



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

JOSEF KORBEL SCHOOL OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts Program

Fall Quarter 2015 descriptions

INTS 1500 - Contemporary Issues in the Global Economy (*Specialization: CORE*)

Introduction to a range of pressing problems and debates in today's global economy, such as global economy, global markets, and the global commons. Students will have a good understanding of the policy challenges posed by global economic integration and of the theoretical frameworks for understanding the functioning of the global economy.

INTS 1700 - Introduction to International Politics (*Specialization: CORE*)

Central concepts and major theories that assist in organizing an understanding of international politics including balance of power, international organizations, foreign policy decision making, and conflict theory; application to current topics.

INTS 2320 - European Union (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

Some observers argue that European economic integration is quickly leading to the creation of a European super-state for the first time in history. Using approaches from both international and comparative political economy, this course will examine the extent to which this is true. Four issue areas to explore are the introduction of a common currency (the Euro), trade, the welfare state, and European Union enlargement. Throughout, the course will address whether changes in European economic arrangements in fact lead to cross-national harmonization, or whether the political consequences are rather new manifestations of national styles.

INTS 2370 - Global Political Economy (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics*)

This course provides theoretical discourse on the political and economic dynamics of markets and governments, the changing economic and political role of the U.S. in the international arena and the post-Cold War trend towards globalization while focusing on the tension between national security and the global economy.

INTS 2380 – Comparative Development Strategies (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health*)

The course is comparative in nature, discussing the development of the First World in contrast to those development paths now being advocated for and implemented by the Third World. Are developing countries really constrained in their ability to implement the sorts of policies common in the First World during the late 18th and 19th Centuries? What are the differences and similarities between First World development theory and practice, and Third World development theory and practice? What are the implications of these comparisons for development policy today?

INTS 2701 – Topics: Water Rights and Challenges (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

Water is widely recognized as the most essential natural resource for Earth's ecosystems and human society. Yet the relationship between water and society is complex. Water is a multifaceted resource that is important to all economic sectors and across a range of spatial scales from local to global. Water challenges and threats include scarcity, droughts, surface and ground water contamination, and flooding. A clear and robust plan is needed to manage and govern water given the multitude of ongoing human activities impacting the water cycle. This course will provide an overview of the political, social, economic, and management that affect the use, development, and management of water resources. Students will be introduced to current themes that influence water governance including water rights, sustainable development, water resource management, pricing, corruption, and equity for marginal groups. These themes will be explored at the state, national, and international levels to provide students with a holistic understanding of water issues and challenges.

INTS 2702 – Topics: Arab Transformation (*Specialization(s): International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

In this course we will examine the series of popular uprisings that took place in the Arab World in 2011 and their aftermath over the last four years. Known as the "Arab Spring," the uprisings promised profound institutional, structural and ideological transformations that could have changed the future of the region in democratic and prosperous directions. Instead, however, the dynamics and results of the uprisings have taken the form of brutality, economic hardship, civil war, and terrorism. What went wrong with the Arab Spring? What was the nature of these popular uprisings? What were their causes? Who has been driving the process and what future awaits the region? How might these transformations affect regional and international power politics? Through lectures, readings, discussions, debates and students' research projects, we will try to answer these questions and analyze the events as they unfold.

INTS 2975 - 21st Century Global Governance (*Specialization area: CORE*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

In the 21st century, more and more international cooperation will be required to confront problems of international interdependence, many of which arise from globalization (increased trade, migration, and communication). This course examines problems that spill across international boundaries and can't be solved by governments acting alone. From weapons of mass destruction to infectious diseases, from global climate change to preserving the world's commons (oceans, Antarctica), there are many modern issues that require international cooperation and collective solutions. This course investigates contemporary challenges that require international cooperation, and analyzes what is known as transnational issues, their importance for global society, and the international "regime" that has developed in recent years to manage them. The course ends with a look at future directions in global governance.

