



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

JOSEF KORBEL SCHOOL OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Bachelor of Arts Program

2018 Winter Quarter Course 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 2180 – Politics of Development

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

This course seeks to answer an overarching question that plagues development studies: why are some countries poor while other countries are rich? Furthermore, we ask why poverty is persistent around the world, and how the economic, political, and social structures of a society can improve conditions of poverty within a country.

We begin answering these questions by reviewing the history of development, especially development conceived since the 1950s, when the postwar world saw a need to rebuild societies in Europe, up to the present time, when human development became the focus in the decade following the end of the Cold War. The course covers the major documents promoting theories of development, as well as looks at the historical record of the implementation of development policies (noting the divergence between theory and practice).

We consider specific case studies in the process of asking why some countries are poor and others are rich. Furthermore, we are concerned with the role of country policies and implementation practices, with the impact of international organizations (multilateral development organizations), and the influence of bilateral foreign aid, on development progress or decline within countries.

INTS 2235 – Gender and International Relations

Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

The study of gender and international relations (IR) is multi-faceted and complex. The ways in which gender and aspects of sexuality are constructed and implemented by those in power has real implications for the lived experiences of people around the globe.

The course will introduce the theoretical underpinnings necessary to investigate, research, analyze, and understand the gendered nature of varied international studies topics. We will partner with a variety of Denver-area organizations, where students will gain first-hand experience with related issues. These experiences will illuminate the ways that gender, power, and politics intersect in our community. Students will also gain a better understanding of how and why the concept of gender matters for politics on both the local and international level.

We will focus on analyzing and understanding gender as an analytic perspective which will provide us with a more holistic, thoughtful, and nuanced way of understanding politics, IR, and their impacts on the lives of actual human beings. Students will be paired with partners based on their interests and schedules. All work will take place during course meeting times or as part of normal course preparation.

Any additional time spend with the partner organization will be optional. Students should be prepared to work directly with the non-profit community, travel to the partner organizations on several occasions, and work remotely under the guidance of the partner organization.

INTS 2470 – Crime and International Politics

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

What constitutes a crime in one location may constitute a personal right, a survival strategy or legitimate business opportunity in another. So how then does one address criminality in a global society?

This course explores the roots of transnational crime and both domestic and international response to criminal network. Topics include corruption, the drug trade, and human trafficking.

INTS 2701 – Topics: Arab Transformation

Specialization: International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

The Arab Spring that swept the Middle East in 2011 was a surprising answer to the conventional question stated by specialists of why there are no Arab democracies?"

The removal of Ben Ali of Tunisia, Mubarak of Egypt, and Qaddafi of Libya followed by massive protests that cornered Al-Assad of Syria and Saleh of Yemen led some scholars to believe that democracy is only a matter of time in the region! Few years later, however, Democracy did not advance much in the Arab region. Despite the relative success in Tunisia, the democratic transition has failed in Egypt with the intervention of the military in politics in the first, while different levels of national chaos and civil wars have erupted in Syria, Libya, and Yemen with high incidence of sectarian politics that caused violence, terrorism, and terrorism instead of the awaited democracy! In this context, one can simply wonder what has gone wrong to the Arab Uprisings?

The main aim of this course, therefore, is to explore the series of popular uprisings that took place in the Arab World during the last four years to understand the complexity of dynamics both at the national and regional levels that hindered the democratic transition in the region. What were the causes of these popular uprisings? Who has been leading the change and what future is awaiting the unpredictable region? How would these transformations affect regional and international power politics? Through lectures, readings, discussions, debates and students' research papers, we will try to find answers these questions and deeply analyze the events as they unfold.

INTS 2702 – Cultures in Contact: Travel, Trade, and Transformation

Specialization: International Development & Health

How did a giraffe get all the way from Africa to China before Christopher Columbus had even set out to explore America? How did Che Guevara evolve to become a symbol of counterculture immortalized on t-shirts sold on the street of Harlem? How did sugar turn from a rare, exotic substance to over a fifth of the diet of the English in the space of a few hundred years?

