



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

JOSEF KORBEL SCHOOL OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
Bachelor of Arts Program

Fall Quarter 2019 Descriptions

Updated 5/2/2019

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(s): 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 2370 – Globalization and the Knowledge Economy

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics

The focus of this course is the emerging aspects of globalization and the knowledge economy. 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. Views on the “knowledge economy” assert that human capital has ascended to a greater prominence over capital and labor, challenging our understanding of the determinants of economic growth. In this class we examine the meaningful yet variable processes of increased knowledge diffusion and economic interaction to identify clusters of innovation that are 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 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 2430 – The History of the Middle East

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

This course treats the emergence of the modern Middle East in the modern period, roughly from the late 18th century to the present and will examine the following topics: reformist attempts to meet the European challenge; the age of colonialism; the rise of nationalism; development strategies of socialism and capitalism; the impact of Israeli and Palestinian nationalism; the petroleum factor; the Islamic Revolution in Iran; Saddam Hussein's Iraq; the Gulf War and the war on terror.

INTS 2701 – Topics: Foreign Policy Tradecraft

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

This is a foreign policy skills-based course designed to foster an ability to effectively engage internal leadership as well as foreign audiences while working in a government context. Students will draft a range of written communication products including policy memos, diplomatic cables, and talking points and practice essential oral communications skills ranging from negotiation, speaking to the media, and delivering briefings to officials. The State Department's communications model will be used as a template for engagement, but the skills will be broadly useful to any individual planning to formulate, implement, and educate on policy in executive and legislative settings.

INTS 2703 – Topics: Nuclear Weapons and International Security

Specialization: International Organizations, Security & Human Rights

This course analyzes subject's central to the understanding of the role of nuclear weapons in international politics. The course addresses the origins of the atomic bomb project, early efforts to control nuclear materials, deterrence theory, nuclear strategy and force posture, and considers contemporary challenges to the global nuclear order, including nuclear latency and nuclear terrorism.

The course will start with the initial development and use of nuclear weapons, followed by an in-depth look at the early thinking on nuclear strategy and escalation during the Cold War. These classes will cover the Manhattan Project, the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the basics of deterrence theory, the arms race between the United States and Soviet Union, and historical cases of nuclear crises and brinkmanship (the Cuban Missile Crisis being the most well-known example).

During weeks 5-7 students will explore the politics of nuclear acquisition, evaluating different explanations for why states build nuclear weapons. During these classes, we will also examine the ways in which the international community has sought to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, including the important role of international institutions, norms, and the nuclear disarmament movement.

The final section of the course will be devoted to contemporary topics in nuclear politics, including the threat of nuclear terrorism, nuclear energy and dual-use issues, regional instability in Northeast and South Asia, the Iran nuclear deal, and the implication of new technologies (autonomous systems, 3D printing, and precision weapons) for nuclear issues.

Each week will include a lecture covering key insights from the readings, student-led discussion and class exercises. A number of expert guest speakers will be featured throughout the quarter.

INTS 2975 – Global Issues Research Practicum

Specialization: CORE

PRE-REQUISITES: INTS 1500 and INTS 1700.

Designed for mid-level international studies majors, this class aims to deepen students' historical and contemporary knowledge of global relations and dynamics, refine understandings of important ideas and concepts, and further develop key skills integral to continued success in the Department and the field more generally. Specifically, students will learn foundational social science research methods and skills early in the quarter. Students will then apply these skills to a variety of projects in several topical areas. The course further focuses on a core set of skills necessary for continued student success in international relations: research, writing, presentation and inter-personal communication, and critical thinking. The course is organized around in-depth historical case studies, each of which exposes key events and processes in global history. The cases are also chosen to illuminate concepts, ideas, dynamics, and patterns in international relations that continue to surface in contemporary global affairs and debates, and have ongoing relevance looking forward into the 21st century.

All 3xxx-Level Classes Require INTS 1500 and INTS 1700 as Pre-Requisites

INTS 3020 – Introduction to the Middle East and Islamic Politics

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

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 3215 – Major Issues in International Security

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

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 3505 – International Health and Development

Specialization(s): International Development & Health

Health and development are held to be symbiotic in the production of economic and human well-being. However, the concept of health varies across context, institutions, geographies, and scale. This course will focus on the meaning, measurement, financing and delivery of 'health care' and the interaction of human well-being with other aspects of development. This course counts toward the Scientific Inquiry: Society and Culture requirement.

INTS 3530 – Feeding the World: The Politics and Economics of World Food and Agriculture

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics; International Development & Health; International Organizations, Security & 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 3701 – Topic: Civil Wars: Causes and Consequences

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

This course aims to understand the causes of civil wars, their characteristics and dynamics, and their consequences. It examines and assesses competing theories of civil war, including economic, ethnic, and religious, and it addresses post-war phenomena such as humanitarian crisis, conflict recurrence and spread, and political and economic development.

INTS 3703 – Dragons, Mutants, and Drug Dealers

Specialization(s): Global Political Economy & International Politics

This class is designed to introduce some of the key topics in International Relations and International Political Economy through the lens of Western Pop Culture. In particular, we will be examining specific broad theories and topics within IR and IPE through the use of television shows *Game of Thrones*, *The Wire*, and the early canon of comic series *the Uncanny X-Men*. The goal is to use these three pop culture forms as metaphors or caricatures of the real world to uncover certain key dynamics to improve our understanding of the much more complex real world. It is NOT designed to discuss at length about the fictional material or provide criticisms of the books, TV shows etc. used.

Students taking this class will highly benefit from having seen or read the fictional material involved, but this is by no means a prerequisite. We use references to fictional material to help simplify some complex issues and concepts and provide examples. They are not the content of the course. Rather they are intended to serve as mediators to the actual content of the course.