INTS 3020 – Introduction to the Middle East and Islamic Politics (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

The contemporary politics of the Middle East cannot be understood without some debate of the West's relationship with the region and the associated view of the Orient that grew out of this relationship. In light of this reality, the state system that has emerged in the region since the demise of colonialism will form a suitable framework in which to understand the major themes of this course. The first major theme to be discussed is the impact of colonialism on the region, particularly in the latter half of the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth century. In this section of the course we will explore the nature of political rule and government and the prevailing economic motive behind this imperial and colonial relationship. The second theme of this course will explore political ideologies, both secular and religious. A historical overview of this development will be explored in the context of current theories of nationalism posited by authors such as Benedict Anderson, Eric Hobsbawm and Ernest Gellner. The final section of this course will briefly explore the theme of democratization and its discontents in the Middle East. The focus will be on recent debates about democratization that have been promoted from outside the region as a means of combating tyranny within the region, particularly the perceived anti-democratic nature of political Islam. In conclusion, this

course will critically evaluate the widely held assumption that interprets the instability of the Middle East as a *sui generis* truth rooted in the cultural essence of Muslim societies.

INTS 3210 – Political Violence and Its End (*Specialization(s): International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course centers on the nature, character, strategies and termination of the range of forms political violence (violence used to achieve political ends be it by states, the international community, or non-state actors) takes in the early 21st century. After a general discussion of the lexicon of security, force, war, and war termination, each of five forms of political violence will be explored beginning with a discussion of the fundamentals, an exploration of the current context and character of the form centering on a leading book on the subject, and then a discussion of counter-strategies and broader political/societal considerations. The course will end with a similar three part discussion of the political/military realities and necessities of violence termination.

INTS 3385 - Migrants and Refugees: Humanity on the Move (*Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course begins with the pre-history and history of human migrations and moves to cover the era of European colonization and forced dispersal (and in some cases aggregation) of peoples in the Americas, S.E. Asia, and Africa. The “contemporary” (i.e., post-WWII) era then covers not only the movements of peoples from C. Africa, S.E. Asia, the Balkans, and elsewhere, but will highlight the achievements of immigrants and refugees in such areas as technology, the arts, and the field of human rights. Issues of ethnicity, nationalism, and political Diasporas will bring this the contemporary era to a close.

INTS 3485 – The Role of Religion in International Affairs (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

The role of religion in international affairs was largely unexplored by scholars prior to September 11th, 2001 when religiously based acts of terrorism shook the world. Since that time there has been an increased interest in examining religion in terms of its impact on the international system. Is religion a force for good or evil within the international system? How influential is religion in international politics? Does religion matter or is it merely background noise in our study of the international system. In short, this course examines the role of religion in international affairs with an eye toward understanding political violence, political economy and conflict resolution in terms of religion and religious actors.

INTS 3520 – Environment, Security and Conflict (*Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

The Middle East, home of some of the world’s most ancient rivalries, differing religions, sects, and people vying for control of territory and national identity, is paradoxically blessed with one of the world’s most valuable resources—oil—and cursed with the lack of another—water. In this volatile region, beset by disruptive population growth, competing ideologies, and lack of essential resources, environmental problems have been both the proximate and the underlying cause of conflict—and they will likely continue to pose risks to stability thanks to their entanglement with political, economic, and demographic problems. This course will examine the Middle East’s most serious environmental issues, review past intersections between security problems and the environment such as the 1991 war, and discuss the potential for future events in which the environment may be used as a weapon or held hostage by an aggressor. It will pay particular attention to the overriding environmental concern in the Middle East: water and its ownership, management and use. A continual determinant of internal and external policy in the Middle East, water has the potential for becoming either a fundamental political weapon or a means for cooperation that could provide a basis for wide-ranging regional stability.

INTS 3701 – Topics: Ethics and Global Economic Policy (*Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics*)

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

Most people know that most economists endorse free trade, or economic growth. But why, in the economist's view, is trade or growth, good? *And are economists right in holding these views?* This course investigates the *ethics* that underlie the most pressing debates today in global economic policymaking. It begins with mainstream, neoclassical economics, tracing its ethical basis to classical utilitarianism, and exploring how its ethical commitments lead neoclassical economists to particular policy conclusions (like its embrace of economic growth). The course then turns to alternative approaches to economics that embrace egalitarianism on the one hand, and libertarianism on the other. In each case, we subject the ethical foundations to critical examination. We will find that the most pressing policy debates today often reflect the existence of distinct ethical frameworks.