Cultures in Contact: The Anthropology Travel, Trade, and Transformations looks at past and present interactions of people with the idea that people meet, greet, listen, process, and react to one another as part of larger networks and processes that bring worlds together. Cultural contact is not just about warfare, not just about the Olympics, not just about McDonalds; cultural contact involves people and places in time, space, and history: political motives, racism, religious conviction, personal gain, and curiosity and the seeking out of new knowledge have set us to cross seas and borders throughout the history of mankind. Studying cultures in contact is more than documenting the "who, what, where?" In this class we use historic and modern case studies along with ethnographic accounts to expand beyond events, beyond names, and beyond the objects exchanged to incorporate the full spectrum of social processes involved in the innovation, adaptation, and/or rejection of knowledge. What motivates people to explore? And what happens when they do?

Three units frame our discussions of cultures in contact – travel, trade, and transformations - and are treated as separate units, each 3 weeks in length. In travel, students will learn about explorations that bring “culture into contact,” from human migration to seafaring voyages, and learn about anthropological ideas such as “the Other,” orientalism, and how these experiences change the way the people see the world and see themselves. In “Trade,” student learn basic theories of economic exchange, both in pre-capitalistic societies and in the industrialized world, with topics ranging from reciprocity to consumerism and branding. In “Transformations,” students explore the long-term impacts of intense, intercultural exchange and ties, from colonialism and slavery to globalization.

By the end of the course, students will be comfortable not only thinking about the topic of cultural contact with respect to the social dimensions of changes in the political economy, but also how to engage with scholarly works as sources for intellectual explorations and critical reflection.

INTS 2975 – Global Issues Research Practicum

Specialization: CORE

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This is the third and final required course for all international studies majors. In the first two introductory classes, you acquired knowledge about international politics and the global economy. In this class, we investigate where that knowledge came from. How do researchers learn things about the political world? And how can you do this kind of research yourself? Students will learn about different types of international studies research, and will practice collecting and evaluating evidence from interviews, surveys, the written record, and quantitative sources. You will learn to ask a compelling research question, critically evaluate existing research on your subject, and find evidence that will help you answer your question. Your final project will be to design a research project that you could feasibly conduct in a future semester.

INTS 3025 – Current Issues in Human Security

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security, & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course surveys the various debates, concepts, and issues clustered around human security. Human security is a relatively new concept that challenges the traditional, state-centric approach of "national" security. A more inclusive term, human security includes economic, environmental, and social concerns such as poverty, climate change, crime, and disease in addition to the traditional focus on conflict and political violence.

This course will explore the development of human security as a term, focusing particularly on the emergence of human security as a category of global governance. It will also investigate a range of issues that challenge human security. Students will engage with these issues through assigned readings, class discussion, policy assessment, and in-depth case studies.

INTS 3040 – Technology and Development

Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

From the classic works of Adam Smith and Karl Marx to contemporary analyses by noted development economists Jeffrey Sachs and William Easterly, the role of technology in fostering economic growth and wider well-being is firmly established. As the application of embodied knowledge, technology enables increased productivity, as well as new capabilities, goods, and services. While the role of technology in promoting human advancement is well established, the specific processes required for the effective development and use of technologies is less understood. Further, technological development varies considerably between developed and developing contexts with persistent inequalities hindering basic needs for billions.

INTS 3590 – Politics in Africa: A Theoretical Approach with a Comparative Perspective

Specialization: International Development & Health

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course will introduce students to basic concepts and arguments in the study of contemporary African politics. The focus is on the politics in Africa post-independence. The course will emphasize theory in a comparative perspective as a 30 way to understand politics in Africa.

The basic question is whether politics differ so much in Africa as to be in a category by itself or is it simply a variation on patterns, habits and institutions found in other regions and countries in the world?

The course goal is to provide students with important concepts so as to gain a better understanding of processes in Africa and the problems that in some fashion or other accounts for the continent's current marginality in the world and persistent underdevelopment. In addition, the course should expose students to the application and usefulness of general theories of development in comparative politics.

INTS 3600 – International Monetary Relations

Specialization: Global Political Economy & International Politics

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500, INTS 1700 and ECON 1020 or SOCS 1310

The course investigates the operation and evolution of today's international monetary system, the political economy of international monetary negotiations, and several key public policy debates in the area of global finance (e.g., will the US dollar continue to be the world's currency, have the IMF and the World Bank responded appropriately to the global financial crisis, and what are the lessons of the current global financial crisis for the governance and regulation of financial markets).

