

INTS Fall Quarter 2021 Descriptions

INTS 1500 – Contemporary Issues in the Global Economy

Specialization – Required 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 theoretical frameworks for understanding the functioning of the global economy.

INTS 1700 – Introduction to International Politics

Specialization – Required Core

This course critically examines the nature of contemporary global society. It is designed to familiarize students with the broad parameters of international politics and takes into account numerous methodological and theoretical perspectives. The course explores both the historical development of international politics and how the business of international politics is “done.” The course examines issues such as war and peace, human security, the politics of climate change, and international human rights. The overall goal of this course is to introduce students to the field of International Politics and to make them conversant about the major issues facing the global system in the 21st century.

INTS 2235 – Gender and International Relations

Specialization – International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

The study of gender and international relations (IR) is multi-faceted and complex. Both in theory and in practice, gender inheres in all aspects of IR – from globalization, to development, to security and human rights. Conversely, the ideas and processes that comprise the international political realm directly impact the everyday lives of women and men all over the world. What is it like to be a woman in post-Taliban Afghanistan? Why is homosexuality taboo in Iran, but not in many other parts of the world? Did Soviet communism really promote gender equality? These are only a few of the questions that are addressed over the ten weeks of the course. After an introductory discussion of the broad implications of gender for international political issues and vice-versa, we embark upon a quest to unravel the ways in which gender identities and sexualities come to be defined and practiced in different times and places, while simultaneously considering how these same identities constitute the contexts in which they are situated. At each stop along the way, we will endeavor to discover the mechanisms through which gender and sexuality are constructed, and reflect critically upon what these diverse constructions mean for the lived realities of men and women in different parts of the world.

INTS 2370 – The Globalization & Knowledge Economy

Specialization – Global Political Economy and International Politics

Much has been made of a new “knowledge economy” in which human capital has ascended to prominence over the traditional components of capital and labor. Further, the concept of “economic globalization” captures the realities of increasing interactions but exaggerates the notion of a single world economy connecting all producers, distributors, and consumers. In this class we examine the meaningful yet variable processes of increased knowledge diffusion and economic interaction to identify clusters of innovation, indicative of the knowledge economy. We then assess the applicability of globalization on a sector/ industry basis to identify ongoing transformations and future implications for knowledge development.

INTS 2490 – Introduction to Global Health

Specialization – International Development and Health; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This class is an introduction to the field of global health and explores relationships between social, political, cultural, and economic conditions of mostly low and middle-income countries and their impact on health and health services. We will spend some time covering health issues in high-income countries as well. A major focus of the course is the evolution of primary health care and alternative strategies in global health. Topics addressed include: maternal and child health, nutrition, the rise of non-communicable diseases, water and sanitation, community engagement, global health agencies, and funding sources. The course presents an overview of the multiple factors that influence global health and emphasizes the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to global health challenges.

INTS 2701 – Topics: Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control

Specialization – International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control investigates the historical development of the 'bomb' and its role as an instrument of national security. Emphasis is placed on analysis of changing strategic environments and how the underpinnings of the international order influence both proliferation and counter-proliferation efforts. Beyond traditional Soviet-NATO dynamics, the course also examines contemporary challenges brought about by the rise of novel technologies and a set of new players who believe that their security can be best achieved by acquiring nuclear capabilities.

INTS 2708 – Contemporary U.S. Foreign Policy

Specialization – Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

When the United States first won its independence, its leaders sought to avoid at all costs the countless problems awaiting any country engaging in foreign affairs. Indeed, John Quincy Adams, in 1821, warned the United States of the dangers of "going abroad in search of monsters to destroy." In September of 2002, however, as American forces occupied one country and prepared to invade another, the Bush Administration released its National Security Strategy of the United States, which states: "To contend with uncertainty and to meet the many challenges we face, the United States will require bases and stations within and beyond Western Europe and Northeast Asia, as well as temporary access arrangements for long-distance deployment of U.S. forces." How did we go from isolation to empire? In this course, we will attempt to answer this question by exploring the progression of American foreign policy from its emergence out of isolation to its current stage of interventionist superpower. We will also identify and discuss key issues that are driving America's conduct abroad as well as evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the given policies addressing these important issues. By the end of the class, students should have a solid knowledge of the major themes and developments in the history of American foreign policy as well as the ability to reflect critically upon on-going foreign policy debates.

