

INTS Spring Quarter 2023 Course Descriptions

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INTS 1500 – Contemporary Issues in the Global Economy

Specialization: Required Core

An 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 gain 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: 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 (New): Global Governance and Human Rights; Global Health and Development; International Peace and Security

Specialization (Old): 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 2468 – Resolving Conflict by Negotiation

Specialization (New): Global Governance and Human Rights; International Peace and Security

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

Social conflict is a national and global issue often expressed in violent ways culminating in shootings, civil war, and international terrorism. It is easier to escalate conflict than diffuse it, and easier to fight rather than negotiate, situations that often lead to frustration and insecurity for

disputants. This course examines approaches and mechanisms of conflict resolution within the context of personal, cultural, and political barriers to understand why parties continue to fight or manage to solve their differences through settlement and reconciliation, and teaches techniques of conflict resolution, essential skills for progress and prosperity in the modern world.

INTS 2490 – Introduction to Global Health

Specialization (New): Global Governance and Human Rights; Global Health and Development

Specialization (Old): 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 2700 – Topic: Political Leadership

Specialization (New): Global Governance and Human Rights

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

What is the relationship between what political leaders are like and the actions and policies of the countries and institutions they run? To answer this question, this course will provide an overview of psychological theories of political leadership and decision making. It will also discuss a variety of methodological approaches to assessing political leaders at a distance. Each student will select a different world leader to analyze over the course of the semester, resulting in a full profile of the chosen leader.

INTS 2701 – Topic: Debates on Democracy

Specialization (New): Global Governance and Human Rights

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This course will cover a range of questions and issues related to the contemporary practice of democracy around the world. The first part of the course will address questions about why some countries adopt democracy while others remain under authoritarian systems of rule – and why democracy is under increasing threat in some parts of the world. The second part of the course will assess issues of governance – why and how democracies do (or do not) effectively address the security, economic, environmental, and social needs of their populations. The third part of the course will cover emerging challenges for democratic systems of government such as changes in information technology, migration and the management of diversity, and globalized capitalism.

INTS 2702 – Topic: Contemporary Latin American Politics

Specialization (New): Global Health and Development; Global Economic Affairs

Specialization (Old): Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Development and Health

This course provides an introduction to the study of Latin American politics. It is designed to provide students the opportunity to better understand how Latin American societies and political systems are organized and the major issues facing these governments and their citizens. In particular, this course will explore the prospects for the consolidation of democratic regimes in the countries of the region, taking into account the historical context and diversity among countries. While Latin American countries were thought to be on their way to consolidating democracy at the end of the last century, recent years have shown the problems and setbacks in the region including executive coups and consolidation of power, social and political inequality, populism, and polarization. This class will seek to identify and explain the major challenges to political systems and societies in the region, incorporating readings, documentaries, films, and news articles.

INTS 2703 – Topic: U.S.-Russia Relations

Specialization (New): International Peace and Security

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

The course will examine U.S.–Russia relations from the end of the Cold War through Vladimir Putin's accession to power, to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It will focus on issues arising from the collapse of communism in East and Central Europe and Russia's societal collapse, its post-Communist transition to a klepto-petrostate, American and European efforts to promote democracy in the post-Soviet space, Russia's response to EU and NATO expansion, Russia's determination of its foreign-policy interests, and its interference in the domestic affairs of former Soviet Republics (its so-called "near abroad"). We also examine Russia's meddling in the sovereign affairs of other nations, as well as future prospects for cooperation between Russia and the United States.

INTS 2975 – Global Issues 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 3000 – Research Methods & Design

Specialization: Distinction students only

This course is designed for advanced International Studies majors, including Department Distinction, that intend to write a thesis in INTS. It introduces students to the fundamental elements of social science research and will serve as a workshop to complete a literature review and write a research proposal. The basis of any scientific investigation is the research proposal in which you formulate a question and design a process by which you will explore that question through a systematic collection and analysis of evidence. The design process is the same whether

you are writing a short class research paper, or are conducting a major research project, such as a thesis. The manner in which evidence is gathered and analyzed, however, will vary based upon the research question, research goals, and resources. We will therefore go through the process of research design. Because international studies provides multiple methods of inquiry, we will also explore quantitative and qualitative methods that may be used to gather and analyze evidence. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700. Must be an INTS major and receive departmental permission.