The course will be an introduction to these timely and important issues; it will be organized around lecture and class discussion.

INTS 3660 – States in Transition & European Integration

Specialization: Global Political Economy & International Politics

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course examines post-communist transition, the process of EU and NATO enlargement, and the prospects for integrating East and West. Europe's recent transformation raises a number of critical questions concerning variation in democratic and economic outcomes across post-communist Europe, the relationship between democratic governance and free market enterprise, and the geostrategic underpinnings for creating a sustainable, peaceful European order.

In keeping with these themes, the course will examine politics leading up to the revolutions of 1989, study competing approaches to understanding transition, assess a variety of political and economic outcomes, and consider the prospects for enduring European integration in the aftermath of EU enlargement. We take an eclectic approach that draws on both the comparative politics and international relations literatures. In this connection, we address multiple dimensions of transition and integration—political, economic and geostrategic. Together, the readings and meetings will provide 31 participants with a clear sense both of how individual states have fared in the transition and why, and the implications of continuing integration for the changing balance of power within Europe and globally.

INTS 3701 – Topics: Civilian Protection in Armed Conflict

Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

Studies of armed conflict tend to focus on the production of violence to the neglect of how civilians might instead be protected. In this course, we will study how to limit violence against civilians.

We will begin with an overview of theories of violence and legal and ethical frameworks governing the use of force. We will then consider how various actors throughout society, from state actors, to international organizations, to illegal armed actors, to NGOs, to civilians and their communities--the would be victims of violence--can either promote or restrain the use of violence.

We will also consider the conditions under which the protection of civilians is most feasible as well as research methods for analyzing populations and their protection strategies. In their final projects, students will analyze the threats of violence faced by a particular population and design appropriate protection strategies and policies to deal with them.

INTS 3702-1 – Topics: Nonviolent Resistance in Global Politics

Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

The 21st century has seen an explosion in nonviolent resistance movements. Activists and ordinary people have used tools like protests, strikes, boycotts, and sit-ins to change policy, fight racism and oppression, and bring down dictatorships from Ukraine to Tunisia to Burkina Faso. Because of its powerful impacts on countries around the world, understanding nonviolent resistance is crucial to a nuanced understanding of international politics.

This course is an introduction to the theories, practices, and impacts of nonviolent resistance. We will cover the core ideas of important thinkers on nonviolent resistance such as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr., important historical cases of nonviolent resistance such as the anti-Apartheid struggle in South Africa and the Arab Spring, and central questions about nonviolent resistance such as: "Does

nonviolent resistance really work?" "What makes nonviolent resistance more or less effective?" and "How can nonviolent movements prepare for and respond to violence?"

The course is ideal for any student who wants to develop their understanding of global politics, as well as for those who are particularly interested in nonviolent resistance and social activism.

INTS 3702-2 – Topics: Causes of Civil War

Specialization: International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

Most political violence around the world is not fought between countries, but between governments and their citizens. Why do people choose to take up arms and rebel? Are civil conflicts driven by ethnic divisions? How do governments address civil conflict?

This course examines these questions and others in an attempt to understand the causes of civil war. The course culminates in a case study where students will use the course materials to explain the causes behind a modern civil war.

INTS 3702-2 – Topics: Civil Society and Global Change

Specialization(s): International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

In the last 30 years, and especially after the end of the Cold War, the presence of civil society organizations (CSOs) in international affairs has become increasingly relevant. It is now widely recognized that global or transnational civil society plays a significant role in global governance. Formal and informal networks of social movements, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), epistemic communities, and other 'unofficial' agents now operate alongside of states and international organizations in an attempt to influence policy making in different areas. Civil society plays a role in agenda setting, international law-making and governance, transnational diplomacy (tracks II and III), and the implementation and monitoring of a number of crucial global issues. Such issues range from trade to development and poverty reduction, from democratic governance to human rights, from peace to the environment, and from security to the information society. In fact, many have suggested they civil society now plays an indispensable role in the management of transnational problems and is to a large extent taking on the functions of the state.