INTS 2760 – Epidemics, Pandemics, & Panic

Specialization – International Development and Health

Sickness has terrorized humankind for centuries. Be it the Black Death, HIV/AIDS, Ebola, or the flu, diseases sweep through society leaving death and destruction in their wake. At times, it is the microbes that cause the greatest amount of suffering. Smallpox, for example, is believed to have killed 200-300 million people in the 20th century alone. But at other times, it is the people, who respond with ignorance and fear, that exacerbated the situation and inflict untold pain. Public policies which punished the poor for their poverty resulted in a million plus deaths during the Irish Potato Famine is one such example. Likewise, community responses couched in fear and victim blaming left tens of thousands to die from HIV/AIDS before serious public efforts to attack the disease began. Although illness brings out

the worst in humanity, it also brings out its best. It was the pain and suffering from smallpox that led to the creation of the vaccine, a tool that saved millions of lives. It was belief in the benefits of a smallpox-free world that led mortal enemies to work together during the Cold War to eradicate this threat. This course will examine threats to the health of people around the world, it will look at the scientific tools available to protect our health, and will explore how both biological and social factors contribute to successes and failures of such efforts. This course is designed for those who do not have any background in public health, biology, or in public policy but are fascinated by how global society shapes and is shaped by the most humble or living things—microscopic organisms. Throughout the class, you will learn the basics about biological factors that influence the spread of disease, and learn about medical and social tools we have to control the same. We will examine public and policy response to ancient and modern plagues. Case studies include Black Death, Smallpox, influenza, HIV/AIDS, famine, and emerging biological threats.

INTS 2790 – Ethics and International Affairs

Specialization – Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This course examines the following: social science and ethics, power-rivalry and capitalism versus human rights and democracy, the dimensions of poverty, what role the World Bank plays, the laws of the people, the two classes of human rights, national interest, and tolerance.

INTS 2975 – Global Research Practicum

Specialization – Required Core

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 quarter. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3212 – Civilian Protection in Armed Conflict

Specialization – International Development and Health; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

There are many courses on security topics. Civil wars, terrorism, violence, genocide, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, humanitarian intervention, human security...the list goes on. This course is different. This course is about the protection of civilians in wartime. Civilian protection is one of the great challenges of our time. The means of violence have been distributed and small groups of people are able to inflict harm as never before in human history. Yet there are also emerging and cutting-edge procedures and technologies available to the “protectors.” Civilian protection is a new perspective on security that differs from existing treatments of this topic. We will begin the course with an overview of theories of violence and legal and ethical frameworks governing the use of force. We will consider issues such as what it means to be a civilian, and what normative and strategic considerations motivate decision-makers to take protective actions. The rest of the course is organized by the different actors that might provide protection. We will consider (theoretically and empirically) 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. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3215 – Major Issues in International Security

Specialization – International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This course begins (in Part I) by considering the threat that created the field of “security studies” following the second World War: the origins and evolution of the nuclear danger. Part I ends with an assessment of the most dangerous manifestation of that threat in several decades: North Korea’s acquisition of nuclear weapons and long-range missiles. We turn next to addressing (in Part II) a question that seemed answered since the dawn of the nuclear age, when the United States moved from its defeat of Fascism in World War II to the containment of communism in the Cold War, to expanding the zone of free market democracies during the post-Cold War era: What does the United States seek to secure? Even if all could agree on the nature of particular security threats and the fundamental goals of security policy (as occurred for the United States after the attack on Pearl Harbor), enormous challenges confront the formation and implementation of national security strategy and policy. Part III of the course will identify and evaluate those challenges, using the 2003 decision to invade Iraq as a case study of the enduring problems that confront national security policy-making. We finally turn (in Part IV) to analyzing a series of current issues, including the threat posed by violent Islamist organizations, the consequences of U.S. disengagement in the Middle East, the impact of changing technology on the international security environment, (drones, surveillance, cyberwar, hybrid warfare), and the risk of conflict between the United States and two other major powers: Russia, and China. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3225 – Terrorism