INTS 3021 – Introduction to Islam and Politics

Specialization (New): Global Economic Affairs; Global Health and Development

Specialization (Old): Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Development and Health

Since the eruption of the 'Islamic Revolution' in Iran in 1979, 'political Islam' has influenced both public and academic debates. Though often accused of being 'anti-democratic' forces, Islamic political actors have dominated electoral politics in the Middle East and have spread politically elsewhere in world politics. The Islamic Salvation Front "ISF" in Algeria, the Justice and Development Party "AKP" in Turkey, the Islamist Hamas in Palestine, Nahda in Tunisia, and Muslim Brothers in Egypt have all defeated their secular opponents in democratic elections in the last three decades and many of them were ousted by military interventions. What is political Islam about? Is it harmonious with democracy? What are its intellectual, social, and historical roots? How do Islamists behave when in power and opposition and why? These are some of the pivotal questions to be addressed in this course. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3030 – Sports and International Politics

Specialization (New): Global Economic Affairs; International Peace and Security

Specialization (Old): Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This advanced undergraduate course in international studies explores the complex connections between sports and international politics in the past and present and sport's relationships to international peace, both historically and in contemporary times. At the heart of this contribution is the need to examine sport as an international issue, to explore and its relationship to the protection and advancement of human rights (to include gender equality and the rights of those with disabilities), and to critically examine the role of sport in fostering community-level social cohesion and inclusive national unity. Participants in the course will gain a critical knowledge of the origins, background, and issues in global sport, especially the Olympic Games, and a critical awareness of the potential opportunities and obstacles for sport in social development. Learning outcomes are attained through faculty presentations, guided discussions, and student-led research. The course is designed as a research colloquium in which participants develop and share a research dossier on course topics with a capstone seminar to integrate learning and share findings on historical and contemporary issues at the intersection of sport, power, profit, and peace. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3121 – Women, War, and Peace

Specialization (New): International Peace and Security; Global Governance and Human Rights

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

Conflict is gendered: it both shapes and is shaped by the gendered roles people play in society. Traditionally, men fight while women play supportive roles, men are perpetrators of violence while women are victims of this violence. However, this simple story is not only inaccurate, it limits our capacity to identify and analyze the full range of activities that men and women pursue during conflict. This story encourages us to valorize the warrior man and condemn men as cowards who will not take up arms. This story encourages us to expect women to be the victim and to ignore or treat as aberrant women who are perpetrators of violence themselves. This story also ignores the reality that the male/female dichotomy does not represent the full continuum of gender expression. The processes of peace-building are similarly gendered as it is elites who sit down to discuss the cessation of violence and design peace agreements and these are nearly always men who fight. Post-conflict environments are structured by peace agreements. When agreements are written by particular men, institutions and social structures tend to maintain the same kinds of gender bias that existed during conflict. This class will explore a range of issues guided by the question: how are conflict and post-conflict processes gendered? The focus will be primarily on women but in understanding the constraints of social structure on women, we also better understand the constraints on men and the implications for people who challenge these categories. This class focuses on the gender elements of these processes through a range of mostly recent cases. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3220 – Trafficking in Persons/Smuggling of Migrants

Specialization (New): Global Governance and Human Rights; Global Health and Development

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights; International Development and Health

Through the Education for Justice (E4J) initiative, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has developed a series of university modules with a focus on the subject areas of crime prevention and criminal justice, anti-corruption, organized crime, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, firearms, cybercrime, wildlife, forest and fisheries crime, counter-terrorism as well as integrity and ethics. In recent years there have been few topics garnering as much widespread interest as trafficking in persons (TIP) and smuggling of migrants (SOM). These issues have attracted the attention of Governments, NGOs, International Organizations, the media as well as academia. While this attention tends to provoke vivid discussions in political circles, social networks and other media platforms, there is little solid understanding of TIP and SOM, the difference between them and their implications. Last Spring, I joined 12 other academics with expertise in human trafficking and human smuggling from around the world for a week in Doha, Qatar to create a syllabus primarily for the teaching of TIP and SOM at universities and colleges. The 14 Modules on TIP and SOM will provide students with a practically oriented, though still theoretically grounded, tool to understand these issues. Thanks to the inputs received from an additional 100+ academics from all around the world, the Modules' contents are substantively robust. This strength is reinforced with a series of illustrative examples and exercises aimed at generating debates and consolidating knowledge among students. Given the considerable safety risks posed by TIP and SOM and the related need to ensure that perpetrators are made accountable, the course relies heavily on a legal approach, acknowledging the importance of clarifying concepts and employing rigorous terminology. This notwithstanding, the course is also grounded in a multidisciplinary methodology, recognizing that the complexity of the trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling phenomena extends beyond the legal realm. Consequently, a comprehensive understanding of TIP and SOM is not

possible without the convergence of various disciplines, expertise and perspectives, including the historical, economic, social, political, and gender prisms, that are all considered in developing the course. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3385 – Migrants and Refugees: Humanity on the Move