The question that this course will address is how civil society organizations function across different conditions, contexts, sectors or regions, and what is their real impact on policy making, implementation and enforcement. The course will introduce students to the wide range of perspectives and literatures on global civil society organizations and transnational NGOs. It is designed to familiarize students with the organizational challenges facing these actors (governance, effectiveness, leadership, coordination, accountability, impact assessment, capacity building issues, etc.) as well as with the functions they perform. The course is organized around the following topics: it begins with an overview of the historical development of civil society in different parts of the world. It continues with addressing the role of domestic and global civil society in crucial areas such as development, security, democratic transitions, environment, and human rights. It proceeds to discuss the interaction between civil society on the one hand and international organizations and states on the other. Finally, civil society has positive as well as negative manifestations, and so the last part of the course discusses transnational criminal networks and extremist groups.

INTS 3703 – Topics: Asian Politics

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course studies historical, political, economic and social peculiarities of Asia that shape its domestic political processes and interstate relations. A special attention is given to study the state-crafting in selected countries including China, Japan, South Korea and India. It examines in particular the influence of Japan and China on regional and global affairs.

Asian Politics offers students an in-depth analysis of the politics of contemporary Asia. This course trains students to evaluate essential factors that shape and influence the development of social, economic and political structures in Asia. Students will be also required to write reports on other Asian countries and present their outcomes in the class. By the end of the quarter students are expected to:

- Understand the political, social, and economic structures of Asian countries.
- Analyze the role of state and non-state actors in shaping Asian politics.
- Identify the domestic and foreign policy priorities of Asian countries.
- Contrast the strengths and weaknesses of different political structures in the region.
- Analyze the quality of democratic institutions and threats to democracy in Asia.

INTS 3705 – Topics: Corruption: A Global Epidemic

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

Corruption is a ubiquitous phenomenon in all political systems, whether democratic or autocratic - from illegal campaign contributions and lobbying tactics in America, to vote buying and hijacking elections in Africa, from rigging official government-issued macroeconomic reports in Europe, to securing safe heavens for drug, arms, and human trafficking in Latin America and Asia.

This class explores corruption from a comparative and international perspective and raises questions such as: What forms does corruption take and how is it measured? What are its causes and effects? Do they vary across countries or regions in the world? When and how does it impede economic opportunity and can it sometimes lead to efficiency gains? Through what mechanisms does it erode political legitimacy and democratic institutions? What are the “human” costs of corruption?

In asking these questions, the course features a number of documentaries and tries to evaluate how conditions for and outcomes of corrupt behavior are similar and different across Europe, North America, Africa, Asia, and Latin America. In its end it wraps up with a critical review of the contemporary recommendations for “fixing” the problem.

INTS 3708 – Topics: Major Issues in International Security

Specialization: International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

The field of security studies was a creation of the Cold War and the nuclear age. Its central preoccupation from 1945 until 1989 was the global military competition between the two nuclear superpowers. Yet Soviet collapse (starting in 1989) had little to do with the military balance of power, and security studies began to focus more on the societal forces associated with Western victory, including what appeared to be the decisive advantages provided by globalizing capitalism, democratic governance, and universal human rights.

9/11 provided the first major shock to post-Cold War optimism about progress toward a peaceful liberal world order. Other setbacks followed. The 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq, and the 2010 withdrawal, contributed to the meteoric rise of ISIS, as resurgent terrorism was accompanied by the flight of millions of refugees from sectarian Middle East wars (especially the civil war in Syria). Those developments were accompanied by rising concern over two emerging major power challenges to international security: Russian efforts to recapture territories lost in the breakup of the Soviet Union, and China's effort to control the South China Sea. Those developments all drew the administration of President Barack Obama toward a more assertive military role, most notably involving the use of force against the Islamic State.

In Europe and the United States, anxieties over terrorism and refugees fed yet another challenge to international security: the embrace of nationalism. The European Union was now threatened by the rise of anti-liberal parties in Europe, as well as the Brexit vote in Great Britain. In the United States, Donald Trump's "America First" rhetoric challenged the premise of a U.S.-led liberal world order—the approach to international security that had been embraced by both major American political parties since World War II.

INTS 3820 – United Nations

Specialization: International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700

This course provides an introduction to the United Nations and related agencies and programs. It examines the background and institutional arrangements of the UN System but gives special attention to the activities of the UN designed to advance peace and security. Case studies of UN responses to recent crises in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Western Hemisphere will be included.