Specialization – International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights; Global Political Economy and International Politics

Over the last century, the term terrorism has been applied most often to the illegal use of violence aimed at governments—directly or indirectly—in an attempt to influence policy or to topple an existing regime. Terrorist acts are designed to create widespread fear across an audience far beyond their immediate victims in order to weaken the general sense of security in society, and to mobilize publics and pressure leaders to change. Historically, terrorism has been practiced by political organizations on the right and on the left, used by nationalist and religious groups, by revolutionaries, and by state institutions including military forces and intelligence services. Numerous definitions of terrorism have been proposed. Many are confusing and controversial owing to the value-laden basis of the concept and its intense stigma. Who seeks to be called a ‘terrorist’? This derogatory term is designated by its victims and ideological opponents. But it is not applied to all episodes of politically-based violence.

INTS 3431 – International Futures

Specialization – Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Development and Health; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

Countries vary in relative levels of income, wellbeing, and stability for a variety of reasons, often involving complex interactions that limit our ability to divine a single, general explanation. That said, social science theory, data collection, and quantitative methods have improved significantly over the past several decades providing novel insights into complex, systemic, interactions. These relationships not only help to understand past outcomes but also indicate potential future trajectories under variable

scenarios. Using the International Futures (IFs) system, we can begin to understand “where we’ve been”, “where we’re headed”, and “where might we want to be”.

**INTS 3539 – Feeding the World: The Politics and Economics of World Food and Agriculture
Specialization – Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Development and Health; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights**

This course asks students to critically explore contemporary debates about the global food and farming system with an eye to understanding its structure, operation, ideological basis, and impacts on people around the world. Of special interest in the course is the manner in which the global food and farming system both creates and aggravates global inequalities. Students will focus partly on theories of and ideas about the role of agriculture in the economy, society and the development process, the appropriate structure and orientation of agricultural production and distribution, the role of the state in directing food production and distribution, and the nature of justice for farmers and eaters.

Students will further engage a spectrum policy debates and case studies that practically illustrate the workings of the global food and farming system and the harsh contradictions that underpin it. Among other topics, students will be exposed to debates about food prices, hunger and famine, obesity, commercial production and agribusiness, the peasantry and subsistence farming, biotechnology, free agricultural trade, Fairtrade, agricultural pollution and agriculturally-induced climate change.

**INTS 3630 – Global Environment
Specialization – International Development and Health**

The linkages between social change, economic change and alterations to ecosystems have been apparent, if not overtly acknowledged, throughout history. It was not until 1987, however, with the publication of *Our Common Future*, that such linkages were couched in terms of development and explicitly placed on the international development agenda. The idea appears simple--environmental change, patterns of social change and economic development, social and political factors operate together and impact local, national, regional and global ecosystems. But impacts of the change in any one sector are seldom confined within national boundaries. How then does one address environmental issues across different regulatory, political, institutional and geographic scales? This course examines the connectivity between diverse elements of our planet's ecosystem, explores how a change in one element can have immediate and long-term impacts across local and global territory, and looks at strategies to create greater harmony across environmental, social, political and economic interests. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

**INTS 3703 – Topics: Contemporary African Security
Specialization – International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights**

The end of apartheid in 1993 signaled a critical juncture for African liberation and security. The fall of South Africa's repressive regime marked a new era in African statehood and security apparatus. Apartheid posed the most threat to sovereignty especially for Southern Africa countries and undermined independence on the continent. With the new African National Congress government led by the Nelson Mandela, African countries were poised to focus on development and regional integration to cement cooperation, economic growth and improve the wellbeing of the African people. However, the new epoch coincided with novel challenges to statehood and security as the continent was quickly ravaged by civil wars. Today the continent continues to face numerous security challenges that are interwoven in contemporary global problems like climate change and the rise non-states actors. Using an

interdisciplinary approach, this course assess contemporary security challenges in Africa such as terrorism, insurgency and piracy by examining the causes and institutional frameworks put in place to address them.