Specialization (New): Global Governance and Human Rights; Global Health and Development

Specialization (Old): International Development and Health

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, Southeast Asia, and Africa. The "contemporary" (i.e., post-WWII) era then covers not only the movements of peoples from Central Africa, Southeast 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 the contemporary era to a close. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3421 – Environmental Justice Policy and Practice

Specialization (New): Global Environmental Sustainability

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

Environmental justice (EJ) asks how we can ensure a fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the design, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. In short, how can we facilitate an environment where people live, work, and play exempt from unequitable allocations of environmental benefits (such as natural resource distributions) and harms (such as environmental health hazards). The course will present a historical overview of the EJ movement in the United States and its intersections with global EJ. It will cover the theoretical and practical methods used in environmental policy to assist government agencies, from the local to the global, in addressing immediate and long-term environmental justice challenges. Particular attention will be placed on the Colorado State legislature and how different environmental justice bills are designed and negotiated through the legislative session. Students will examine proposed bills and their relationships to social theories on EJ, diverse actors' interests and needs, and the appropriateness of the solutions presented to address specific environmental inequities. This will require group collaboration to examine specific EJ bills and produce in-class presentations and a policy brief that engages students critically with the course material and a real-world EJ issue. In short, with this course you will:

- Learn about the EJ movement history
- Create and share your own EJ story
- Explore issues in water access & air quality, food insecurity, access to nature and open spaces, and more
- Understand EJ policy in Colorado and beyond
- Analyze EJ policies in the Colorado State legislature

Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3485 – The Role of Religion in International Affairs

Specialization (New): International Peace and Security; Global Economic Affairs

Specialization (Old): Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

The role of religion in international affairs was largely unexplored by scholars prior to September 11, 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. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3590 – Politics in Africa: A Theoretical Approach

Specialization (New): International Peace and Security; Global Governance and Human Rights; Global Health and Development

Specialization (Old): International Development and Health

This course introduces 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 emphasizes theory in a comparative perspective as a 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 account for the continent's current marginality in the world and persistent underdevelopment. In addition, the course exposes students to the application and usefulness of general theories of development in comparative politics. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

INTS 3621 – The Politics of Contemporary Western Europe: Democracies Under Strain

Specialization (New): International Peace and Security; Global Economic Affairs

Specialization (Old): Global Political Economy and International Politics; International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This course is a comparative study of democratic governments in Western Europe, how these systems are structured and function, and more particularly the new challenges and problems that are emerging in the region: Euroscepticism, populism, support for right-wing parties, and political polarization. Democracy is the institutionalization of conflict, but democratic regimes vary in regard to the ways that they structure the arenas within which conflict is expressed. We will explore some of those institutional distinctions that vary across Western Europe such as Presidential vs. parliamentary systems, fragmented multi-party systems vs. majoritarian two-party systems, as well as the nature of political parties and the dynamics of party systems. The study of Western European democratic polities however requires some retrospective historical analysis of the nature of the conflicts emerging since the creation of the Modern State and the establishment of democracy. Because many of the present conflicts and problems in today's democratic regimes are legacies with roots in conflicts from the emergence of contemporary states, we will also spend some time in analyzing some of these historical conflicts.

INTS 3701 – Topic: Comparative Genocide

Specialization (New): International Peace and Security; Global Governance and Human Rights

Specialization (Old): International Organizations, Security, and Human Rights

This course examines the historical origins, patterns, and legacies of contemporary genocides around the world. We begin with the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in 1948, which legally codified the definition of genocide and compelled ratifying parties to prevent its reoccurrence. Yet as we'll see, genocide has instead reoccurred

with alarming frequency. We will discuss the definitional and analytical challenges facing this subject, as well as academic and policy debates regarding how to define and prevent genocide. We will also explore how individuals and communities have resisted such atrocities through solidarity, art, non-violent action, and other creative strategies to reclaim their humanity together. To do so, this class will ground theoretical debates in empirical case studies. Prerequisites: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.