008
- President's Distinguished Faculty Mentoring Program Outstanding Mentor Award, 2003
- College of Arts and Sciences Instructional Technology Grant ($15,250), 2001
- Recognized: "Outstanding Teaching in Political Science" by the American Political Science Association and Phi Sigma Alpha (The National Political Science Honor Society), 2000
- OUSA Outstanding Faculty Award, 2000
- Named Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant in the Life and Social Sciences, 1997
- American Political Science Association Travel Grant ($500), 1997
- Oklahoma Nominee for the General Douglas McArthur Award, 1995
- Phi Kappa Phi
- Distinguished Military Graduate, 1991